

Ohio ESSA Foster Care Implementation Checklist

The following steps must be completed by Dec. 10, 2016, to ensure compliance with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

- Districts must designate a foster care point of contact and enter his or her information in the Ohio Educational Directory System.
- Districts and custodial agencies must collaboratively develop written procedures for making best interest determinations regarding any potential change to the student's school. Please review Ohio's Best Interest Determination sample procedure document.
- Districts and custodial agencies must collaboratively develop written procedures to provide, arrange and fund transportation to the student's school of origin. Please review Ohio's sample transportation procedure.
- Districts and custodial agencies must develop local procedures using the notification form provided by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to ensure the student information system is up to date.
- Districts must develop clear procedures for enrolling a student who is in foster care. These procedures should outline the process for transferring records, updating a student's foster care status in the student information system and placing a student in a class when records are not immediately available.
- Districts must develop clear procedures for transferring and accepting credits to ensure that a student in foster care receives appropriate credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed while attending a prior school(s).
- Districts and custodial agencies must develop and document a structure to help facilitate their collaboration, such as a work group or task force to engage community stakeholders.