

2025-2026 School Year LEA Foster Care Point of Contact Survey

The annual LEA Foster Care Point of Contact Survey is designed to gather educational stability insights from professionals working with Pennsylvania students in foster care. This survey asks designated foster care points of contacts at local education agencies (LEAs) questions about their programs and experiences each school year. Your responses ensure your LEA is implementing required Title I, Part A education protections related to ensuring school stability for students in foster care placement. Additionally, by sharing your experiences and expertise, you are contributing to a comprehensive understanding of effective strategies and helping to shape better support mechanisms for foster care education professionals.

Please coordinate with others at your LEA to ensure only one response is submitted. If you need to verify whether there has been a submission, email bsimmons@csc.csiu.org. Following the conclusion of your 2025-26 academic year, you will have until Friday, October 16, 2026 at 5:00 PM to submit a response.

To review the questions prior to taking the survey, please find a copy of the survey questions [here](#).

Please tell us who you are...

1. **First name:** *

2. **Last name:** *

3. Your title: *

4. Organizational Email Address *

LEA Selection

Choose your LEA from one of the following regions:

**5. Region 1: Philadelphia
County**

Ad Prima CS
Alliance for Progress CS
Antonia Pantoja Community Charter School
ASPIRA Bilingual Cyber Charter School
Belmont Charter School
Boys Latin of Philadelphia CS
Christopher Columbus CS
Community Academy of Philadelphia CS
Deep Roots CS
Discovery Charter School
Esperanza Academy Charter School
Eugenio Maria De Hostos CS
Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures CS
Franklin Towne Charter Elementary School
Franklin Towne CHS
Frederick Douglass Mastery Charter School
Freire CS
Global Leadership Academy CS
Global Leadership Academy CS Southwest at Huey
Green Woods CS
Imhotep Institute CHS
Independence CS
Independence CS West

Southeast Delco SD
Southern Lehigh SD
Springfield SD
Springfield Township SD
Spring-Ford District Office
Tredyffrin-Easttown SD
Upper Darby SD
Upper Dublin SD
Upper Merion Area SD
Upper Moreland Township SD
Upper Perkiomen SD
Vision Academy Charter School
Wallingford-Swarthmore SD
Whitehall-Coplay SD
William Penn SD
Wilson Area SD
Wissahickon SD

13. If your LEA is not listed, please enter it here:

LEA Basics

14. I am my LEA's Foster Care POC. *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

15. My LEA is listed correctly in the statewide [directory](#). *

Click 'directory' above to view foster care contact directory in new tab.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

16. Did you work with students in foster care placement during the 2025-2026 school year (participated in BID, coordinated enrollment, transportation, etc.)? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

17. Please enter the number of students in foster care who are currently enrolled at your LEA (as of the last school day of the 2025-26 school year).

If you did not have students in foster care enrolled during the 2025-26 school year, your answer should be 0.

Note: The value entered here may not correspond to the number of students in foster care placement identified in the PIMS Student Template: Field No. 209 – FOSTER STUDENT throughout this school year. Field No. 209 should be marked "YES" for any student in foster care who attended your school for ANY length of time during the 25-26 school year. *

18. Which of the following actions has your LEA taken to ensure educational stability for students in foster care during the 2025-26 school year?

*Select all that apply. **

- ☐ Participating in Best Interest Determinations (BIDs)
- ☐ Ensuring immediate enrollment of students in foster care
- ☐ Providing, arranging, or funding transportation for students in foster care
- ☐ Collaborating with child welfare agencies for professional development or other non-student-specific activities
- ☐ Collecting data and information sharing with child welfare agencies (including the notification of foster care placement, sharing school stability and graduation plans, and updating academic progress)
- ☐ Maintaining or developing written procedures for students in foster care, which may be listed in your school board policies or within school enrollment policies
- ☐ None of the above

Best Interest Determinations

19. Enter the approximate number of Best Interest Determinations in which your LEA participated during the 2025-26 school year. *

20. Of the Best Interest Determinations in which your LEA participated, approximately what percentage of students in foster care remained enrolled in their school of origin? *

- ☐ 100%
- ☐ 75-99%
- ☐ 50-74%
- ☐ 25-49%
- ☐ Less than 25%

21. How would you rate the collaborative nature of the BIDs in which your LEA participated in the 2025-26 school year? *

- ☐ 1 Not collaborative at all
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6 Entirely collaborative

22. If you rated your BIDs lower than four (4), meaning they were not collaborative in some way, please explain. If you rated them as being collaborative, please feel free to share your strategies or feedback on the process.



