

## **Standard Parenting Time Schedule**

Careful consideration should be given to fostering parenting time between the child and the non-residential parent. The frequency of contact depends upon a number of factors, the two most important factors considered by the court are the age of the child and the distance between the respective homes of the parents.

### **(A) The Basic Principles for each Age Division are as follows:**

#### **(1) Birth - Five Years**

The more frequently the non-residential parent sees the child, the more appropriate it is to have longer period of time with the non-residential parent.

If the non-residential parent has not had regular contact with the child, short periods of parenting time must precede extended periods.

With children over the age of three months, more overnight time may be appropriate, subject to the temperament of the child and the circumstances of each family.

The court recognizes the difficulties of non-residential parents who live great distances from very young children. However, the non-residential parent will necessarily be expected to bear a greater burden in attempting to establish and maintain the parent-child relationship.

#### **(2) Six- Eleven Years**

Elementary school age children can adapt to longer periods of separation from their principal caretakers.

The needs of the 6-11 year old child with regard to school schedules, homework, and extra-curricular activities must be respected.

(3) Age twelve – Teenage years

Parents should respect a teenager’s need to spend time with peers and in organized activities, and less time with each parent. Quality time is more important than a rigid schedule.

The primary goal is to maintain parental involvement between the non-residential parent and the child. Optimistically, the parties should establish as much flexibility as possible to accommodate each other. However, where that is not possible, these schedules provide for minimal parental contact. For the best interest of the child parents are encouraged to establish additional parenting times for the non-residential parents.

**(B) Parenting Time Schedules**

**(1) Schedule A Local**

(a) Birth – three months

Frequent short visits in the baby’s home or taking the child out for walks or drives if sleeping and feeding are provided for the child.

If the residential parent is not employed outside the home: daily from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

If the residential parent is employed outside the home: two hours during day care or every other day from 6:00p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Holidays: All from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

(b) Three months – three years

Frequent shorter visits per agreement, or:

Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 – 8:30.

One day every weekend, alternating Saturday and Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning at twelve months the weekend parenting time will begin on Friday at 6:00 p.m. – Saturday at 6:00 p.m. or Saturday at 6:00p.m. - Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

(c) Three – five years

Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. plus a rotating four week schedule as follows:

Week 1: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Saturday at 6:00 p.m.

Week 2: Saturday 6:00 p.m. – Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Week 3: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Sunday 6:00 p.m.

Week 4: Custodial parent’s weekend

(d) Six – eleven years

Alternate weekends from Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. – Monday morning before school, or summer care. The non – residential parent is responsible for getting the child to school on Monday mornings as part of their alternate weekend.

Overnight on the Thursday evening following the above weekend from 6:00 p.m. – before school or summer care on Friday, with non - residential parent responsible for getting the child to school on Friday morning.

Every Tuesday from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

(e) Twelve - eighteen

Tuesdays and Thursday evenings from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Four week rotating schedule:

Week 1: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Week 2: Saturday 6:00 p.m. – Sunday 6:00 p.m.

Week 3: Friday 6:00 p.m. until Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Week 4: Residential parent’s weekend.

**(2) Schedule B Regional Distance** (The non-residential parent lives 1-3 hours away, one way)

(a) Birth – three months

Because of the long distance involved the non-residential parents shall give reasonable notice ( twenty-four hours if possible) to the residential parent of the plan to visit as follows:

Frequent short visits in the baby’s home or taking the child out for walks or drives if sleeping and feeding are provided for the child.

If the residential parent is not employed outside the home: daily from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

If the residential parent is employed outside the home: two hours during day care or every other day from 6:00p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Holidays: All from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

(b) Three months – three years

Frequent shorter visits per agreement without one week’s advance notice, or on the following four week schedule as long as the child’s travel time does not exceed three hours one way:

Week 1: Saturday from 10.00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Week 2: Residential parent’s weekend

Week 3: Saturday from 10.00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Week 4: Residential parent’s weekend

Beginning at twelve months: Saturday visits will be Friday 6:00p.m. - Saturday at 6:00 p.m.

The non-residential parent shall be entitled to any reasonable additional parenting time the non-residential parent will be in the local area , provided the residential parent is notified at least two days in advance.

(c) Three years to five years

Four week rotating schedule as follows:

Week 1: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Week 2: Residential parent

Week 3: Residential Parent

Week 4: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Sunday 6:00 p.m.

