

# Title I and School Support Out-of-Home Care (Foster Care) eBrief

A Newsletter from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

September 2017

**Out-of-home care (Wisconsin term)** means a foster home, treatment foster home, group home, residential care center, shelter care facility, the home of a relative not a parent, or the home of a nonrelative where the child is under the placement and care responsibility of the Department of Children and Families or a county or tribal child welfare agency (i.e., county or tribal social or human services department).

**Foster Care (Federal term)** means out-of-home care, unless otherwise specified.

## Title I Set-Aside for Out-of-Home Care

Beginning this school year, school districts can set aside funding for out-of-home care. The allowable cost line-items can be found in WISEgrants.

## Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Written Transportation Guide

ESSA requires each Local Education Agency (LEA) to develop and implement clear written procedures for the arrangement, provision, and funding to assure that children in out-of-home care receive the transportation services they need to attend the school of origin.

<https://dpi.wi.gov/foster-care/transportation-procedures>

## Out-of-Home Care Eligibility for School Meals

Children in out-of-home care are categorically eligible for free and reduced-price school meals offered through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast programs and milk offered through the Special Milk Programs.

## Legislative Foster Care Task Force Begins Work

Assembly Speaker Robin Vos established a task force to examine issues related to foster care and foster children.

Representatives of DPI will be providing information to the task force to assure that members are aware of the role of the schools in providing critical services to children placed in out-of-home care and in assuring that they have educational stability to assist in their success.

Representatives Patrick Snyder (R-Schofield) and Steve Doyle (D-Onalaska) are the co-chairs of the task force. The following is a link to the task force website:

<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/2017/committees/assembly/fc/>

## Foster Care Point of Contact Directory

The listing of Foster Care Points of Contact (LEAs) and Education Points of Contact (child welfare agencies) are found on our webpage at <https://dpi.wi.gov/foster-care/foster-care-point-of-contact>. If your Point of Contact changes, please make the change using the School Directory application.

*As part of our ongoing commitment to providing all Foster Care Points of Contact with consistent and timely information regarding out-of-home care, the Title I and School Support Team (TISS) will be providing you with regular eBriefs. We welcome suggestions about topics you would like addressed in future editions.*

## Scholarships for Children in Out-of-Home Care

As you know, children/young adults who are or have been in out-of-home care are at significantly higher risk of not completing high school or postsecondary education, so this scholarship program can be very helpful to them.

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/publications/pdf/5091.pdf>

Eligible applicants are Wisconsin residents who left a court-ordered out-of-home care placement upon turning 18 **or** when they graduated from high school **or** they entered into a court-ordered guardianship **or** were adopted after their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday from an out-of-home care placement and:

- they have been admitted to an accredited or pre-accredited institution/program of higher learning (i.e., technical college, 2-year or 4-year college or university); and
- they are under age 21, unless already enrolled and attending a postsecondary program and participating in the scholarship or the federal Education and Training Vouchers (ETV)
- they have not yet earned a Bachelor's or other advanced degree from a postsecondary institution

### Contacts

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