

## Foster Care & Student Success

### Foster Care & Student Success - Laws and Guidance for students in Substitute Care

#### Texas Education Code

[TEC § 25.002\(g\)](#) – Immediate School Enrollment

[TEC § 25.002\(a-1\)](#) – Timely Records Transfer

[TEC § 25.007](#) – Transition Assistance

[TEC § 25.001\(g\)](#) – Students grades 9-12 are entitled to finish high school where they were enrolled at the time of placement.

[TEC § 29.081\(d\)\(11\)](#) – Accelerated Instruction (at-risk indicators & compensatory education)

[TEC § 29.153\(b\)\(6\)](#) – Free eligibility for Pre-K

[TEC § 33.904](#) – Designated district liaison(s)

[TEC § 54.366](#) – Free college tuition & fee waiver (including dual credit or other course where high school students may earn college credit)

### Foster Care & Student Success - Collaboration

Collaboration between the education and child welfare system is recognized as an important component of working to improve the education outcomes of students who experience foster care. The federal *Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008* encourage coordination between education and child welfare.

The guiding principles below were developed to guide successful collaborative and coordinated efforts amongst education, child welfare and community partners.

Guiding principles to remember:

**Guiding Principle # 1:** Children and youth in care are entitled to remain in the same school when feasible

**Guiding Principle # 2:** Children and youth in care experience seamless transitions between schools

**Guiding Principle # 3:** Young children in care receive services and interventions to be ready to learn

**Guiding Principle # 4:** Children and youth in care have the opportunity and support to fully participate in all developmentally appropriate activities and all aspects of the education experience.

**Guiding Principle # 5:** Children and youth in care have supports to prevent school dropout, truancy, and disciplinary actions, and to reengage in the education experience

**Guiding Principle # 6:** Children and youth in care are involved, empowered and prepared to self-advocate in all aspects of their education

**Guiding Principle # 7:** Children and youth in care have consistent adult support to advocate for and make education decisions

**Guiding Principle # 8:** Children and youth in care have support to enter and complete post-secondary education