

## **RULE 27. MODEL VISITATION SCHEDULE**

Visitation is a time for children to do things with the parent with whom they do not live. Activities you can do with them or skills you can teach them help the time be rewarding. Helping the children find friends in your neighborhood also helps make it like home for them.

Liberal visitation arrangements are encouraged, as contact with both parents is important to the children. Specific items in the Journal Entry take precedence over this schedule. Changes or modification can be made by the Court if need for such is shown. This schedule does not affect support payments.

Please be advised that this schedule is merely a guideline for visitation. It is each party's responsibility to tailor this schedule as necessary to meet the best interests of their children.

### **VISITATION BETWEEN THE CHILDREN AND THE NON-RESIDENTIAL PARENT SHALL TAKE PLACE AT SUCH TIMES AND PLACES AS THE PARTIES MAY AGREE, BUT WILL NOT BE LESS THAN:**

1. **Weekends:** Alternate weekends from Friday at 6:00 p.m. until Sunday at 6:00 p.m. This alternating weekend schedule shall not change, even if interrupted by holiday and birthday, summer and/or vacation visitation.
2. **Weekdays:** One weekday evening per week from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
3. **Extracurricular Activities:** Regardless of where the children are living, their participation in existing and renewed extracurricular activities, school related or otherwise, shall continue uninterrupted. The parent with whom they are residing at the time of the activity shall provide the physical and economic cost of transportation to these activities. The residential parent shall provide the non-residential parent with notice of all extracurricular activities, school related or otherwise, in which the children participate, schedules of all extracurricular activities (handwritten by the residential parent if no formal schedule is provided by the activity) and the name of the activity leader (including address and telephone number of reasonably available to the residential parent).
4. **Pre-School Ages:** Pre-school age children follow the same schedule of school age children in the school district where they live regardless of whether or not other school age children live in the family.
5. **Holidays (includes birthdays):** In odd-numbered years, mother has Spring Break, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and the first half of Winter Break. In even-numbered years, father has Martin Luther King's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, and the second half of Winter Break. In the even-numbered years, the schedules are reversed.
  - a. In the event of a conflict between regular visitation and holiday visitation, holiday visitation prevails. The alternating weekend visitation shall be suspended as a consequence of the holiday schedule and shall recommence with the same rotation the first weekend immediately following. For example: If the weekend immediately preceding a holiday were mother's weekend, the holiday weekend would be celebrated with the parent entitled to the holiday. The weekend rotation would recommence the weekend after the holiday as father's weekend after the holiday as father's weekend. This occurs even though one parent may have the children two weekends in a row.

For any holiday falling on a Monday or Friday, if the weekend immediately preceding or following the holiday visitation are spent with the same parent, there is no need for that parent to return the children that evening and then pick them up the next morning. For a holiday, falling on a Friday visitation commences Friday a.m. and continues to Sunday evening; or for a holiday falling on a Monday, visitation commences Friday evening and continues to Monday evening.
  - b. Mother's Day and Father's Day and, the parent's birthdays only when they fall on a Saturday or Sunday, are to be spent with the appropriate parent. These are as agreed or 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. These do not have to be made up.
  - c. Other days of special meaning, such as Religious Holidays, etc., (i.e., New Year's Eve and Day, Kwanzaa, Passover, Easter, Rosh Hashana, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day) should be decided together, as follows:

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These do not have to be made up.

- d. Hours for parents who can not agree are as follows: Martin Luther King's Day (9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.); Spring Break (6:00 p.m. **ON THE DAY** school is out to 7:00 p.m. the day before school recommences, to be coincidental with the days of the school vacation and not to interfere with school): Memorial Day and Labor Day (6:00 p.m. Friday to 6:00 p.m. Monday); July 4th (9:00 a.m. the next day); : thanksgiving (6:00 p.m. Wednesday to 6:00 p.m. Sunday); Winter Break (first half commences at 6:00 the last day of school before Winter Break begins, until December 25 at 1:00 p.m. second half commences at 1:00 December 25 until 6:00 p.m. the day before school recommences).
- e. 48-hour notice should be given by the parent with whom the holiday is being spent for any arrangements for out of town travel on the holidays or of a change in pick-up/return times.

