



Training Opportunities

Foster Care Continuum (FCC) Coffee Talks

We proudly offered eight opportunities to meet with local CWEL's, advocates, and others over the past school year. We will take a break for the month of July but will be back at it in August. Each month we will continue to dedicate a block of time to meet in new communities to discuss real life barriers and possible solutions to increase school stability and overall success for students in foster care. Would you like us to visit your community, click [here](#) to send a request?

Regional Trainings (Seeking Locations)

The CDE Foster Care Education Program is looking for school districts, county human service offices, and/or other advocates to host a regional training. This 1.5 to 3.5 hour training will be facilitated by our CDE staff for audiences to learn more about the state and federal legislation and guidance to protect the educational rights of students in foster care. Please [click](#) here if you would like us to visit your community.

Coming Soon (August)

We are currently planning a trauma informed kickoff event for the 2016-2017 school year. The audience will include CWEL's and other educational advocates. If you would like to offer a location for this ½ day event, please [click](#) here. We need a room big enough for approximately 50 people.

Updates and Information

New Notification Template from County Offices [click here](#)

The purpose of this template is for county departments of human services to notify a school, district, and/or CWEL regarding an educational placement change. It is intended to clarify requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which gives students in foster care the right to be enrolled immediately in a new school when it is not in the student's best interest to remain in the school of origin. For more information about ESSA see the next section.

According to C.R.S. 22-32-138, the CWEL is responsible for working with county departments of human services, child placement agencies, and CDHS (for the Division of Youth Corrections) to facilitate:

- prompt and appropriate school placements;
- the prompt transfer of academic records, assessments and/or education plans; and
- help students enroll in a new school, when in their best interest.

Attached is a PDF of the sample notification that counties human service offices will be using moving forward.

Every Student Success Act (ESSA) Update on Foster Care [click here](#)

This is the very first piece of guidance issued from the Department of Education in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that addresses the unique needs of students in foster care. This guidance contains 40 frequently asked questions around ESSA and Foster Care. In addition, there is a sample letter that LEA's can use to connect with the "Point of Contact" that will need to be designated at each of the county human service offices across the state.

Below is the Table of Contents of the **Non-Regulatory Guidance: Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care**

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Educational Stability
- School of Origin
- Best Interest Determination
- Dispute Resolution
- Transportation
- Immediate Enrollment and Records Transfer
- State and Local Points of Contact
- Student Data and Privacy
- Collaboration



To learn more about Foster Care Education

- CDE Foster Care Education webpage at http://www.cde.state.co.us/DropoutPrevention/fostercare_index.htm
- Sheree Wheeler , CDE State Coordinator of Foster Care Education, 303-866-6007, Wheeler_S@cde.state.co.us
- American Bar Association has the Fostering Connections Act of 2008 Implementation Toolkit Improving Education Outcomes for Children and Youth in Foster Care: www.americanbar.org
- CDE ESSA Blog and Listen tour can be found at: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/essa> Stay tuned to updates on ESSA/Foster Care to come.

