

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JEFFERSON COUNTY, OHIO
PARENTING TIME GUIDELINES
LONG DISTANCE COMPANIONSHIP

Parenting time is a time for child(ren) to do things with the parent with the nonresidential parent. Activities that you do with them or skills you can teach them help make the time be rewarding and enriching. Encouraging the child(ren) to find friends in your neighborhood also helps make it like home for them. Child(ren) clearly profit by continued meaningful contact with both parents. Child(ren) need the continuing and regular involvement of both parents to feel loved. No specific schedule will satisfy the change in needs of both child(ren) and parents over the years. Critical to the success of any schedule is that each parent be flexible, based upon the changing needs of the child, as the child grows older.

This Guideline Parenting Schedule takes into account the changing developmental needs of child(ren). This schedule represents the minimum requirements for parenting time. It is each parent's responsibility to tailor this schedule as necessary to meet the best interest of their child(ren). It is recognized that each situation and each child is different. Liberal parenting time arrangements are encouraged, as contact with both parents is important to the child(ren). Absent agreement to the contrary, each parent shall follow these requirements. Specific items in each case's Order take precedence over this schedule as the court will strive to adopt a parenting schedule that is in the child(ren)'s best interests. Changes or modifications can be made by the court if needed. Any request to deviate from the following parenting schedule shall be supported by the filing of the proper motion.

NO PARENT IS PERMITTED TO MAKE PARENTING TIME ARRANGEMENTS OR MODIFY ORDERED PARENTING TIME ARRANGEMENTS DIRECTLY WITH THE CHILD(REN). THE PARENTS MUST PERSONALLY DISCUSS ANY ISSUES OR CONFLICTS INVOLVING PARENTING TIME WITHOUT USING THE CHILD(REN) AS INTERMEDIARY/INTERMEDIARIES. THE USE OF EMAIL OR TEXTING IS A GOOD IDEA BECAUSE IT CREATES A RECORD.

I. REASONABLE PARENTING TIME: This guideline schedule shall be considered reasonable parenting time. Additional parenting time arranged between the parents is strongly encouraged.

Except as otherwise explicitly provided in this Order, when the non-residential parent resides more than 30 miles from the residence of the child, **the non-residential parent shall have the right to parenting time with the child as follows:**

1. Weekends – On weekends, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the first, third, and fourth Friday of each month, and ending at 6:00 p.m. on the following Sunday. Except as otherwise explicitly provided in this Parenting Time Guideline, if a weekend period of parenting time by the Non-residential parent begins on a Friday that is a school holiday during the regular school term, or if the period ends on or is immediately followed by a Monday that is such a holiday, that weekend period of parenting time shall begin at 6:00 p.m. on the Thursday immediately preceding the Friday holiday or

school holiday or end at 6:00 p.m. on that Monday holiday or school holiday, as applicable.

2. Christmas Holidays in Even-Numbered Years – In even-numbered years, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the day the child is dismissed from school for the Christmas school vacation and ending at noon on December 26th.

Christmas Holidays in Odd-Numbered Years – In odd-numbered years, beginning at noon on December 26 and ending at 6:00 p.m. on New Year's Day.

3. Thanksgiving in Odd-Numbered Years – In odd numbered years, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the day the child is dismissed from school for the Thanksgiving holiday and ending at 6:00 p.m. on the following Sunday.
4. Easter Holidays – In even numbered years beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the day the child is dismissed from school and ending at 6:00 p.m. on the day before school resumes.
5. Extended Summer Parenting Time by the Non-Residential Parent - The nonresidential parent shall have extended summer parenting time for five weeks duration. The nonresidential parent shall commence summer parenting time on July 10th and therefore have the final three weeks of July and the first two weeks of August. Such parenting time shall be continuous unless the parents otherwise agree. Residential and nonresidential parents shall cooperate with regard to the parenting time.

