

6/2023

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
Transportation Plan to Ensure School Stability for Students in Foster care

Agreed by:

Date:

District:

ESSA foster care point of contact name:

Address:

Phone:

ESSA transportation point of contact name:

Address:

Phone:

District leader name:

Address:

Phone:

Foster care agency:

Foster care agency director:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

AGREED-UPON DEFINITIONS

Best Interest Decision Notification to District

When a student has been placed into foster care at a residence outside of the _____ county school district, a best interest determination process takes place to determine whether it is in the best interest of the student to remain in his or her school of origin. This process is led by the foster care agency and includes _____ county school. The foster care agency then notifies _____ county school of the final best interest determination. When it is determined to be in a student's best interest to remain in his or her school of origin, _____ county school and the foster care agency will collaborate under this agreement to establish the most cost-effective transportation procedures available for the student within five (5) working days of the best interest determination being made.

3/2023

Identifying students who may need transportation

The foster care agency will notify the _____ county school district within one (1) school day upon learning that a student attending _____ county schools has been placed into foster care or will be moved to a new foster care placement and it has been determined that it is in the student's best interested to remain in the school of origin.

Assess other available no or low additional-cost options to address transportation needs

1. _____ county schools will assess whether the child is eligible for transportation services under another entitlement, due to experiencing homelessness or as a related service under the IDEA or 504 Plan. _____ county schools will provide transportation funded by _____ county schools if it is determined to be the in the best interest of the student.
2. _____ county schools will examine existing transportation options available for the student, including incorporating the student into an existing bus route, modifying an existing bus route, and other no-cost or lost-cost options. Transportation will be provided and funded by _____ county schools if such a solution is available.

Options for addressing additional costs:

When other options are exhausted and transportation will require additional costs, the following should be considered:

1. _____ county schools and the foster care agency will assess whether the child's transportation expenses may be covered by other state or local funds.
2. The foster care agency will assess whether resources are available for foster care parents to provide transportation with mileage reimbursement to _____ county schools; to a stop on _____ county school's existing bus route; provision of bus passes or public transportation vouchers; or a contract with a private transportation service.
3. _____ county schools and the foster care agency support establishment of a fund jointly funded by the agencies [and other local jurisdiction leaders] to support school stability. [Specify funding sources, amounts, dates.]

Resolve remaining additional costs:

The district and foster care agency will address additional cost with one of the following options:

1. The foster care agency agrees to pay additional costs.
2. District agrees to pay additional costs.
3. The foster care agency and _____ county schools agree to share the additional costs. (Consider requiring the costs to be split evenly unless parties can agree to another cost sharing arrangement.)

3/2023

Timing of implementing transportation

1. _____ county schools will have five (5) working days to put needed transportation in place after the best interest determination has been finalized. In the interim, the foster care agency or the district will provide transportation.

Duration of transportation

1. Transportation will be provided for the duration of the child's time in foster care if it continues to be in the child's best interest to remain in the school of origin.
2. If a child exits foster care before the end of a school year, the transportation arrangement will be maintained through the end of the school year in order to maintain the child's educational stability, when possible.

Dispute resolution

1. If _____ county school and the foster care agency cannot resolve a dispute about transportation costs, they will follow this mechanism:
2. While a dispute is pending, the district and foster care agency must provide and arrange transportation for the child.

3/2023

TRANSPORTATION TO ENSURE SCHOOL STABILITY Individual Student Procedures

Child's Name:

Date of Birth:

School of Origin:

Grade:

SSID Number:

Foster care case worker name:

Foster care case worker phone:

Foster placement name:

Foster placement address:

Foster placement phone:

District:

Placement district foster care point of contact name:

Placement district foster care point of contact phone:

Foster care agency name:

Case worker name:

Case worker phone:

The foster care agency verifies that:

1. It is in the student's best interest to remain in the school of origin based on the following factors:

Yes No

- a. If YES, reimbursement for some funding of transportation costs

will be pursued
cannot be pursued for this reason:

2. The following efforts were undertaken to identify a no-cost or low-cost transportation service:

The district verifies that:

3. There is an existing transportation option that can serve the student's new housing placement.

Yes No

3/2023

If YES, what is the option?

The district and the foster care agency agree that the most cost-effective transportation procedures for this student will be:

The district and foster care agency agree that while permanent transportation is arranged, interim transportation arrangements will be:

These transportation procedures were agreed to on the following dates:

Transportation procedures will be implemented within five (5) days, by the following date:

Foster care agent signature:

Date:

District foster care point of contact signature:

Date:

Superintendent signature:

Date: