

Guidelines For Serving Students in Foster Care Clark County School District

School of Origin

Federal law mandates that a student in foster care who is moved to a new attendance zone shall attend the school of origin,^x that is, the school the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled, unless it is against the best interest of the student.^{xi}

The student shall be placed, or shall remain, at the school of origin until a decision is rendered by the Wraparound Services Department as delineated below, or the student may attend the home-zoned school if preferred by the foster parent/guardian. If a student in foster care is withdrawn from the school of origin and enrolled in a different school, it will be assumed that the student would like to attend the new school and be admitted there unless the school is informed otherwise. If a foster parent/guardian enrolls the student in a new school, but wants the student to attend their school of origin, the foster parent/guardian may contact the SBFCA or the Wraparound Services Department to initiate the enrollment process at the school of origin.

If the foster parent/guardian would like the student to attend the school of origin:

- The SBFCA or the school clerk/registrar will provide the foster parent/guardian with the Foster Care School Placement Request. (See attachment A)
- The foster parent/guardian completes the Foster Care School Placement Request form and submits the form to the school clerk or registrar.
- The school clerk or registrar will fax the form to Wraparound Services at (702) 799-0153.
- The Wraparound Services Department will gather information to determine a school that is in the best interest of the student.
- The Wraparound Services Department will notify the appropriate school(s) and the foster parent/guardian of the placement determination.
- If placement in the school requested by the foster parent/guardian is deemed not in the best interest of the student, the Wraparound Services Department shall notify the foster parent/guardian of the decision and of the dispute resolution process.

Transportation Procedures

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvement Act of 2001 requires school districts to adopt policies and practices to ensure that reasonable transportation is provided, at the request of the foster parent/ guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the liaison) to and from the school of origin.

The Wraparound Services Department will coordinate with the Transportation Department to determine reasonable transportation options that are in the child's best interest as outlined in the McKinney-Vento Act.

Reasonable transportation services will be considered if:

- The student resides more than 2 miles from the school of origin.
- The student is currently provided transportation due to an Individualized Education Program (IEP), a 504 plan, or a medical need.

If the student lives **less** than 2 miles from the school of origin, the Transportation Department will conduct a transportation safety investigation. The student will **only** be transported if the Transportation Department determines the walking path presents a safety issue.

Reasonable transportation services may be provided through the use of RTC bus passes. The foster parent/guardian may be asked to transport or escort the student to the nearest school or RTC bus stop.

Attachment A

Foster Care School Placement Request

Please complete the information below and return to the school. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the CCSD Foster Care Liaison at (702) 799-7435.

School Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Name: _____ Student ID Number: _____

Name of Foster Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone Number: () - - -

Relationship to Student (circle one): FOSTER PARENT GUARDIAN OTHER (describe): _____

Student's Current Address: _____

Note: The information regarding the student's address, phone number, and information are protected by CCSD and can be released only to the parent, temporary guardian, student, or other individual who has been designated as the representative of the parent or temporary guardian.

Is this school the "school of origin"? (Circle one) YES NO

Note: The term "school of origin" means the school that the child attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled.

If no, from which school was the student transferred? _____

Reason for request: _____

Signature of Foster Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

(For Office Use Only)

School Placement Determination: _____

Dispute resolution process and paperwork explained to foster parent or guardian: Date: _____

Copy of the Foster Care Placement Request Determination and Dispute Resolution Request paperwork mailed to the foster parent or guardian:

Date: _____

School Notified of Determination: Date: _____

Basis for Determination: _____

