

Act 1 of 2022 – Assisting Students in Foster Care Placement Experiencing Education Instability

Did you know?

Students in foster care placement who have experienced one or more changes in school entity enrollment in a school year are eligible for assistance under a Pennsylvania law known as **Act 1 of 2022 – “Assisting Students Experiencing Education Instability.”**

Pennsylvania school entities including school districts, charter schools, cyber charter schools, intermediate units, and career and technical centers are required to assist eligible students to promote grade advancement and timely high school graduation. The law also requires school entities to facilitate equal access to academics and extracurricular activities.

Is my student in a foster care placement eligible?

Children and youth in a foster care placement experiencing “education instability” are students who have one or more changes in school entity enrollment during a single school year. These children and youth are eligible for the benefits provided through Act 1.

Who do I contact at my student’s school about Act 1?

School entities must assign a Point of Contact to all eligible students. The name and contact information for the Point of Contact must be provided to the student’s education decision maker(s).

If you have questions about Act 1 or if your student’s Point of Contact information has not been provided to you, please contact your student’s school principal or your school entity’s designated foster care Point of Contact, which can be found at Directory.Center-School.org/Fostercare.



Pennsylvania
Department of Education



CENTER FOR SCHOOLS
AND COMMUNITIES

What are some of the benefits Act 1 may provide my student?



Point of Contact

A Point of Contact will be assigned to your student to review and assess grade advancement and progress towards graduation. A graduation plan is developed for all students in grades 9-12. The Point of Contact will facilitate a student’s expedited consultation with the school counselor or mental health professionals, as appropriate.



Prior Work and Credits

Requires school entities to investigate work satisfactorily completed by your student at prior school entities and award full or partial credits in accordance with the school entity’s policies.



Timely Graduation

Enables school entities to, in certain circumstances, waive a course required for graduation by analyzing prior work completed or through the demonstration of competence in the content area (i.e. completion of an essay, presentation, or project).



Equal Access

Ensures equal access to school activities when school moves or instability would prevent participation (i.e. lifting registration deadlines).



Fees Assistance

Eliminates fees including, but not limited to, school identification fees, uniform fees, fees for extracurricular activities and school trips, library fees, and graduation regalia fees.



Pathways to Graduation

Act 1 defines alternative pathways to graduation (after all other pathways to graduation are exhausted) including a diploma from the student’s prior school or a Keystone Diploma issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

For more information, visit the webpage for [Pennsylvania Department of Education’s Basic Education Circular, “Act 1 of 2022.”](https://www.pde.pa.gov/Basic-Education-Circular/Act-1-of-2022)

Contact: RA-EDDOP@pa.gov

Learn more about Educational Stability for Children and Youth in Foster Care in Pennsylvania at PAfosterCare.org.



Scan QR code to go to
PDE Act 1 of 2022
webpage.