

The Washington State  
Governor's Office of  
the Education  
Ombuds:  
Supporting Students in  
Kinship or Foster Care



## Supporting Students in Kinship or Foster Care

Families and Community Professionals are encouraged to contact OEO to see how we can help.

Toll-free:

[1-866-297-2597](tel:1-866-297-2597)

(Phone interpretation available)

Email:

[oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov](mailto:oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov)

Web:

[oeo.wa.gov/en](http://oeo.wa.gov/en)

As the COVID-19 pandemic wears on, OEO recognizes these are very hard times in our communities and many extended families caring for children in kinship care, or foster parents caring for children in foster care are struggling with education challenges.

OEO is a resource that can help address concerns about K-12 public schools. Please contact OEO if you are a community professional working with families of school-age children who need school-related assistance.

OEO's legislative mission is to reduce opportunity gaps. Our strategic plan priorities concentrate on education justice, especially for communities most affected by COVID-19. We are focusing our limited conflict resolution resources, such as informal mediation and coaching, on K-12 students who are:

- In kinship or foster care
- Immigrant, refugee, asylee, or migrant, or students or families whose primary language is not English,
- Experiencing homelessness
- Out of school, including students with disabilities receiving partial school days
- People of color, Black, or indigenous
- Involved with the juvenile justice or juvenile rehabilitation systems or
- Receiving Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) or Children's Long Term Inpatient Programs (CLIP) supports

Even though supports look different in this time of COVID, OEO is still working to connect with and support students in kinship or foster care who are experiencing challenges with Washington's public school system. Contact OEO today to see how we can help.