The non-residential parent shall be entitled to any reasonable additional parenting time the non-residential parent will be in the local area , provided the residential parent is notified at least two days in advance.

(d) Age six – eleven years

A rotating four week schedule as follows:

Week 1: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Sunday 6:00 p.m.

Week 2: Residential parent

Week 3: Residential Parent

Week 4: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Sunday 6:00 p.m.

(e) Age twelve – eighteen years

A rotating four week schedule as follows:

Week 1: Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Sunday 6:00 p.m.

Week 2: Residential parent

Week 3: Residential Parent

Week 4: Friday 6:00 p.m. – Sunday 6:00 p.m.

**(3) Schedule C Long Distance**

Age birth – Kindergarten

The non-residential parent shall have parenting time eight weeks per year in four blocks of the time lasting two weeks. If the parents cannot agree, these two-week blocks shall be as follows:

February 1<sup>st</sup> until February 14<sup>th</sup>

May 1<sup>st</sup> until May 14<sup>th</sup>

August 1<sup>st</sup> until August 14<sup>th</sup>

In odd numbered years December 1<sup>st</sup> until December 14<sup>th</sup>

In even numbered years December 14<sup>th</sup> until December 28<sup>th</sup>

The non-residential parent shall give the residential parent thirty (30) days advance notice of his or her intention to exercise these weeks.

The non-residential parent may exercise additional parenting time in the community where the child resides according to the local schedule if he or she provides thirty (30) days written notice to the residential parent.

(b) Kindergarten to age 18

The non-residential parent shall have parenting time eight weeks during the summer break. If the parents cannot agree, parenting time shall commence one week after the last day of school and end eight weeks later or one week before school begins, whichever comes first.

The non-residential parent shall have parenting time during spring break odd years from 6:00 p.m. on the last day of school before the break until 6:00 p.m. the day before school resumes.

The non-residential parent may exercise parenting time one-half of every winter break. If the parents cannot agree on the one-half portion of winter break, the non-residential parent shall exercise parenting time the first half of winter break in even number of years and the second half of winter break in odd number of years.

The non-residential parent shall give the residential parent thirty (30) days advance notice of his or her intention to exercise these weeks.

The non-residential parent may exercise additional parenting time in the community where the child resides according to the local schedule if he or she provides thirty (30) days' notice to the residential parent.

**(C) Holiday and Extended Period of Parenting Time**

Parents may wish to change by agreement a holiday at least one (1) week in advance in order to observe family or religious traditions. If not changed by agreement, holiday times are as follows:

Parent 1 : \_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Parent 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Holiday	Even years	Odd years	As agree or
News Year Day	Parent 1	Parent 2	12/31 5:00 p.m.-1/1 9:00 p.m.
Martin Luther King Day	Parent 1	Parent 2	Sunday 6:00 p.m. – Monday 6:00 p.m.
Presidents Day	Parent 2	Parent 1	Sunday 6:00 p.m. – Monday 6:00 p.m.
Easter	Parent 1	Parent 2	Sunday 10:00 a. m. – 7:00 p.m.
Memorial Day	Parent 2	Parent 1	Sunday 7:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Fourth of July	Parent 1	Parent 2	9:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. on 7/5
Labor Day	Parent 2	Parent 1	Sunday 6:00 p.m.- Monday 6:00 p.m.
Halloween	Parent 1	Parent 2	4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Thanksgiving	Parent 1	Parent 2	Thursday 9:00 a.m. – Friday 9:00 a.m.
Christmas Eve	Parent 2	Parent 1	12/23 9:00 p.m. – 12/25 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Day	Parent 1	Parent 2	12/25 10:00 a. m – 12/31 5:00 p.m.
Mother’s Day	Parent 1	Parent 1	10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Father’s Day	Parent 2	Parent 2	10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Should the school age child's spring vacation occur in the week after Easter, the Easter parenting time shall extend to Wednesday 7:00 p.m. If spring vacation occurs during another time, the parent having Easter shall have the first three (3) weekdays of the spring vacation.

A holiday that falls on a weekend shall be spent with the parent who is designated to have the child for that holiday, and the other parent shall have the child for the rest of the weekend. This time does not have to be made up.

There is no overnight parenting time during the holidays for children under the age of twelve months unless agreed by the parties.

