



Military Children's Charity, Inc.
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Toy
Collection & Donation Guidelines

Introduction:

Military Children's Charity, originally founded in 2010, has a mission to support and recognize the children of American Service Members and our U.S. military families. Thank you for stepping forward to acknowledge and recognize our U.S. Military Children (and Teenagers) with new STEM toys of appreciation! Please closely review the following guidelines to ensure a successful collection drive. Especially during the holiday season, MCC distributes thousands of toys and gifts across multiple branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. The more organized that your team is in advance, the more successful your collection results will be.

Gifting Guidelines:

- ✓ Please only donate **STEM toys and gifts**. We want to appreciate our U.S. Military Children while contributing to their opportunities for learning, growth, and enrichment.
- ✓ Please **do not wrap any of the gifts**; all items must be **UNWRAPPED**. If the items are wrapped, our volunteers must then unwrap them before delivery to the U.S. military. Our team inspects every single gift we receive before it goes to the military. If it is questionable, it goes to law enforcement.
- ✓ M.C.C. accepts only **NEW** STEM toys and gifts for our U.S. Military Children and their families, to say thank you. M.C.C. **will not accept used or even gently used items**. All STEM toys and gifts must be donated with the tag or sticker attached. If the tag falls off, it is okay, just try to submit the gift with the receipt. If you donate an item we determine is used, we will be annoyed and must re-donate it.
- ✓ Please do not donate recycled, off a shelf, stuffed animals from the 1980s or 1990s. Every year we receive a few obviously dusty, funky smelling stuffed animals. This is gross, please do not do it.
- ✓ Please plan to deliver what you have collected to MCC because our organization **does not pick up the toys** collected under any circumstances. **It is 100% your responsibility to get them delivered to an MCC point of contact**. In fact, we ask that you work out the delivery arrangements in advance on when, how and who will drop your donations off before you even begin collecting any STEM toys.
- ✓ Please **do not donate any perishable items, food, baby formula, or candy**. MCC purchases all new food and candy fresh that is distributed to the U.S. military families from stores directly.
- ✓ Please remember the teenagers! The teens are overlooked in the donations that we receive. Also, please do not forget the babies either, gifts for newborns to 2-year-olds are very much desired.
- ✓ M.C.C. always needs new wrapping paper, gift bags, tissue paper, ribbon, bows, and labels for the military family programs to wrap the STEM toys once received. Additionally, we will accept new ornaments, keepsake items, stockings/stocking stuffer items, holiday decorations for the family day events (we prefer Candy Land theme), faux trees, coloring books with crayons or other fun activities for the children to utilize during the family day events.
- ✓ We have removed all deadlines, thus please return the gifts to MCC as soon as possible to allow time to inventory and then turn them around for our Family Program Officers. Most holiday events are hosted in early December! However, MCC accepts STEM toys and gifts year-round.

STEM Toy & Gift Suggestions:

For convenience, MCC has created STEM toys and gift shopping lists on Amazon. If you prefer, you and/or your team members can place donation orders directly online at the hyperlinks below and these donations will arrive at our door. Alternatively, if you are doing a physical collection drive of STEM toys and gifts, the Amazon lists will provide you with some fantastic suggestions on preferred items.

Amazon Lists:

1. Holiday STEM Toys & Gifts for U.S. Military Children: <https://a.co/bus284T>
2. STEM for Military Connected Schools: <https://a.co/epqKFzU>
3. Holiday Parties for U.S. Military Families: <https://a.co/0ZsSYGA>

Summary Recap:

1. Do not wrap anything!
2. No *used* or *gently used* gifts.
3. You must deliver your collection of STEM toys and gifts to an MCC point of contact.
4. No stinky and/or gross stuffed animals.
5. No food, perishables, candy, baby formulas, vitamins, etc.
6. Try to remember the babies and teenagers in your collection.
7. If you donate religious materials, we distribute them to the Military Chaplains, not the children.

Donate Monetarily on MCC's Website Via PayPal:

This is the fastest and easiest way to give to MCC. There is no PayPal account registration required to make a monetary contribution. Please include your contact information to receive a donor receipt.

Click Here for MCC's Website to Donate Via PayPal: <https://www.militarychildrenscharity.org/donate.html>

Scan the QR Code to the Right for MCC's Website to Donate Via PayPal:



Monetary Donations & Gift Cards Mailed to MCC's Headquarters:

You may mail Checks, Cash and Gift Cards via Postal Mail to MCC. Please remember to include your contact information for a donor receipt and so our team may thank you for your support!

Military Children's Charity, Inc., 21985 Highland Street, Unit B, Wildomar, California 92595

Physical Collection Drives: Host among your Company, Colleagues, Civic Organization, Religious Organization, Family & Friends, etc.

- ✓ Communicate Collection Plans & General Questions – Contact Cherie Johnston – (703) 999-0037
- ✓ Northern Virginia – Coordinate delivery with Cherie Johnston – (703) 999-0037
- ✓ Quantico/Stafford Area in Virginia – Coordinate delivery with Tonya McGraw – (208) 860-9165
- ✓ Orange & Los Angeles Counties – Coordinate delivery to Karen Imfeld – (714) 296-0595
- ✓ Riverside & San Diego Counties – Coordinate delivery to Patrice Johnston – (714) 469-3659

DISCLAIMERS: Military Children's Charity is not affiliated with the Federal Government of the United States of America in any capacity. The Department of War (DoW) does not endorse this organization, or Isaiah Navarro (MCC's Founder), in any capacity whatsoever. MCC is a 501(c)(3) California nonprofit public benefit corporation, with permission to operate and solicit contributions in Virginia as well. Donations to MCC are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by Federal Law. For more information, please consult your independent tax advisor. A financial statement is available upon request from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS).

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