



Office of Overseas Schools

Special Education

Mission of Office of Overseas Schools

- Promote quality education overseas for
USG and US dependents
 - Develop model American schools to
promote mutual, educational and cultural
understanding for all



OOS Services Related to Special Education

- Maximize choices for special needs families including gathering information on non-A/OS-assisted resources
- Demonstrate best practices in special, as well as regular, education
- Encourage assisted schools to provide accommodations wherever possible
- Provide training for overseas teachers and administrators

American-Sponsored Overseas Schools

194 Schools Receive Assistance

American Republics - 39

Europe - 65

East Asia - 27

Near East/South Asia - 22

Africa - 41

A/OS Supported Schools

- Private schools
 - Receive small grants from A/OS
 - Are not subject to IDEA
- Policy usually determined by Boards of Directors
- Serve stakeholders from varied cultural backgrounds
- Often do not provide auxiliary services

A/OS Activities in Support of Special/Gifted Education

- Summer workshops for Administrators and Teachers
 - Summer Institute on Exceptional Children – July 7-9 –Seattle
 - Principals' and Directors Conference – Center for Talented Youth – Johns Hopkins University – June 25-28 - Baltimore
 - In-service workshops at schools and conferences
- Grants Designated for Special Education salaries and/or materials
- Overseas Schools Advisory Committee (OSAC) Grants
 - Consultants to do training and assess resources



Advisory Committee on Exceptional Children and Youth

- Now in 18th year
- Composed of nationally recognized leaders in gifted and special education
- Provides on-site consultancies for A/OS schools
- Advises A/OS officials on current research and practice in special education at twice yearly meetings
- Oversees gifted identification function



Publications

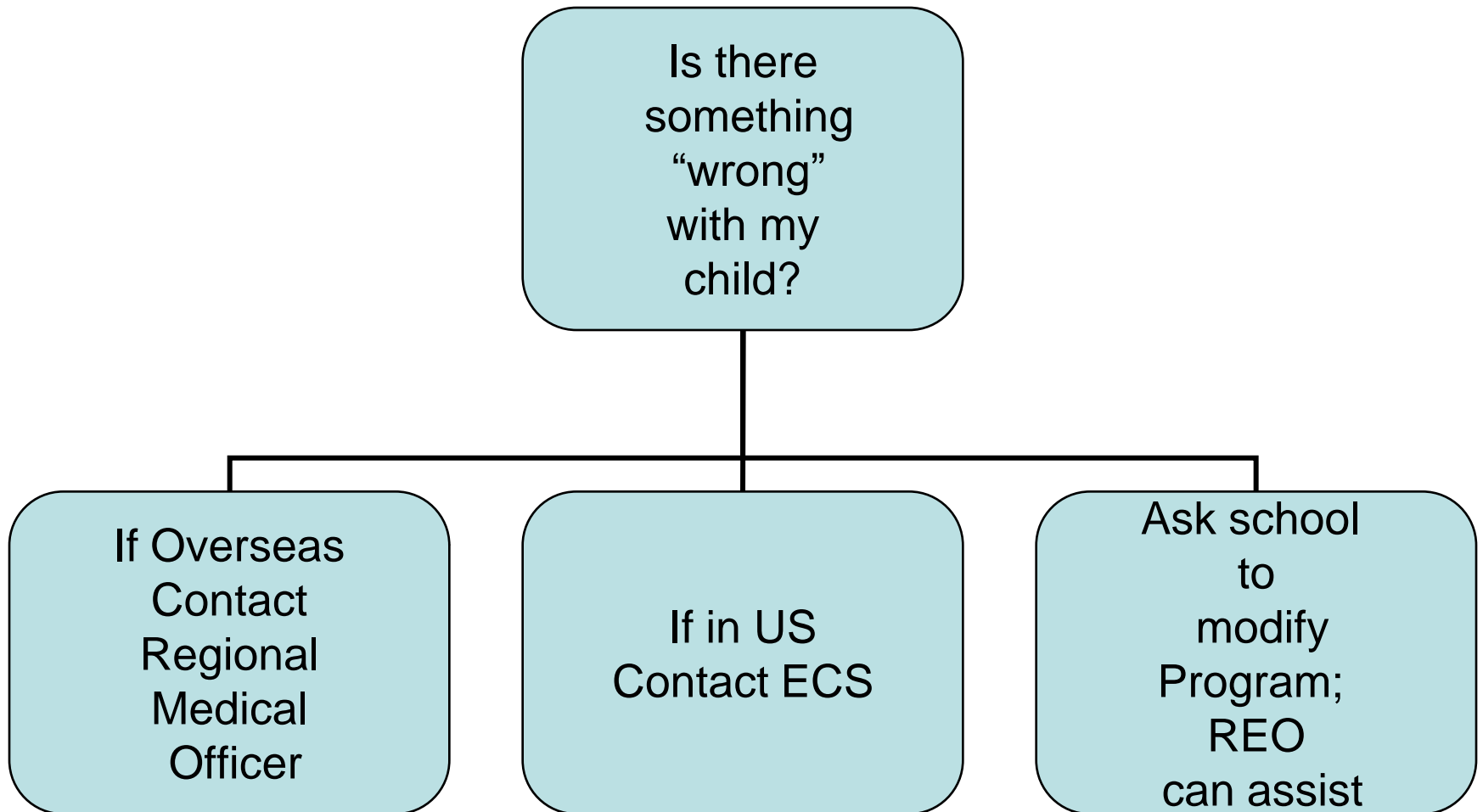


- *Overseas Schools Offering Support to Children with Special Needs*
 - Self-report information on schools worldwide
 - Current Services **Must** be confirmed
- *Transitioning Overseas with a Special Needs Child*
- *Count Me In: Developing Inclusive International Schools*
- *Making the Difference: Differentiation in International Schools*

