


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator  
DCF Area Administrators  
Child Placing Agency Directors  
Child Welfare Agency Directors  
County Departments of Community Programs Directors  
County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Group Home Providers  
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors  
Private Child Placing Agencies  
Residential Care Center Providers  
Shelter Care Providers  
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove   
Administrator

Re: New Resources to Support School Success for Youth in Out-of-Home Care

## PURPOSE

This memo notifies counties, tribes, and non-profit agencies of additional resources designed to support child welfare agencies (CWAs) and local education agencies (LEAs) with the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

## BACKGROUND

The federal Every Student Success Act (ESSA), passed by Congress in December of 2015, amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. The ESSA, in conjunction with the Fostering Connections Act of 2008 and the Uninterrupted Scholars Act of 2013, requires certain actions of state and local education agencies, and state and local child welfare and tribal child welfare agencies. Such actions are designed to increase collaboration among those agencies to support successful educational experiences and outcomes for children in out-of-home care.

Since the implementation of the ESSA, the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Public Instruction have worked together to create resources and provide guidance to support implementation of the Act at the local level.

## INFORMATION SUMMARY

The additional resources described below are now available to help all fulfill the requirements of the ESSA. All information can be found on the DCF website at: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/essa>

**Points of Contact Guidance:** The guidance regarding the responsibilities of the Foster Care Point of Contact and the Education Point of contact have been updated to include best practice considerations. <https://dpi.wi.gov/foster-care/foster-care-point-of-contact>.

**Education Passport Guidance:** This guidance suggests ways child welfare agencies may use the passport when communicating with schools about children and youth placed in out-of-home care. <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/cwportal/essa/pdf/essa-guide.pdf>

**Educational Services Guide:** This FAQ provides answers to common questions both schools and child welfare agencies have about serving children and youth placed in out-of-home care.

[https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/foster-care/EducationalServicesFAQ\\_.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/foster-care/EducationalServicesFAQ_.pdf)

**Educational Services Glossary:** This glossary compliments the Educational Services Guide. It provides definitions for key words, terms and language used in child welfare and school settings.

<https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/foster-care/EducationalServicesGlossary.pdf>

**Parent/Surrogate Parent FAQ:** This FAQ responds to questions related to the definitions, roles and responsibilities of “parents” for the purpose of making decisions about a child’s education.

[https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/foster-care/BRANDED\\_Parent-PersonActing-Surrogate.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/foster-care/BRANDED_Parent-PersonActing-Surrogate.pdf)

Questions about any of the resources may be directed to the [DCFEDUPOC@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DCFEDUPOC@wisconsin.gov) mailbox.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Youth Services Section Manager  
608.422.6993  
[DCFEDUPOC@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DCFEDUPOC@wisconsin.gov)

MEMO WEB SITE: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>