

# School Selection Checklist for Decision-Making

## School of Origin Considerations

**Continuity of Instruction**

*Student is best served due to circumstances that look to his or her past.*

**Age and Grade Placement of the Student**

*Maintaining friends and contacts with peers is critical to the student's meaningful school experience and participation. The student has been in this environment for an extended period of time.*

**Academic Strength**

*The child's academic performance is weak and the child would fall further behind if he/she transferred to another school.*

**Social and Emotional State**

*The child is suffering from the effects of mobility, has developed strong ties to the current school, and does not want to leave.*

**Distance of the Commute and Its Impact**

*The advantages of remaining in the school of origin outweigh any potential disadvantages presented by the length of the commute.*

**Personal Safety of the Student**

*The school of origin has advantages for the safety of the student.*

**Student's Need for Special Instruction**

*The student's need for special instruction, such as Section 504 or special education and related services, can be better met at the school of origin.*

**Length of Anticipated Stay**

*The student's current living situation is outside of the school of origin's attendance zone, but the living situation continues to be uncertain. The student will benefit from the continuity offered by remaining in the school of origin.*

## Local Attendance Area School Considerations

**Continuity of Instruction**

*Student is best served due to circumstances that look to his or her future.*

**Age and Grade Placement of the Student**

*Maintaining friends and contacts with peers in the school of origin is not particularly critical to the student's meaningful school experience and participation. The student has attended the school of origin for only a brief time.*

**Academic Strength**

*The child's academic performance is strong and at grade level; the child would likely recover academically from a school transfer.*

**Social and Emotional State**

*The child seems to be coping adequately with mobility, does not feel strong ties to the current school, and does not mind transferring.*

**Distance of the Commute and Its Impact**

*A shorter commute may help the student's concentration, attitude, or readiness for school. The local attendance area school can meet all of the necessary educational and special needs of the student.*

**Personal Safety of the Student**

*The local attendance area school has advantages for the safety of the student.*

**Student's Need for Special Instruction**

*The student's need for special instruction, such as Section 504 or special education and related services, can be met at the local attendance area school.*

**Length of Anticipated Stay**

*The student's current living situation appears stable and unlikely to change suddenly; the student will benefit from the developing relationships with peers in school who live in the local community.*