

Edge High School

Transportation Plan to Ensure School Stability for Students in Foster Care

Local Educational Agency (LEA) [The Edge School, Inc. dba Edge High School]

- LEA Foster Care Point of Contact (Name and Contact Info): Rob Pecharich Executive Director, Principal Edge Himmel Park 520-881-1389 x 7301 robp@edgehighschool.org
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Duration of Transportation

If transportation to school of origin is required in order to maintain school stability for students in foster care, [Edge High School], in collaboration with the local child welfare agency (CWA), will ensure that said transportation will be provided for the duration of the child(ren)'s time in foster care.

How Transportation Will Be Provided, Arranged, and Funded

1. Interim transportation should be addressed to ensure no delays for the student in foster care while transportation is being worked out between the parties. Describe how this LEA will promptly provide, arrange, and fund interim transportation for children in foster care as they collaborate with the CWA to institute a child's long term transportation plan (*be sure to include the duration of transportation, method of transportation, etc*): [Edge High School will provide or arrange for interim transportation of foster children as soon as CWA informs the Foster Care Point of Contact and the Foster Care Liaison and CWA discuss and determine what will be provided as short-term (interim) transportation. Transportation will be provided the same before and after the BID process so that the student doesn't experience any interruption to their education. The difference will be how it is funded. Before the BID process, in the case that LEA has to acquire all costs we will ask CWA for reimbursement. After the BID process, there should be an agreement in place for either LEA to provide full transportation at no cost (public bus) or in the case that we need to pay for private transportation, the CWA would agree to split the cost in half with LEA. The mode of transportation can include public city bus passes, school transportation vehicles, third party transportation providers (EverDriven or HopSkipDrive), private CWA or foster parent transportation or reimbursement. Once the Foster Care Liaison and CWA discuss the student's location, appropriate interim transportation can be arranged. If third-party transportation is needed, interim transportation through reimbursement will be provided while scheduling with a third party provider.]
2. Describe how this LEA will examine existing transportation options available for students in foster care (*i.e. transportation covered by other LEA programs, state contracts, etc*): [The Foster Care Liaison and CWA will discuss the needs of the student before and after the BID process; changes may be made to the transportation plan based on the outcomes of the BID. Based on the needs of the student, the Foster Care Liaison and CWA will examine possible transportation options including public city bus passes, school transportation vehicles, third party transportation providers (EverDriven or HopSkipDrive) or reimbursement. The specific location of the student and needs of the student will be discussed for the safest and most effective transportation option.]
3. Describe how this LEA will ensure that children in foster care will promptly receive transportation to their

school of origin in a cost effective manner & in accordance with section 475(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675 (4)(A)) (*be sure to include no or low cost options to pursue, which occurrences this LEA will agree to pay for the cost of transportation, which occurrences this LEA will pursue reimbursement from the local CWA for the cost of transportation, which occurrences this LEA will seek a cost sharing agreement with the local CWA for the cost of transportation, methods of transportation to be used and when such methods would be used, procedures to ensure student safety, etc.*): [When it has been determined that it is in the best interest of the student to remain at their school of origin the Foster Care Liaison and CWA will develop a transportation plan at no additional or minimal cost based on existing transportation options (public city bus). Examples include family member transporting the student to school. If the student's foster care placement is in a group home, transportation that is provided by the group home will be strongly considered. If transportation needs to be arranged with a third-party vendor, a reimbursement agreement will be arranged with the CWA. Regardless of which transportation option is chosen, it will be provided for the duration of the student's placement in foster care as long as it continues to be in the best interest to remain in the school of origin.]

Foster care transportation additional costs

***Describe the circumstances that would trigger the LEA to seek reimbursement from the CWA.** LEA will seek reimbursement if the LEA provides transportation from a third-party transportation company before the BID meeting in order to provide students an education without any interruption. In the case that at the BID meeting they determine it necessary to split transportation costs between the LEA and CWA, the LEA would ask for reimbursement for the transportation they had previously provided during the BID process. However, paid transportation is the last resort and in the case that we are able to use a public city bus or other free option, then reimbursement would not be necessary. If the CWA is to split transportation, they can choose to either pay half of the invoice from that company or provide their own transportation to the student for the half of the rides (either AM or PM). There is currently no limit on dollars spent before requesting reimbursement. It is determined in the BID process.

***Describe the circumstances that would trigger the LEA to solely provide transportation.** Transportation would be solely provided by the LEA if the student is able to take the public city bus. It is also an option that the school provide private transportation using a school transportation vehicle in which case a staff member would be able to drive student both to and from school. The mileage of the student's housing to the school would be used based on the reimbursement mileage rate in Edge policy. There is currently no set number of miles that trigger the LEA to solely provide transportation. There is also no set dollar amount that would trigger the LEA to incur all costs of any foster student transportation needs.

***Describe the circumstances that would trigger the LEA to agree to share the cost with the CWA.** The circumstance that would trigger the LEA to share the cost of transportation is if other than a no cost option will be provided. For example, LEA already provides free public transportation to students 9-12 (high school). If it is necessary to hire a third party transportation company or pay a staff member an additional stipend to pay for the foster child's transportation, the LEA would ask that the CWA either cover the cost or split the cost. In the case that the LEA and CWA split transportation, it is typically preferred by both parties that they each agree to transport child either in the morning or afternoon. There are currently no requirements or set number of miles or dollars spent that trigger anything different than previously mentioned.

These transportation procedures were instituted on the following date: [07/01/2023]

Authorized Signature for Edge High School

