


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator  
DCF Area Administrators  
Child Placing Agency Directors  
Child Welfare Agency Directors  
County Departments of Community Programs Directors  
County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Group Home Providers  
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors  
Private Child Placing Agencies  
Residential Care Center Providers  
Shelter Care Providers  
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove   
Administrator

Re: **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Guidance**

## **PURPOSE**

This information is intended to support child welfare agencies (CWAs) and local education agencies (LEAs) with the implementation of the ESSA.

## **BACKGROUND**

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), passed by Congress in December of 2015 amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. The ESSA, in conjunction with the Fostering Connections Act of 2008 and the Uninterrupted Scholars Act of 2013, requires certain actions of state and local educational and child welfare and tribal child welfare agencies designed to increase collaboration among those agencies to support successful educational experiences for children in out-of-home care.

In November 2016, a joint letter from the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) was sent to CWAs and LEAs informing them that the departments would be developing joint guidance related to both the mandated requirements and the best practice recommendations in coming months. This memo delivers segments of such guidance.

## **INFORMATION SUMMARY**

The joint letter with guidance and *sample* procedures have been developed to assist with making joint policies and plans pertaining to providing, arranging and funding transportation. In addition, information further clarifying the roles and responsibilities of points of contact, child welfare staff and educators has been included.

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MEMO WEB SITE: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>

Attachments: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/essa>  
Joint Letter DCF/DPI with transportation guidance and sample procedures  
Roles and responsibilities guidance