**(D) Days of special meaning**

Parent 1 Birthday	Parent 1	Parent 1	10:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.
Parent 2 Birthday	Parent 2	Parent 2	10:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.
Child’s Birthday, in school	Parent 2 even year	Parent 1 odd year	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 P.m.
Child’s Birthday, not in school	Parent 2 even year	Parent 1 odd year	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**(E) Vacation**

(a) Two (2) weeks of parenting time each year are to be arranged by the parent who is not the residential parent with not less than sixty (60) days advance notice. The parent who is not the residential parent's choice of vacation has priority over the residential parent's choice unless the residential parent's vacation is an annual mandatory shutdown of the place of employment. Likewise, the residential parent must give the other parent not less than sixty (60) days advance notice of vacations or special plans for the child to avoid planning conflicts. Parents who cannot resolve vacation-scheduling conflicts may file a motion in the court. The residential parent's parenting time shall not exceed fourteen (14) days without parenting time with the parent who is not the residential parent. Parenting time with the parent who is not the residential parent shall not exceed fourteen (14) days without parenting time with the residential parent.

(b) Summer school necessary for the child to pass to the next grade. Either parent may schedule extended parenting time (vacation) during a mandatory summer school period, but the child must attend all classes.

(c) Each parent must provide the other parent with destination, times of arrival and departure, method of travel and telephone numbers if the vacation will be outside the parent's community.

(d) Vacation parenting time may not exceed two (2) weeks in duration unless the parents agree otherwise. The parent who is not the residential parent must provide no less than 60 days notice to the residential parent of that parent's intention to exercise vacation parenting time.

(e) Weekends which normally would be spent with the residential parent which fall during the parent who is not the residential parent's vacation must be given the residential parent or made up at another time. Weekends which normally would be spent with the parent who is not the residential parent that fall during the residential parent's vacation must be given to the parent who is not the residential parent or made up within ninety (90) days.

#### **(F) Extended Periods of Parenting Time**

There will be no extended periods of parenting time for a child under the age of two.

From the age of two – eighteen the non-residential parent shall be entitled to six additional weeks per year. For children two - five years extended parenting time may be exercised in one week increments. After the age of five consecutive two week increments can be exercised. Extended parenting time shall not interfere with, or conflict with the holiday schedule, unless agreed to by the parties.

The non-residential parent shall notify the residential parent, in writing, within a reasonable amount of time, but not less than thirty days, prior to exercising extended periods of parenting time.

During extended periods of parenting time the other parent shall not have parenting time unless agreed to by the parties.

### **(G) Miscellaneous Provisions**

#### (1) Conflict between Parenting Time Schedules

If the parties have more than one child and the children fall into different age categories parenting time will be controlled by the age category in which the youngest child may fall for all children at issue, unless otherwise agreed by the parties or ordered by the court.

#### (2) Child's response to parenting time

If a child indicates strong opposition to being with the other parent, it is the responsibility of each parent to deal appropriately with the situation by calmly talking to the child as to the child's reasons, and to work with the other parent to do what is in the child's best interests, and particularly to avoid confrontation or unpleasant scenes. If the matter is not settled, either parent should seek the immediate assistance of a mental health professional or file a motion. As uncomfortable as this issue may be for a parent, this issue should not go unresolved. It is the absolute affirmative duty of the residential parent to make certain that his/her child goes for the parenting time period.

#### (3) Exercise of parenting time

This schedule presumes that each parent will be prompt for pickup and return of the child, that the residential parent will ready the child emotionally and physically for the parenting time. The residential parent has no duty to wait longer than thirty (30) minutes for the parent who is not the residential parent to pick up the child, unless that parent notifies the residential parent that he/she will be late, and the residential parent agrees to remain available after the thirty (30) minute waiting period. A parent who is more than thirty (30) minutes late loses the parenting time. A parent who has a pattern of lateness for pickup and/or return is subject to penalties under the law.

(4) Cancellation of parenting time by non-residential parent

The parent who is not the residential parent must give notice of intent not to have parenting time not less than twenty-four (24) hours in advance, unless a last minute emergency occurs. A parent who does not exercise parenting time forfeits the time. A parent who continually fails to keep his or her commitment to parenting time may have parenting time rights modified, and may be subject to other legal remedies as well, upon motion by the residential parent.

(5) Illness of injury to a child

If a child becomes ill or injured, requiring medication or consultation with a doctor or dentist, each parent must notify the other parent as soon as possible. If a child becomes ill while with the residential parent prior to a scheduled parenting time, the parent must contact the other parent and discuss the advisability of whether the parenting time should take place with the best interests of the child as the primary consideration. Parents should consider the nature of the illness (whether it may be contagious, or the child is physically uncomfortable, etc.), the care necessary, the ability to provide the care, exposure of the illness to others, parenting time plans, and any other important issue.

