

Foster Care & Education Law

There are two primary documents that a school official and foster care liaison can request from a caregiver to confirm that the child or youth is in foster care and that the caregiver has the education decision-making authority for the child: 1.) The DFPS Placement Authorization Form 2085. (All forms in the 2085 series designate the student is in DFPS conservatorship) and 2.) A court order. The school official and foster care liaison may request a copy of these documents.

What records are needed to enroll a student in school?

Information for enrollment

1. Identity of parent or legal guardian/legal authority
2. Proof of residence
3. Proof of the child's identity (child's birth certificate or another acceptable document)
4. Immunization records
5. School records from last school attended
6. For children under age 11, records from all the student's previously attended schools

Who may enroll a student living in foster care in school?

If a child is in a foster care placement, DFPS has legal authority to enroll the child in school. DFPS may delegate that authority to another person, usually the person who will be responsible for day-to-day care of the child, such as the:

- Foster parent or designated caregiver
- CPS caseworker or other staff
- CASA or student's guardian ad litem
- Residential facility staff
- Child Placing Agency staff, including case manager, or
- Biological parent in some cases

More information about foster care and education law may be found at: [Texas Education Agency Laws & Guidance for Students in Substitute Care.](#)