



Foster Care Transportation Plan

Update: March, 2023

“An LEA must collaborate with the State or local child welfare agency to develop and implement clear written procedures governing how transportation to maintain children in foster care in their schools of origin, when in their best interest, will be provided, arranged, and funded for the duration of the child’s time in foster care...”
(Non-Regulatory Guidance: Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care)

Transportation during the BID process

“An LEA must ensure that a child in foster care remains in his or her school of origin while any disputes regarding transportation costs are being resolved. (See ESEA sections 1111(g)(1)(E)(i) and 1112(c)(5)(B)(i)).”
(Non-Regulatory Guidance: Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care).

PROVIDE: To provide transportation during the BID process, PSESD will first consider if the caretaker can provide transportation. If not PSESD will consider the following transportation options:

1. An existing bus route can be used.
2. An existing bus route can be modified slightly to accommodate the new address.
3. Specialized transportation, such as school car/van to accommodate the new address.

PSESD is a single-site district in a small, rural community. There are no public transportation options available and neighboring school districts/communities are at least 15 miles away.

ARRANGE: PSESD will work with the caregiver and CWA to arrange the transportation. Through communication the group will determine best transportation options for the student during the BID process. PSESD administration will work with the transportation director to arrange/modify bus routes if needed.

FUND: If PSESD can offer an existing means of transportation at no additional cost, the CWA will not have to reimburse the district. If PSESD can provide transportation but will need to modify a route or create a new option, PSESD will calculate the cost for reimbursement.

Transportation Plan for Children in Foster Care to their School of Origin

Public Law 114-95 Title I, Sec. 1112(c)(5)(B)(i)) '(i) ensure that children in foster care needing transportation to the school of origin will promptly receive transportation in a cost-effective manner and in accordance with section 475(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675(4)(A)); ...

PROVIDE: To provide transportation for foster students to remain at Pine Strawberry School, PSESD will first consider if the caretaker can provide transportation. If not PSESD will consider the following transportation options:

1. An existing bus route can be used.
2. An existing bus route can be modified slightly to accommodate the new address.
3. Specialized transportation, such as school car/van to accommodate the new address.

PSESD is a single-site district in a small, rural community. There are no public transportation options available and neighboring school districts/communities are at least 15 miles away.

ARRANGE: PSESD will work with the caregiver and CWA to arrange the transportation. Through communication the group will determine best transportation options for the student. PSESD administration will work with the transportation director to arrange/modify bus routes if needed.

FUND: If PSESD can offer an existing means of transportation at no additional cost, the CWA will not have to reimburse the district. If PSESD can provide transportation but will need to modify a route or create a new option, PSESD will calculate the cost for reimbursement.

Foster care transportation additional costs

Public Law 114-95 Title I, Sec. 1112(c)(5)(B)(ii)) "(ii) ensure that, if there are additional costs incurred in providing transportation to maintain children in foster care in their schools of origin, the local educational agency will provide transportation to the school of origin if— (I) the local child welfare agency agrees to reimburse the local educational agency for the cost of such transportation; (II) the local educational agency agrees to pay for the cost of such transportation; or (III) the local educational agency and the local child welfare agency agree to share the cost of such transportation; ..." The LEA will ensure transportation to the school of origin should there be additional costs. "Additional costs incurred in providing transportation to the school of origin should reflect the difference between what an LEA otherwise would spend to transport a student to his or her assigned school and the cost of transporting a child in foster care to his or her school of origin." (Non-Regulatory Guidance: Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care).

- PSESD will seek reimbursement from the CWA when a new route is required. This would increase mileage, staffing, and vehicle use.
- PSESD will solely provide transportation when an existing bus route can be modified slightly to accommodate the new address.
- PSESD will agree to share the cost when mileage is added to an existing bus route.