Each parent shall be permitted to have two weeks of uninterrupted parenting time for purposes of a vacation during that parent's half of summer. Each of the parents shall give the other notice no later than April 1st of each year of the dates when they will be exercising their uninterrupted parenting time. Each parent shall notify the other of the location of the vacation and the exact dates of the vacation. Telecommunications between the child(ren) and the non-visiting parent shall continue during the vacation and shall not be considered an interruption.

If the parents agree they may elect to exercise summer parenting time in the following manner:

- i. The parents may agree to alternate weeks commencing with the second week of June in two week intervals.
- ii. The parents may agree to exercise parenting time for two weeks in June, two weeks in July, and one week in August.
- iii. The nonresidential parent shall not interfere with extracurricular activities but shall be responsible for transportation to extracurricular events and shall encourage participation in the same. However, the residential parent shall not enroll the child(ren) in any summer extracurricular event that would disrupt the summer

parenting time of the nonresidential parent unless the nonresidential parent agrees to the activity in writing.

iv. Holiday and birthday celebrations with each parent shall not be missed, requiring scheduling of a vacation around these events or that the missed occasion be made up. Alternate weekends are missed during vacation and are therefore not required to be made up.

v. During extended summer parenting time the residential parent shall have the right to have two extended weekend visitations with the child(ren) from Friday at 6:00 p.m. until Sunday at 6:00 p.m. The residential parent shall advise the nonresidential parent by April 1st of each year of the two weekends he or she will exercise parenting time during the other's extended summer parenting time. This weekend parenting time shall not interfere with uninterrupted vacation time. If the visiting parent has to work during the extended parenting time and the non-visiting parent is available, the child(ren) shall be with the non-visiting parent during the visiting parent's work period.

6. Child's Birthday – If the non-residential parent is not otherwise entitled under this Parenting Time Guideline to have parenting time with the child on the child's birthday, the non-residential parent shall have parenting time with the child beginning at 4:00 p.m. and ending at 8:00 p.m. on that day, provided that the non-residential parent picks up the child from the residential parent's residence and returns the child to that same place.
7. Mother's Day/Father's Day Weekend – Each year, beginning at 6:00 p.m. the Friday preceding Mother's Day/Father's Day and ending at 6:00 p.m. on Mother's Day/Father's Day, provided that if the non-residential parent is not otherwise entitled under this Parenting Time Guideline to have parenting time with the child(ren), she/he shall pick up the child(ren) from the residential parent's residence and return the child(ren) to that same place.
8. Parent's Birthday's – The non-residential parent shall have parenting time with the child from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the day of the parent's birthday. If the residential parent's birthday falls on a day that the non-residential parent has parenting time, the residential parent shall have parenting time from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on that day.

II. GENERAL COMMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

Except as otherwise explicitly provided in this Parenting Time Guideline, the terms and conditions of parenting time with the child(ren) that apply regardless of the distance between the residence of a parent and the child(ren) are as follows:

1. The non-residential parent shall pick up the child(ren) at the residential parent's house

at the beginning of parenting time.

2. The residential parent shall pick up the child(ren) at the residence of the non-residential parent at the end of each period of parenting time.
3. The parents may agree to meet at a suitable place in between each house.
4. The non-residential parent shall give twenty-four (24) hours advance notice of cancellation of parenting time.
5. The residential parent shall advise when a child is ill and unable to visit with as much advance notice as possible.
6. Both parents shall have the child(ren) ready for commencement and termination of parenting time at the appointed time.
7. Both parents shall be punctual. NO parent shall have to wait an appointed time. A parent who is late forfeits companionship for that period. However, if the parent is unavoidably detained (e.g. unexpected traffic or work) he/she shall give notice to the other parent and parenting time shall be adjusted accordingly.
8. Each parent is ORDERED to return with the child(ren) the personal effects that the child brought at the beginning of the period of parenting time.
9. Child(ren) shall not be taken to a bar during parenting time. However, a restaurant that has a bar is acceptable if the parents are there to eat a meal.
10. It is encouraged that child(ren) shall not be left with friends or family members during a parenting time except if the non-residential parent is working or in an emergency.
11. Each parent may designate any competent adult to pick up and return the child(ren), as applicable.
12. Disparaging remarks about the other parent SHALL NOT be made to the child(ren) or in the presence of the child(ren). Neither parent shall discuss any issue related to the divorce with the child(ren).
13. The residential parent shall notify the non-residential parent of any illness or malady that requires medical attention. No surgery, except emergency surgery, shall be performed without a good faith effort to give notice to the non-residential parent.
14. Parenting time granted shall be exercised; parenting time not taken is lost. Parenting time not taken due to the actions of the residential parent is not waived, but shall be

