

# OSCEOLA/MECOSTA COUNTY LONG DISTANCE PARENTING TIME POLICY

The following schedule shall be followed unless the parents are able to develop a mutually agreeable alternative schedule:

1. Father/Mother shall have parenting time each Spring Break. Spring Break is defined as 6:00pm the day school recesses until 12:00pm the day before school resumes pursuant to the school calendar. Days that school are not in session and coincide with Spring Break but are not officially designated as Spring Break on the school calendar shall be included in the definition of Spring Break. If there are no school age children, then Spring Break begins Easter Sunday at 8:00pm until the following Sunday at 8:00pm.
  
2. Father/Mother shall have parenting time during the first half of the Summer Break each year. The parties are to count the number of days inclusive in the defined Break and equally divide the Break into two portions. Summer parenting time is defined as beginning at 6:00pm the Friday of the week school recesses for summer break until 6:00pm the day before school resumes pursuant to the school calendar. If there are no school age children, summer parenting time is defined as beginning 6:00pm June 1 until 6:00pm September 1. Summer school, which interferes with the above schedule, shall only be permitted if such schooling is required for the child to proceed to the next grade (unless the parties agree otherwise).
  
3. Father/Mother shall have parenting time during the Thanksgiving holiday in each even-numbered year. The Thanksgiving holiday shall be defined as 6:00pm on Wednesday until 12:00pm on Sunday pursuant to the school calendar.
  
4. The parties shall share parenting time during the Christmas Break each year by alternating the two portions of the Break as follows:

<b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b>	<b>EVEN YEARS</b>	<b>ODD YEARS</b>
FIRST PORTION	MOTHER	FATHER
SECOND PORTION	FATHER	MOTHER

Christmas Break is defined as 6:00pm the day school recesses until 12:00pm the day before school resumes pursuant to the school calendar. The parties are to count the total number of days inclusive in the defined break and equally divide the break into two portions. One day is defined as 6:00pm that day until the following day at 6:00pm. If there are an odd number of days in the designated break, the mid-break exchange shall take place at 12:00pm on the day of the exchange. If there are no school age children, the Christmas Break is defined as December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm until January 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm.

5. Responsibility for transportation cost for Parenting Time during Spring, Summer, Thanksgiving and Christmas Breaks shall be shared equally by the parties, with the parent whose parenting time is about to begin being responsible for picking up the child(ren) at the residence of the other parent. Either parent may designate a third party who is a licensed driver, 18 years of age or older and with whom the child(ren) is familiar, to provide transportation for any parenting time.
6. **Airline Transportation:** Either parent may make arrangements for one way airline transportation. The parent whose parenting time is scheduled to begin is responsible for the entire cost of the airline ticket (including any cost to chaperon the children). The parent making the airline arrangement shall make, confirm and pay for the airline travel at least 30 days prior to the scheduled parenting time and send notice (text acceptable) to the other parent that the arrangements for the air transportation have been confirmed and paid for. The parent making the airline arrangements shall send a copy of the itinerary to the other parent at least 15 days prior to the scheduled parenting time. The times for the flight shall be as close to the scheduled parenting time as reasonably possible but in no case more than two hours before the scheduled parenting time is to begin and 24 hours after the scheduled parenting time. Failure to comply with time constraints may result in a parent not being permitted to use air transportation for the parenting time, therefore a party should get and retain verification that the time constraints have been met. The parties must use the airport and the                      airport unless agreed otherwise. Mother shall be responsible for transportation to and from the                      airport and Father shall be responsible for transportation to and from the                      airport with enough time to spare for security clearance.
7. **Telephone parenting time.** Both parents shall maintain a working phone and phone number for the other parent to contact the child. The parties shall be allowed reasonable phone contact while the child is at the residence of the other parent. If the parties cannot agree, the parents shall have specific telephone parenting time each Tuesday and Thursday commencing at 7:00pm and lasting for no longer than ½ hour in duration. The non-residential parent shall be responsible for placing the phone call to the residential parent's provided contact phone number at the allotted time. The residential parent shall be responsible for having the child available for the non-residential parent's phone call. If the child is unavailable for the phone call, the residential parent shall be responsible for having the child call the non-residential parent's provided contact phone number within a reasonable period of time (1-2 hours) after the time that was scheduled for the non-residential parent to call.
8. Father/Mother shall notify the other parent within a reasonable time prior to the start of any scheduled parenting time, if he/she will be unable to exercise scheduled parenting time. Upon written notification to the Friend of the Court Office of three consecutive no shows without notification, the Friend of the Court Office may initiate enforcement regarding the alleged violation.
9. Each party shall be responsible for obtaining a school schedule for themselves. Each party is further responsible for obtaining school records and medical records for themselves.

10. Denial of parenting time and violation of a parenting time provision: All alleged denials of parenting time and alleged denials of parenting time provisions must be reported, in writing, to the Friend of the Court Office within 56 days of when the alleged allegation took place. You must appear at the pickup location at the court ordered time to claim denial of parenting time. The Friend of the Court will provide written notification to the parties on how to proceed with each specific allegation of violation.
11. All other parenting time as the parties agree.