

School Selection Checklist



School of Origin Considerations (Check if Yes)

Local School Considerations (Check if Yes)

Overall Continuity

Has your child attended the school of origin for a long time?

Overall Continuity

Has your child attended the school of origin for only a brief time?

Length of Anticipated Stay at Current Residence

Do you expect that you and your child will have to move again very soon, or are you unsure how long you can stay?

Length of anticipated stay at current residence

Do you expect that you and your child will be able to stay where you are staying now for a while?

Time of Year

Is it late in the academic year?

Time of Year

Is it early in the academic year?

Personal Safety of the Student

Does the school of origin have advantages for the safety of your child?

Personal Safety of the Student

Does the local school have advantages for the safety of your child?

Interaction with Peers

Is maintaining school friends important to your child's emotional well-being, meaningful school experience, and participation?

Interaction with Peers

Would your child benefit from developing relationships with school peers who live closer to his/her new community?

Academic Strength

Is your child likely to fall far behind if he/she transfers to another school?

Academic Strength

Is your child likely to recover academically from a school transfer?

Social and Emotional State

Has your child developed strong ties to the current school, and does not want to leave the school? Do changes in the environment or routine provoke anxiety or other difficulties for your child?

Social and Emotional State

Has your child experienced challenges at the current school, and/or does not mind transferring to a new school?

Impact of the Commute on the Student's Education

Do the advantages of continuing to attend the school of origin outweigh any potential disadvantages presented by the commute?

Impact of the Commute on the Student's Education

Would a shorter commute help your child's concentration in, attitude toward, or readiness for school?

Student's Need for Special Instruction

Does your child receive, or is he/she currently being evaluated for, special education or other special services at school? Is it best for your child to continue receiving those services or complete the evaluation at the school of origin?

Student's Need for special instruction

If your child receives, or is currently being evaluated for, special education or other special services at school, can the local school better meet your child's needs?

Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Is your child active in extracurricular activities that are meaningful and important to him/her at the school of origin, and will your child be able to continue those activities while living in your current living situation?

Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Would your child be better able to take advantage of extracurricular activities, if he/she so desired, at the local school?

Schoolhouse Connection

<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/interview-checklists-for-supporting-school-selection/>



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State
Technical Assistance Center
for Homeless Students