

### Student in Foster Care Educational Best-Interest Factors

A student in foster care may remain at his or her school of origin unless it is not in the child's best interest. "School of origin" is defined as the school that the student is attending at the time of the student's placement in foster care or during any subsequent change in placement. This form provides information that will help the District to determine whether it is in the best interest of a student in foster care to remain in the school of origin when there is an initial placement in foster care or a change in residential placement. Child Protection Services and the student's foster family should collaborate with the District to evaluate what is best for the student's education.

When the school becomes aware that a student is placed in foster care, this form should be completed by representatives from the student's school of origin who are knowledgeable about the student and are able to provide feedback on how changing schools would impact the student's academic, social, and emotional well-being; significant relationships that the student may have formed with staff and peers; and other factors. These individuals could include the student's teacher, counselor, coach, foster care liaison, or other meaningful person in the student's life. Each District representative should complete a separate form. The timeline for completion may vary based on individual circumstances, including the type of foster care placement and the nature of the emergency.

Completed forms should be provided to the District foster care liaison, who will share the form with the student's education decision-maker and caseworker and help facilitate further collaboration.

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's grade level: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's school at time of placement in foster care/change of placement (*school of origin*): \_\_\_\_\_

School where the student resides, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and title of person completing form: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Student Preferences

Has the student expressed any preferences regarding which school the student will attend? Please provide details.

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Has the student expressed any feelings about safety or other relevant aspects regarding the environment at the school of origin? Please provide details.

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**Academic Factors**

How is the student performing academically?

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How has the student's academic performance changed since the student enrolled in the school of origin?

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Does the student participate in any specialized instruction, such as a gifted and talented, ELL, or career and technical education (CTE) program? Please describe.

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Are there appropriate or adequate services available at the school of origin to meet the student's educational, social, and emotional needs? Please describe.

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In your opinion, how will remaining in the school of origin impact the student's academic performance?

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**Social/Emotional Factors**

Describe any meaningful relationships the student has formed with District staff at the school of origin.

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Describe any meaningful relationships the student has formed with other District students at the school of origin.

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Describe the student's participation in any extracurricular or after-school activities.

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Describe any other ties the student has to the school of origin (*siblings, mentorships, etc.*)

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Describe the child's strengths and weaknesses. How does the school of origin support the child's unique needs and goals?

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Are there additional factors that indicate a change of educational placement is or is not in the child's best interest?

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**Conclusions**

In your opinion, how will remaining in the school of origin impact the student's social, emotional, or behavioral well-being?

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Signature:

Date:

**Foster care liaison contact  
information:**

Name:

Phone number:

Email:

Name of CPS point of contact:

Date completed forms provided to  
CPS point of contact:

Notes: