

BEST INTERESTS DETERMINATION FORM

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF STUDENT IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT

A copy of this document shall be kept in the student's education record and uploaded to the statewide automated child welfare information system.

Student's Name: _____

State Assigned Student Identifier (SASID): _____ DOB: _____

Current School: _____ Grade: _____

Previous School(s): _____

Date of Best Interests Determination Meeting: _____

Best Interests Determination: A Checklist for Decision Making

Remaining in the School of Origin Considerations

- Social/emotional considerations** – *the student's social and emotional wellbeing will be negatively affected if transferred to a new school (considerations include age of the student, location of siblings, etc.)*
- Length of anticipated stay in an out-of-home placement location** – *in light of the anticipated short duration of the stay, the student would benefit from the continuity offered by remaining at the school of origin where meaningful relationships exist.*
- Continuity of instruction** – *the student has experienced frequent school changes or has attended the school of origin for an extended period of time, and would be best served by remaining at the school of origin (considerations include credits necessary for graduation and preparation for future instruction).*
- Academic performance** – *the transfer will significantly and adversely affect the student's academic performance.*
- Unique educational needs or academic and extracurricular interests** – *the student's special educational needs (IEP or 504 Plan) or unique academic and extracurricular interests cannot be met at the potential receiving school.*
- Safety of the student** - *the school of origin is a safe environment for the student.*
- Transportation considerations** – *the advantages of remaining in the school of origin outweigh any potential disadvantages presented by the length of the commute.*

Transferring to a New School Considerations

- Social/emotional considerations** – *the student's social and emotional wellbeing will be positively affected or will not be substantially affected if transferred to the potential receiving school (considerations include age of the student, location of siblings, etc.)*
- Length of anticipated stay in an out-of-home placement location** – *the student's current living situation appears to be stable and unlikely to change suddenly, so the student will benefit from establishing new relationships with school peers in the potential receiving school.*
- Continuity of instruction** – *the student has not attended the school of origin for very long and will be best served at the potential receiving school (considerations include credits necessary for graduation and preparation for future instruction).*
- Academic performance** – *the transfer will not significantly and adversely affect the student's academic performance.*
- Unique educational needs or academic and extracurricular interests** – *the student's special educational needs (IEP or 504 Plan) or unique academic and extracurricular interests can be met at the potential receiving school.*
- Safety of the student** – *the new school will be a safer environment for the student.*
- Transportation considerations** – *the length of the commute to the school of origin is excessive and may adversely affect the student's concentration, attitude, or readiness for school.*

Attach all documents relevant to the student's best interests determination. Check any that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report Cards/Progress Reports | <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance Data |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Achievement Data (test scores) | <input type="checkbox"/> IEP Plan or 504 Plan |

- Correspondence from individuals consulted.
- Other: _____

Best Interests Determination Meeting Participants

In reaching the best interests determination, the CWA should make all reasonable efforts to include or consult individuals with knowledge of the student (student's attorney, parent, parent surrogate, and legal guardian) in addition to representatives of the LEA and any other person with information relevant to the best interests determination, including the student, if appropriate. The following individuals provided input in determining the school placement.

Relationship to Student	Name	Contact Information

Best Interests Determination

- It is not in the student's best interests to remain enrolled in the school of origin. The student will be enrolled in the school serving the current residence.

Name of School: _____

NOTE: If a change in enrollment is in the student's best interests, enrollment should take place immediately at the new school. To enroll the student in the new school, all that is needed is documentation showing that the student is in out-of-home placement, the address of the out-of-placement, proof of authorization to enroll the student in school, and identification of the person enrolling the student. All other educational records will be provided to the new school promptly and in accordance with state and federal law.

- It is in the student's best interests to remain enrolled in the school of origin.

Name of School: _____

Interim Transportation Plan

Complete only if the student will remain in the school of origin.

While the LEA works to develop and establish a Transportation Plan for the student to attend the school of origin from the out-of-home placement, a period of time that could be up to five (5) school days, the student will be transported to the school of origin in the following manner:

Considerations for the LEA in Establishing a Transportation Plan for the Student

Complete only if the student will remain in the school of origin.

In developing a Transportation Plan, the LEA should consider the following needs of the student:

Case Worker Name

Case Worker Signature

Date