added to the next scheduled parenting time weekend.

15. Written notice shall be deemed to have been timely made if received or postmarked before or at the time that notice is due.
16. Parenting time requires communication and cooperation. Both parents shall cooperate with regard to parenting time.
17. The child(ren) are not property. Parenting time questions shall be decided with a prime consideration of the best interest of the child(ren).
18. Both parents shall recognize that the child(ren) have his/her own friends and activities and shall respect this fact. Regardless of where the child(ren) are living, their continued participation in extracurricular activities, school related or otherwise, shall continue uninterrupted. It shall be the responsibility of the parent with whom they are residing at the time of the activity to provide the physical and economic cost of transportation to these activities, except for trips of more than 100 miles. The residential parent shall provide the non-residential parent with notice of all extracurricular activities, school related or otherwise, in which the child(ren) participate and schedules of all extracurricular activities, in writing, and the name of the activity leader (including address and telephone number if reasonably available to the residential parent).
19. Telephone Access:

The non-residential parent may call the child(ren) not more than three (3) times per week and speak with said child(ren) for not less than 15 minutes on each call.

The child(ren) is/are permitted to call the non-residential parent at least once per day at reasonable times. If the call is long distance, the child(ren) shall call collect.

The residential parent shall not interfere with or prevent telephone communication between the non-residential parent and the child(ren) nor shall the non-residential parent interfere with or prevent telephone communication between the residential parent and the child(ren) during parenting time.

Webcams: Where it is financially possible, the parents shall each establish a webcam connection (eg. Skype or Facetime) so that all communications with the child(ren) can be over a webcam where each parent may see the other and therefore enhance the parenting time.

20. This schedule does not affect support payments. Additional parenting time is encouraged, but that factor does not create a cause for a deviation in child support. Child support is not abated for any period of parenting time.

21. If the parent exercising parenting time is to be away for a period of at least eight (8) hours, the other parent shall have the right to have the children during that period and shall have priority over other baby sitters.

III. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS:

1. RELOCATION NOTICE:

If the residential parent intends to move to a residence other than the last residence of court record, he/she shall file a notice of intent to relocate with this Court sixty (60) days in advance. Except as provided in ORC 3109.051(G)(2), (3), and (4) pertaining to incidents involving a conviction of domestic violence, a copy of such notice shall be mailed by the Court to the non-residential parent. On receipt of the notice, the court, on its own motion or on the motion of the non-residential parent, may schedule a hearing with notice to both parents to determine whether it is in the best interest of the child(ren) to revise the parenting time schedule for the child(ren). Said notice shall be filed 60 days prior to the relocation.

2. RECORDS ACCESS NOTICE:

Except as specifically modified or otherwise limited by court order, and subject to statutory restrictions on files maintained by the Child Support Enforcement Agency and files maintained by any Education Institution when the non-residential parent is involved in a domestic violence situation, the non-residential parent is entitled to access under the same terms and conditions as the residential parent to any record that is related to the child(ren) and to which the residential parent is legally provided access, including school records and medical records. Any keeper of a record, public or private, who knowingly fails to comply with this order, is in contempt of Court.

Both parents shall have access to the child(ren)'s school records. Both parents are encouraged to participate in parent-teacher conferences, school trips, school programs and other school events in which parents are invited to participate. The parent receiving the grade card shall give a copy to the other parent within a reasonable time.

