

ESSA GUIDANCE FOR FOSTER CARE

ESEA SECTION 1111(G)(1)(E):

FOR SCHOOL OFFICE AND SUPPORT STAFF

What is new since the reauthorization in 2017?

ESSA now contains key protections for children in foster care that require state and local educational agencies (SEAs and LEAs) to collaborate with child welfare agencies to ensure the educational stability of children in foster care.

Overview of ESSA key points

- Student will remain in school of origin (unless it is not *best interest* determination)
- Student can *immediately enroll* in the new neighborhood school (even if they lack records)
- The new (enrolling) school *immediately* contacts the school of origin to obtain relevant academic and other records
- Enrollment *must not be denied or delayed* for any population of students because documents normally required for enrollment have not been provided



CONTACT

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WHAT CAN SCHOOLS DO?

- Notify ESSA program liaisons and manager on out of home placement situations
- Immediately enroll and request records
- Send completed Federal Programs Forms with foster care marked "yes" to fax number 720.259.8781
- Collaborate on foster student needs

ONLINE LINK

<https://childservices.dpsk12.org>