



Other Primary Caregiver (OPC) Form – 2026-27 School Year

Use this form to verify that the enrolling student is under the care of an “Other Primary Caregiver.” School officials should only collect this form if the person enrolling the student is **NOT** the parent, legal guardian, or court appointed custodian of the student and whose parent, custodian, or guardian is unable to supply such care and support due to serious family hardship. **Do NOT complete this form if you are the parent/ legal guardian/ custodian. Child and Family Services (CFSA) staff cannot serve as OPCs.**

Step One: Determine if you are an OPC.

An “Other Primary Caregiver” is a person other than a parent or court-appointed custodian or guardian who is the primary provider of care or control and support to a student who resides with him or her, and whose parent, custodian, or guardian is unable to supply such care and support due to serious family hardship. OPCs must establish DC residency as required on the DC Residency Verification Form, in addition to establishing his/her status as an “Other Primary Caregiver.” See reverse for definition of care or control and substantial support.

Step Two: Provide information about your OPC status.

Student First Name:	Student Last Name:	DOB:
OPC First Name:	OPC Last Name:	Relationship to student:
OPC Address:	Apt.:	Phone:
City:	State:	ZIP:
Student is 18 years of age: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	(18 yr-old students only) Student resided with OPC as a minor for SY 2025-26: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Must submit prior-year official documentation	Date student started residing with OPC:

Verify OPC status (check all that apply):

I provide care or control for the enrolling student Enrolling student resides with me, the other primary caregiver

I provide substantial support for the enrolling student

Step Three: Provide information about the parent/legal guardian (this person is not the same as the OPC).

Full Name of Parent/Legal Guardian:

Address of Parent/Legal Guardian (if known):

City:	State:	ZIP:	Phone:
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The parent or legal guardian is unable to provide primary care and substantial support because of the following serious family hardship (check any that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> he/she has an active military assignment	<input type="checkbox"/> he/she is incarcerated	<input type="checkbox"/> he/she is experiencing loss of habitability
<input type="checkbox"/> he/she suffers from a serious illness	<input type="checkbox"/> he/she does not live with the child due to neglect and/or abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> he/she has abandoned the child
<input type="checkbox"/> he/she is deceased		<input type="checkbox"/> he/she is unavailable due to deportation

Step Four: Confirmation of OPC Status.

By signing below, I swear and attest that I am the Other Primary Caregiver, and the parent, custodian, or guardian is unable to supply such care and support because of a **serious family hardship**. I further accept that all provisions set forth in “Step Three: Certification of Residency Requirements” on the DC Residency Verification Form are incorporated and merged herein.

Other Primary Caregiver SIGN HERE: _____ **Date:** _____

SCHOOL OFFICIAL USE ONLY Complete the area below to confirm school verification of other primary caregiver status. Note: If a Sworn Statement or Attestation for OPC is provided, it must be the official form issued by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE).

I reviewed the OPC status as specified above and the OPC meets all three criteria and that the parent or legal guardian is unable to provide primary care and substantial support due to serious family hardship. In addition, the above identified OPC provided one of the following documents to verify OPC status (if the student is age 18, OPC shall ALSO provide prior year documentation):

<input type="checkbox"/> OSSE Sworn Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexpired official documentation from the federal government or the Government of the District of Columbia	(Use for 18 yr-old students only) <input type="checkbox"/> Prior school year OPC documentation ALSO provided
<input type="checkbox"/> Records from the previous school year	<input type="checkbox"/> OSSE Attestation for Other Primary Caregiver	
<input type="checkbox"/> Immunization or medical records		

I certify, under the penalties of perjury, that I have personally reviewed all the documents presented and affirm that the information represented above is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I also affirm that all supporting documentation to this form will be retained by the school and made available to OSSE, external auditors and other agencies, including but not limited, to the DC Office of the Inspector General and the DC Office of the Attorney General, upon request.

School Official Name (print): _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

OPC must submit one of the documents identified below to verify the other primary caregiver status.

Methods

- **A completed and signed OSSE sworn statement** indicating that he/she is the primary caregiver for the student.
- **Records from the previous school year** indicating that the student is in the care of the caregiver, including, but not limited to, a signed report card.
- **Immunization or medical records** issued within the last 12 months immediately preceding the school’s review of the residency documentation, indicating that the student is in the care of the caregiver.
- **Unexpired official documentation from the federal government or the Government of the District of Columbia** with an issue date within the last 12 months immediately preceding the school’s review of residency documentation, indicating that the caregiver receives public or medical benefits on behalf of the student, including, but not limited to, Supplemental Security Income annual benefits notification or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) verification of income notice or recertification approval letter.
- **An OSSE attestation for OPC completed and signed by a legal, medical or social service professional** attesting to the caregiver’s status relevant to the student and issued within the last 12 months immediately preceding the school’s review of residency documentation.

Am I an Other Primary Caregiver?

5A DCMR § 5099 states that an Other Primary Caregiver (OPC) is a person, other than the enrolling student’s parent or court appointed custodian or guardian. The enrolling student must *reside* with the OPC and the OPC *must provide the student with guidance, maintenance, physical care and support*. In addition, **the student’s parents, guardians, or custodians are unable to provide the student primary care and substantial support due to serious family hardship**. If you do not provide guidance, maintenance and physical care, and the student’s parents, guardians, or custodians do not suffer from a serious family hardship, you do not qualify as an OPC. Do you provide the following items in the table below?

Support	When the OPC is exercising <i>primary</i> responsibility to provide the child with financial resources for the child’s livelihood.
Guidance	When the OPC participates in the responsibility for the child’s development on a daily basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending school conferences • Disciplining the child • Participating in decisions concerning the child’s well-being • Involvement in the child’s extracurricular activities
Maintenance	When the OPC is providing necessities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Clothing • Shelter
Physical care	When the OPC is providing continuous care for the child by performing tasks required in the child’s daily life: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bathing • Feeding • Dressing • Assuring medical attention will be received by the child • Preparing meals • Supervising the child’s activities • Assisting with other physical care needs