If the parents agree that the child should go for the parenting time, then the residential parent must provide written instructions and sufficient medication to last during the parenting time to the other parent. The parent who is not the residential parent must care for the child as directed, notifying the other

parent if the child's condition worsens, or does not improve as might reasonably be expected.

If the parents cannot agree that the child should go for the parenting time period, then the parent who is not the residential parent has the right to visit the child for not more than one (1) hour at the time scheduled for the parenting time to begin. This does not apply if any court order or consent agreement prohibits that parent from being at the home. If another child is scheduled to have parenting time and the regular parenting time is canceled due to the child's illness or injury, then the time must be made up within sixty (60) days to that parent at a time of his/her choice.

If the child becomes ill or injured during the parenting time requiring medication or medical or dental consultation, the parent who is not the residential parent must secure appropriate emergency treatment.

No schedule can adequately spell out what should be common sense when dealing with an ill or injured child.

The existence of any allergy or chronic condition suffered by a child must be communicated in writing from the residential parent to the parent who is not the residential parent, including medication or treatment recommended for the illness or condition.

If a child often misses a parenting time due to illness or injury, then the parent who is not the residential parent may require the child to be examined by the child's usual physician. The examination shall be at the expense of that parent. The examination of the child may be in the presence of that parent, subject to the discretion of the treating physician. If the residential parent refuses to schedule a medical appointment as requested, the parent who is not the residential parent may file a motion.

#### (6) Child's extra-curricular activities

Scheduled periods of parenting time shall not be delayed or denied because a child has other scheduled activities (with friends, work, lessons, sports, etc.). It is the responsibility of the parents to discuss activities important to the child in advance, including time, dates, and transportation needs, so that

the child is not deprived of activities and maintaining friends. The parent who has the child during the time of scheduled activities is responsible for transportation, attendance and/or other arrangements. Both parents are encouraged to attend all their child's activities. The residential parent shall provide the non-residential parent with notice of all extra-curricular activities, school related, or otherwise, in which the child participates. Schedules of all extra-curricular activities and the name of the activity leader (including address and telephone number if reasonably available) shall be given to the non-residential parent.

(7) Car seat

For any and all children required by law to ride in a car seat, the parents shall transfer the care seat with the child as parenting time exchanges occur.

(8) Clothing

The residential parent is responsible for providing sufficient, appropriate clean clothing for every parenting time period, based on the lifestyle of the residential parent and child. If the planned parenting time activities require special or unusual clothing needs, the non-residential parent must notify the residential parent at least two (2) days in advance of the parenting time period. If the child does not have the type of clothing requested, the residential parent is under no obligation to comply with the request. All clothing sent by the residential parent must be returned immediately after the parenting time period.

(9) Schoolwork

A parent must provide time for the child to study, complete, homework assignments, papers, or other school assigned projects, even if the completion of this work interferes with the parent's plans with the child. If schoolwork is assigned by the school prior to the parenting time, the residential parent must inform the other parent of the work to be done, and it must be completed during the parenting time.

(10) Telephone/Video Communications

Each parent has the right to talk over the telephone and/or video communication with the child as often as the parents agree. If the parents do not agree, then the parent who is the non-residential parent shall have telephone and/or video communication privileges twice per week. In addition, a parent may call a child or video communication once during a scheduled or agreed parenting time that is missed. Also, the residential parent has the right to contact a child when on vacation with the other parent as the parties can agree. If the parties cannot agree, then the residential parent has telephone and /or video communication privileges twice per week of the vacation period. Telephone calls and video communications should be during the normal hours a child is awake and if the child is unavailable for conversation, each parent shall take the responsibility of seeing that the child timely returns the communication.

(11) Step-Parent Name

A parent should not suggest, encourage or require a child to refer to any person other than the child's parent as "mom" or "dad", etc., nor permit any other person to do so.

(12) Non-compliance

Upon the filing of the appropriate motion by either party, the court may enforce any of the responsibilities or rights outlined in this schedule. A parent may not withhold the parenting time rights because the other parent does not obey a court order, for instance, to pay support or medical bills. Penalties or willful denial of parenting time include a jail sentence, fine and/or changes in custody. A parent may seek enforcement of a periodic child or spousal support order by calling the support agency.