Prekindergarten Eligibility – Foster Care

Overview

Statute: TEC, §29.153(b)(6), Texas HB 725, & Texas Family Code Section 262.201

Resources: <u>Student Attendance and Accounting Handbook (SAAH)</u> Section 7.2.6, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services <u>https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/, & TEA Foster Care Webpage</u>

Documentation

Children who are or were previously in the conservatorship of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

- PreK verification letter (this letter can be requested by sending the child's full name and date of birth to: Prekverificationltrs@dfps.texas.gov)
- DFPS foster/kinship placement documentation

Children who are currently or were previously in foster care in another state or territory, but currently live in Texas

- Foster care documents stating closure of a case
- Court documents stating "state foster care" involvement
- Adoption paperwork completed by the originating state

Key Points

- If a student qualifies for pre-k on the basis of having ever been in foster care, the student remains
 eligible for enrollment after the student begins a pre-k class even if that student is no longer in foster
 care.
- Many districts pre-register pre-k students to determine and plan for the size of the next school year's pre-k program. Districts may begin this process on or after April 1 of each year. Once a child is determined to be eligible, they remain eligible without reverification prior to the next school year.

