

Parent Information Center of Delaware



Got Kids? Get Involved!

Parent Information Center (PIC) is the new home of the Educational Surrogate Parent Program.

The Delaware Department of Education (DOE) contracts with PIC to administer the Educational Surrogate Parent (ESP) Program. The ESP Program was established to ensure that children with special education needs, who are in foster care, have the same protections as all other eligible children under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Both the IDEA and state special education regulations mandate this protection for children with disabilities whose parents cannot advocate for them in the special education process.

**Interested in volunteering? We are interested in you!
Individuals are needed to be Educational Surrogate Parents
for children in foster care.**

An Educational Surrogate Parent:

- Participates in school meetings
- Works with a school team to make decisions about special education services for a child in foster care
- Stays current with a child's educational progress
- Communicates regularly with the ESP office
- Stays current with special education parental rights & school responsibilities

ESP requirements:

- Complete an application with PIC
- Participate in training with PIC
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Not be an employee of any public or private agency or school that is involved in the care or education of the child
- Have skills to adequately represent a child

Parent Information Center (PIC) provides training, support, information, and assistance with problem-solving and advocacy strategies for ESPs about special education.

Contact Kathie Herel kherel@picofdel.org for more information.

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