



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH
SECRETARY

WAYNE E. BLACK
SR. DIRECTOR FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
AND COUNTY OPERATIONS

July 17, 2017

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS AND PROGRAM CHILD WELFARE MANAGERS

SUBJECT: ESSA DATA COLLECTION AND TRACKING

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) mandates the public education system partner with the public child welfare system to address educational stability. As with placement stability, education stability is a critical service outcome. To achieve that outcome ESSA requires data collection and tracking regarding the educational stability of students in county child welfare custody. The Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) are working on an authoritative data source. However, local education agencies (LEAs) still do not know who or where all students in child welfare custody are located and year-round tracks are about to start. In compliance with the NC Child Welfare Placement policy regarding [Educational Stability](#) (issued April 2017) county child welfare agencies must immediately:

- 1) Submit the name and contact information for the county child welfare ESSA Points of Contact: https://uncg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bknnXvdZXljM6t7. To access the current list of child welfare agency POCs and LEA POCs go to: <http://center.serve.org/hepnc/fostercare.php>.
- 2) Provide a list of children in county child welfare custody and the school they attend to the LEA POC so students are identified in the LEA data system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne E. Black".

Wayne E. Black

CWS-13-2017