



FACT SHEET re: CFSA's FOSTER CARE POINT OF CONTACT (POC) FOR LEAs

What is an ESSA foster care point of contact (POC)?

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires LEAs to designate a point of contact to serve as a foster care liaison with CFSA once CFSA notifies the LEA that it has designated a POC.

What is the purpose of having agency-identified foster care POCs under the law?

The purpose of the POCs are to have identified personnel at each agency to oversee and implement the educational stability for children in foster care. It is the hope that contact between POCs will open up communication to facilitate better educational planning between agencies.

What can a CFSA foster care POC do for an LEA?

The CFSA Foster Care POC can:

- Liaison between children in foster care, CFSA staff, and school personnel
- Help troubleshoot any issues the school is having with respect to the child's school experience
- Clarify for schools what adults are involved with the child, who has the right to make educational decisions and facilitating communication with those key individuals;
- Coordinate best interest school stability determinations with the LEA once children are initially placed in foster care or change foster placements;
- Help LEAs resolve any barriers to immediate enrollment enrolled in school and coordinate transportation services, as needed;
- Help to facilitate transfer of records including immunizations, medical records, and copies of IEPs (if not in the DC Special Education Data System (SEDS)) and Section 504 Plans;
- Provide training to LEA staff on the educational needs of children in foster care;
- Coordinate data sharing, consistent with FERPA and the confidentiality of information provisions in the IDEA, for children in foster care.
- Inform parents or education decision makers of children in foster care of the child's education rights and provide public notice of the educational rights of children in foster care to community stakeholders.

Who is CFSA's ESSA POC?

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