Subject to Ohio Revised Code Section 2301.35(G)(2) and 3319.321(F), the non-residential parent shall be entitled to access any record related to the child(ren) under the same terms and conditions that access is provided to the residential parent.

3. DAY CARE CENTER ACCESS NOTICE:

Except as specifically modified or otherwise limited by court order, and in accordance with statutory requirements of a operating a daycare, the non-residential parent is entitled to access to any day care center that is or will be attended by the child(ren) with whom parenting time is granted, to the same extent that the residential parent is granted access to the center.

4. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES NOTICE:

Except as specifically modified or otherwise limited by the court order, and subject to Ohio law pertaining to the privacy of domestic violence victims or family members, the non-residential parent is entitled to access, under the same terms and conditions as the residential parent to any student activity that is related to the child(ren) to which the residential parent legally is provided access.

Subject to Ohio law pertaining to the privacy of domestic violence victims or family members, the non-residential parent shall have access to any student activity involving the child(ren) under the same terms and conditions that access is provided to the residential parent.

IV. AIR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARENTING TIME

The following arrangements for air travel for children shall control:

1. Each parent is authorized to designate a responsible adult known to the child(ren) to travel with the child(ren) between the residences of the parents. However, it is preferred that the parent be the actual person transporting the child(ren) between the residences.
2. The child(ren) should not travel alone between the residence of the non-residential parent and that of the residential parent until the child(ren) reaches the age of 12 years.
3. The non-residential parent shall make airline reservations for the child(ren) only on major commercial passenger airlines on flights having no change of airplanes between the airport of departure and the airport of final arrival if possible. All flights shall depart from a commercial airport near the residence of the other parent that offers regularly scheduled passenger flights to various cities throughout the United States.
4. The non-residential parent shall pay all travel expenses, charges, escort fees, and air fares incurred for the child(ren) for transportation from the residence of the residential parent to that of the non-residential parent. The residential parent shall be responsible for one half of the travel expenses, charges, escort fees, and air fares. The residential parent shall reimburse the non-residential parent upon receipt of confirmation of reservations.

5. The non-residential parent shall advise the residential parent of the following:
 - a. The location of the airport;
 - b. The date and time of the flight on which the child(ren) are scheduled to leave;
 - c. The airline and flight number of the plane;
 - d. The airport where the child(ren) will return to the residential parent if different from the airport of departure;
 - e. The date and time of the flight on which the child(ren) are scheduled to return;
 - f. The airline and flight number of the plane on which the child(ren) are scheduled to return at the end of the parenting time.
6. The residential parent shall deliver the child(ren) to the airport from which the child(ren) are scheduled to leave at the beginning of each period of parenting time at least two hours before the scheduled departure time. The residential parent shall surrender the child(ren) to the non-residential parent, a designated escort, or to a flight attendant who is employed by the airline and who will be flying on the same flight on which the child(ren) are scheduled.
7. The non-residential parent, at the end of each period of parenting time, shall deliver the child(ren) to the airport where the child(ren) are scheduled to depart at least two hours before the scheduled departure time and to surrender the children to the residential parent, a designated escort, or to a flight attendant who is employed by the airline and who will be flying on the same flight on which the child(ren) are scheduled to return.
8. Any parent who has parenting time with the children at the time, shall notify the other parent immediately if the child(ren) are not placed on a scheduled flight at the beginning or end of a period of parenting time. If the child(ren) should miss a scheduled flight, the parent having parenting time when the flight is missed shall schedule another flight for the child(ren) as soon as possible after the originally scheduled flight and shall pay any additional expense associated with the changed flight and give the other parent notice of the date, flight number, and time of the flight.
9. The expenses of a parent incurred in traveling to and from an airport as well as related parking and baggage handling expenses are the sole responsibility of the parent delivering or receiving the child(ren) at the airport.