Advising Families

- Regional Education Officers visit multiple schools and facilities when traveling in region
- Resources available on every post in A/OS;
SA-1 328
- AOS works closely with the Medical Division, especially ECS; FLO; Career Development and Assignments; and Allowances to assist in planning
 - REO's can best be reached by e-mail

How the Process Works

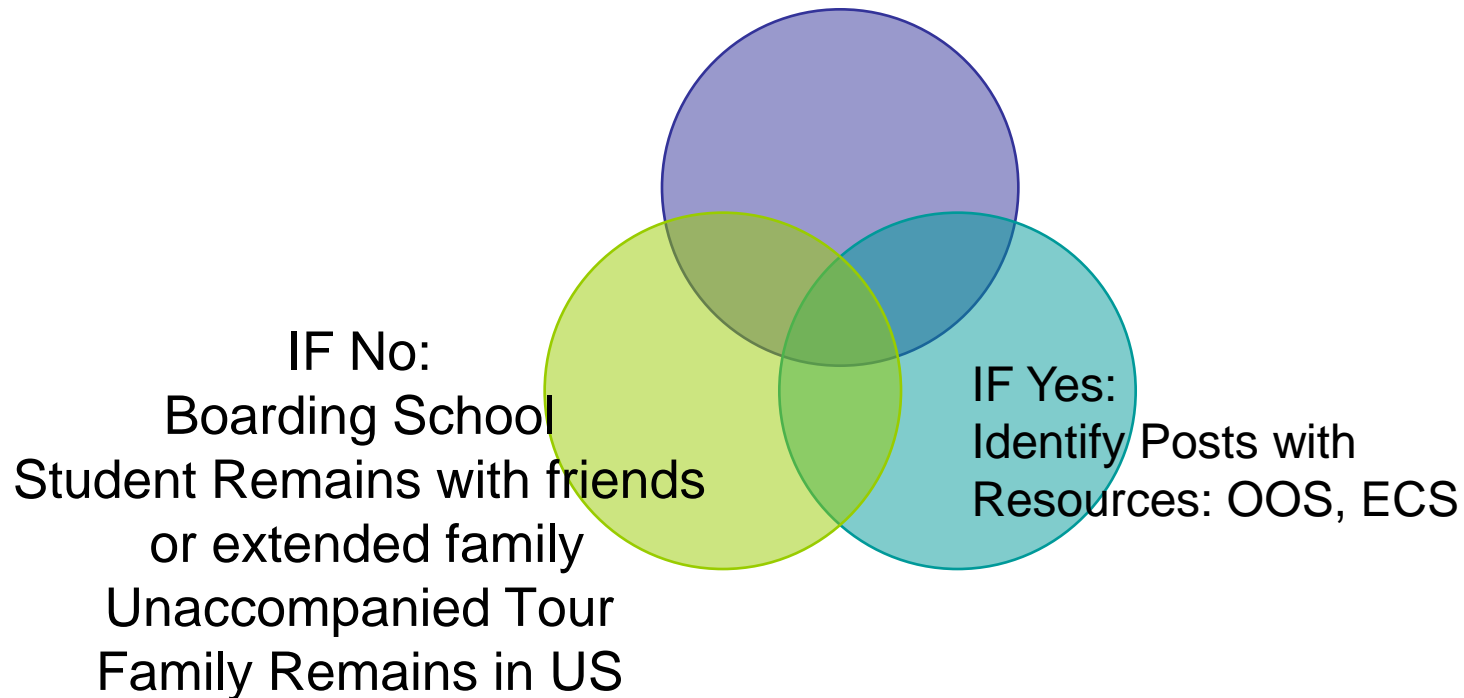


Assessment

- May be done in US before departure or on home leave
- May be done at some places overseas with permission of ECS
- If identified as Special Needs a letter of school acceptance is required
- Auxiliary services must be Identified **BEFORE** an assignment is finalized

Can I Go Overseas with my Special Needs Child?

Assessment



How Do I Find a School?

- Identify several posts with CDO and narrow list to those with Special Needs services
- Resources available at the Overseas Briefing Center, A/OS, ECS, FLO (boarding schools)
- Contact Employee Consultation Service (MED) and Regional Education Officer (A/OS)
- Contact Regional Medical Officer, CLOs and schools at post
 - Obtain an acceptance letter from a school
- Submit acceptance letter to ECS for clearance

http://aopros.a.state.gov

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Office of Overseas Schools

The mission of the Office of Overseas Schools is to promote quality educational opportunities at the elementary and secondary level for dependents of American citizens carrying out our programs and interests of the U.S. Government abroad.

Our efforts are to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by upgrading educational institutions which serve to demonstrate American educational principles and methods employed in the United States.

Highlights

We are here to help you. The [Worldwide Fact Sheet](#) will give a general description of the schools assisted by the Department of States. Under [Schools by Regions](#), you can view the schools' current fact sheets with contact information.

Additional Information

- [Scholarships for Foreign Service Children](#)
- [Emerging Infectious Diseases/Pandemic Flu](#)
- [Guidance for Parents with Gifted Children](#)
- [2006 Math Counts Competition](#)
- [Worldwide Fact Sheet 2006-2007](#)
- [Transitioning to an Overseas Assignment with a Special Needs Child 2006](#)
- [Talking to Foreign Service Youth about War and Crisis](#)
- [Comparison of 2006 SAT scores between U.S. and American international schools assisted by the Department of State.](#)
- [Brochure Childrens' Reaction to Trauma.](#)

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- <http://aopros.a.state.gov> (Intranet)
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