23. Which of the following is the most frequent cause for a typical student in foster care at your LEA to enroll in a school other than their school of origin during this school year? *

- ☐ Not applicable - student(s) did not move schools
- ☐ Distance/proximity between school of origin and foster care placement not feasible or appropriate for student
- ☐ A change in school would benefit the student academically or emotionally or socially
- ☐ Preference of student or biological parent/prior custodian or education decision maker (EDM)
- ☐ Adoption or permanency plan supported change in schools
- ☐ The student's need for special education/instruction or other programs and services (i.e. ELs or CTC students) are better met at the new school
- ☐ Safety considerations favored a school move
- ☐ A decision or request made by a child welfare agency (CCYA)
- ☐ Foster family reasons (i.e. school move supported foster care placement stability)

24. Please provide any additional information or feedback regarding your LEA's participation in Best Interest Determinations during the 2025-26 school year.



Enrollment

25. During 2025-26 school year, when did students in foster care begin classes following the decision to enroll a new student in your LEA?

*Choose the answer that most closely reflects your experience.**

- ☐ Within 24 hours
- ☐ More than 24 hours, less than 72 hours
- ☐ More than 72 hours, less than 1 school week
- ☐ More than 1 school week

26. If there were instances in which a student in foster care was unable to attend school within 24 hours of enrollment (or longer), which of the following best describes the most common reason?

*Select only one. **

- ☐ The student's education requirements could not be met immediately/suitably
- ☐ Insufficient or unavailable education records for the student
- ☐ Communication delays with the foster care agency or guardianship authority
- ☐ Limited experience with foster care placements within our LEA
- ☐ Concerns of funding
- ☐ Transportation could not be immediately arranged
- ☐ Not applicable, all students enrolled immediately

Transportation

27. Does your LEA have a written Transportation Plan/Memorandum of Understanding for providing, arranging and funding the transportation of students in foster care? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

28. When was your written Transportation Plan last reviewed and emailed to the state education agency at pafostercare@csc.csiu.org? *

- ☐ Less than 1 year ago
- ☐ Between 1 and 3 years ago
- ☐ More than 3 years ago
- ☐ I don't know

29. How would you rate the current effectiveness of your Transportation Plan? *

- ☐ 1 Not Effective
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6 Entirely Effective

30. Approximately how many students in foster care have you arranged, provided, or funded transportation since the beginning of the 2025-26 school year in order to remain in the school of origin?

31. Among the number of students you reported above, how many cases incurred **ADDITIONAL** transportation costs for your LEA?

Do not include no cost transportation such as utilizing existing routes or regular transportation subsidies.

32. Please provide any additional information or feedback regarding your LEA's transportation of students in foster care.

Challenges

33. Please rate the *level of challenge* your LEA faced in the following areas. *

	1 Not difficult at all	2	3	4	5	6 Very difficult
Identifying students in foster care.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Participating in collaborative BIDs.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Providing, arranging, and funding transportation to students in foster care.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Enrolling students in foster care immediately.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

34. Are eligible students in foster care properly identified for Act 1 of 2022?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't Know

35. Are all eligible students in grades 9-12 provided with an Act 1 of 2022 Graduation Plan?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't Know

36. Does your LEA keep a database of Act 1 identified students?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't Know

General Feedback

37. How do you track information to support the educational stability of students in foster care?

*Check all that apply. **

- ☐ We utilize the Foster Care Student School Stability Tool (tracker) available on PAFosterCare.org (*click the link to download tracker* <https://www.pafostercare.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Foster-Care-Student-Stability-Tool-remediated.xlsx>)
- ☐ We collaborate with enrollment staff and PIMS to monitor student data in a Student Information System
- ☐ We maintain regular communication and collaboration with child welfare agencies
- ☐ Other - Write In

38. Would you like to be contacted by the state foster care point of contact to discuss your responses to this survey? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

39. Please describe any other strategies or best practices to ensuring school stability for students in foster care your LEA implemented this school year. These should NOT have already been described.

40. Would you like to be contacted by your region's foster care point of contact to discuss your responses to this survey? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Thank You!

Thank you for taking our survey. Your response is very important to us.