

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 8: Out-of-Home Services Section 22: School Notifications and Legal Settlement	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 7

POLICY OVERVIEW

Children are likely to do better in school when their safety, permanency, and well-being are part of their educational plan. The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) works with the child's school to help them succeed, including during placement changes and legal decisions.

POLICY STATEMENT

Federal law requires DCS and other state and local education agencies to have Points of Contact (POC) who help meet the educational needs of children in out-of-home care.

Note: The DCS Education Services Program Director is the agency's state POC and the DCS Education Services Team is the agency's local POC.

DCS will provide the court with information outlined in law to determine legal settlement.

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 20-26-11: Legal Settlement and Transfer of Students; Transfer Tuition](#)
- [IC 20-26-11-2: Legal settlement](#)
- [IC 20-50-3-3: "School of origin"](#)
- [IC 31-34-3-4.7: Notice to the child's school](#)
- [IC 31-34-15-4: Form; contents](#)
- [IC 31-34-20-5: Determination and reporting of legal settlement of child](#)
- [IC 31-34-21-10: Review of child's legal settlement](#)
- [20 U.S.C. § 6301, et seq.: Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#)