Data Standard Foster Care
Rev. 7/1/2025

Ownership and History

Standard prepared by:
Windy Spalding

Data steward(s)
Sharma Aitken (502) 564-3791, ext. 4018
Margalee Conlee (502) 564-3791, ext. 2470
Windy Spalding (502) 564-5130, ext. 4063

Office(s)
Office of Continuous Improvement and Support

Revision history
July 1, 2025
Review for 2024-25 School Year

Contents

Overview

Description

The [Every Student Succeeds Act](#) (ESSA) which reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 emphasizes the educational stability for children in foster care. Children in foster care face many educational barriers, including traumatization, high mobility, and undiagnosed behavioral and health conditions. ESEA section 1111(g) (1) (E) provides guidelines for ensuring the educational stability including assurances that – "(i) any such child enrolls or remains in the such child's school of origin, unless a determination is made that it is not in such child's best interest to attend the school of origin, which decision shall be based on all factors relating to the child's best interest, including consideration of the appropriateness of the current educational setting and the proximity to the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of the placement; "(ii) when a determination is made that it is not in such child's best interest to remain in the school of origin, the child is immediately enrolled in and new school, even if the child is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment; "(iii) the enrolling school shall immediately contact the school last attended by any such child to obtain relevant academic and other records; and "(iv) the local school district will designate a point of contact for the district for foster care. Title I Part A of ESEA also requires Local Educations Agencies (LEA) receiving Title I funds to collaborate with state or local child welfare agencies on local procedures for transportation for students in foster care [ESSA section 1112(c)(5)].

Regulation citation(s)

[KRS 199.802](#) - Promote more expeditious enrollment of students in foster care transferring to a new school or district and the sharing of information among schools, districts, child's case worker and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS).

[KRS 620.146](#) - Notice to be given to school personnel of persons authorized to contact or remove a child of whom the cabinet has custody from school grounds.

Data use

Foster Care data will be used for public reporting via the [School Report Card](#) as an accountability sub-group and for federal reporting purposes.

Related reports

- *QA Foster*
  Search Terms: QA Foster
  The detail report will provide a list of students indicated as Foster Care along with inclusion in other student groups.
  The aggregate report will provide a table of student counts by grade level and demographic groups.
  Reference the [Quick Reference Card](#).
- *Transient Population*
  Search Terms: Transient Population
  This report can be used to identify transient students currently enrolled in a district and/or school. Students are identified as transient if they have been enrolled in 3 or more schools in the current school year; 5 or more schools in the last 2 school years; or 10 or more schools in the last 5 school years. This report can be filtered to identify foster student groups.
  Reference the [Quick Reference Card](#).
- *Student Records Transfer*
  Search Terms: Student Records Transfer

The purpose of this report is to assist district personnel in monitoring records transfer requests for students enrolling from or withdrawing to other Kentucky school districts. A foster indicator assists districts in tracking compliance with KRS 199.802 which creates specific time requirements for the enrollment, records request, and release of records for students in foster care.
Reference the Quick Reference Card.

- *Student Performance Monitoring Report*
Search Terms: Student Performance Monitoring
The detail report will generate a list of students enrolled in the school or district selected with demographics, behavior, attendance, grades, response to intervention, on track to graduate indicators and early warning scores. This report can be filtered to identify foster student groups.
Reference the Quick Reference Card.

Resource(s)

- Kentucky Department of Education's Foster Care website
- Foster Care Frequently Asked Questions
- Non-Regulatory Guidance: Ensuring Educational Stability and Success for Students in Foster Care
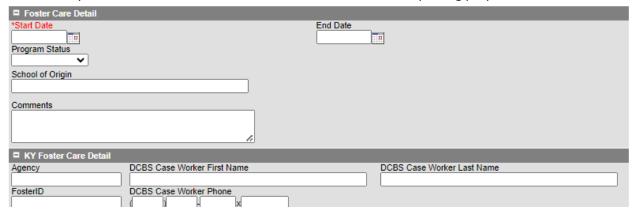- House Bill 33 (KRS 620.146) Guidance

Training

- Infinite Campus Community Foster Care Tab documentation
- Foster Care Student Records Transfer Webinar and PowerPoint
- Best Practices for Expeditious Enrollment and Placement of Students in Foster Care PowerPoint

Section A – Foster Care

Tool Search: Foster Care

KDE creates and publishes foster care records based on data received from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) on a weekly basis. Any district with an enrollment for a foster care student in the scope year will receive the foster care record regardless of start date or end date. The state created records will be *read only* in the district. CHFS does not contain a student's school of origin so state records will leave this field blank. The state records will not affect Foster Care records created by the district. Only state created records will be used for state or federal reporting purposes.

The following fields will populate based on the CHFS weekly import file.

Start Date: This date will populate as the date the student enters foster care. A new record should be created if a student exits foster care and returns later.

End Date: This date will populate as the date the student exits foster care.

Agency: This field will populate the foster care agency responsible for placement of child.

DCBS Case Worker First Name: This field will populate the first name of the Department of Community Based Services case worker assigned to the student.

DCBS Case Worker Last Name: This field will populate the last name of the Department of Community Based Services case worker assigned to the student.

Foster ID: This field will populate the foster identification number assigned to the child by the Department of Community Based Services when the child is placed in state agency care.

DCBS Case Worker Phone: This field will populate the phone number of the Department of Community Based Services case worker assigned to the student.

The following fields are optional; enter data if desired for a district created record.

Program Status: IC core field, not required for KY users.

School of Origin: Enter the school/district in which student attended prior to placement in Foster Care.

Comments: Enter any additional comments relevant to placement.