

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

November 17, 2023

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF
FROM: DARRELL MISSEY, DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: Education Policy Update/Best Interest Determination (BID) Process

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memo is to inform staff of the updates to Section 4, Chapter 4, Subsection 2 of the Child Welfare Manual.

HB 447 made changes to the Best Interest Determination (BID) process.

The following has been added to the manual:

Pursuant to Section 167.019.1(2)RSMo, if the BID process is not completed within ten (10) days of a placement resulting in a change of school, the school associated with the new placement shall be deemed as in the child's best interest. This provision applies only to situations where the distance between the school of origin and the new placement is more than ten (10) miles, or fifteen (15) miles if the child receives services from a special school district.

The manual has also been revised to include additional details about educational stability and required processes pertaining to a child's education.

The release of this memo archives:
Memo CD18-37

NECESSARY ACTION

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

PDS CONTACT

Crystal Wenger
Crystal.D.Wenger@dss.mo.gov

MANAGER CONTACT

Heather Ford
Heather.D.Ford@dss.mo.gov

CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS

[Section 4 Chapter 4 Subsection 2 \(Educational Stability\)](#)

FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

[CD-179: School Notification of Enrollment/Change of Placement](#)

[MOU: Financial Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#)

[Attachment A: Individual Student Transportation plan](#)

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES

N/A

RELATED STATUTE

[167.019.1\(2\)RSMo](#)