- f. The children's birthday should be alternated per child, between the parents and on an annual basis. Hours for parents who cannot agree are 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Brothers and sisters attend the birthday event. These do not have to be made up.
6. Transportation: The parties shall divide the transportation equally. The parent who is exercising their parenting/visitation rights shall pick up the children.
7. Waiting: Neither parent shall be more than 30 minutes late picking up the children. If the non-residential parent has not arrived to pick up the children within the 30 minutes period, visitation is forfeited and shall not be made up.
8. Cancellation: The non-residential parent should give 24 hour notice to cancel. The time canceled by the non-residential parent is forfeited.
9. Illness: If a child is ill, the residential parent should give 24 hour notice, if possible, so appropriate plans can be made. However, if more than one day of any visitation, weekend, holiday, birthday, or vacation is missed due to non-emergency and/or non-critical illness, then any missed visitation shall be made up as soon as practicable.
10. Summer: The non-residential parent shall have visitation with the children for the last half of the summer each year. The summer school vacation commences the day after the children are out of school and continues until seven (7) days before school begins. The number of intervening weeks (full and/or partial) shall be divided in half, and the non-residential parent shall have the last half of the summer as visitation with the children.
- During the summer visitation, the residential parent receives weekday and alternating weekend visitation as afforded the non-residential parent the rest of the year.
11. Vacations: Each parent may arrange an uninterrupted vacation of not more than two weeks with the children. Each parent shall schedule this vacation during his/her half of the summer. A general itinerary of the vacation shall be provided for the other parent, including dates, locations, address, and telephone numbers. Holidays and birthday celebrations with either parent shall not be missed, requiring scheduling of the 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.
12. Moving: Upon either parent learning that he/she will be moving, he/she shall immediately notify the other parent except in those circumstances wherein notice is not required by R.C. 3109.051(G), and provide the other parent with the moving date, new residence address and telephone number, and such other pertinent information necessary to effectuate a smooth move for the children. The parent shall attempt, in good faith, to renegotiate an appropriate and beneficial new visitation schedule.
13. Telephone Access:
- a. As between the parents: Telephone communication by the children with the parent they are not residing shall occur not less than three times per week for not less than 15 minutes. Children can call the other parent as often as the parent and child agree, at reasonable times, so long as the call is collect if it is a long distance call. The non-possessory parent shall be allowed to communicate with children not less than one time per week for not less than 1/2 hour by either calling or having the children call him/her. Possessory parent shall not interfere with or stop the telephone communication.
- b. At school, day care facilities, extracurricular activities, or all other public locations: Provision 13a., above shall not in any way contravene the statutory directives granting equal access by both parents to their children at any and all times while the children are at school, at a day care facility, babysitter, attending extracurricular activities, etc.
14. Make-Up Visitation: Any make-up visitation required by this schedule shall occur the first weekend of the other parent immediately following the missed visitation and shall continue during the other parent's weekends until made up in full, including partial weekends.
15. Current Address and Telephone Number: Except as provided in the court order, each parent shall keep the other informed of his/her current address and telephone number at all times.
- a. Emergency Contact: Both parents shall at all times, regardless of whether the children are with him/her, provide the other parent with a telephone number for contact in the event of an emergency.
16. Car Seat: For any and all children required by law to ride in a car seat, the parents shall transfer the car seat with the child as visitation exchanges occur.
17. Clothing: The parents shall cooperate in the exchange of the children's clothing prior to and following visitation.

**EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1991; AMENDED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1993**

**MODEL VISITATION SCHEDULE**  
**FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT**  
**DOMESTIC AND JUVENILE DIVISIONS**

(Parents traveling over 90 miles, driving, one way)

Visitation is a time for children to do things with the parent they do not live with. Activities you can do with them or skills you can teach them help the time be rewarding. Helping the children find friends in your neighborhood also helps make it like home for them.

Liberal visiting arrangements are encouraged, as contact with both parents is important to children. Specific items in the Journal Entry take precedence over this schedule. Changes or modifications can be made by the Court if need for such is shown.

Please be advised that this schedule is merely a guideline for visitation. It is each party's responsibility to tailor this schedule as necessary to meet the best interests of their children.

AT SUCH TIMES AND PLACES AS THE PARTIES MAY AGREE.

This Will Not Be Less Than:

1. **Pre-School Ager: Pre-School age children shall follow the same schedule as school age children in the school district where they live, whether or not a school age child resides in the family.**
2. **Winter Break:** Winter Break will be divided in half and alternated annually, by half, between the parents.
3. **Spring Break:** School vacation (the **DAY** school is out to the day before school recommences, to be coincidental with the days of the school vacation and not to interfere with school) in odd-numbered years.
4. **Summer:** One half of the school summer vacation. Summer school necessary for the child(ren) to pass to the next grade must be attended. The residential parent shall notify the non-residential parent by March 15 of when the summer vacation begins and ends. The non-residential parent must notify the residential parent as to their intentions by April 15.
  - a. If the parties cannot agree which half of the summer they prefer, in the even-numbered years, the first half of the summer shall be spent at the home of the non-residential parent, and in the odd-numbered years, the second half.
  - b. A general itinerary should be provided either parent if more than 2 days will be spent away from either home when the children are in that parent's care.
5. **Vacations:** Each parent may arrange an uninterrupted vacation of not more than two weeks with the children. A general itinerary of the vacation shall be provided for the other parent, including dates, locations, addresses, and telephone numbers.
  - a. Vacation is defined as a trip away from the parent's home. It does not include a parent's vacation time off from work where that parent spends it at home.
  - b. Summer school necessary for the child to pass to the next grade must be attended.
6. **Additional Visitation:**
  - a. **Weekend:** A once-a-month, weekend visit to the non-residential parent's home will be permitted if the child's traveling time does not exceed **THREE AND ONE HALF HOURS**, one way. The residential parent must be notified at least one week in advance. **THE NONRESIDENTIAL PARENT SHALL PROVIDE THE TRANSPORTATION FOR WEEKEND VISITATION.**
  - b. Father's Day and Mother's Day can always be spent with the appropriate parent.
  - c. The non-residential parent shall notify the residential parent at least two days in advance of any time the non-residential parent will be in the area and wants a visitation period. Absent extraordinary circumstances, this visitation shall occur.
  - d. The residential parent must notify the non-residential parent at least two days in advance when the residential parent and child(ren) will be in the area of the non-residential parent, and visitation must be allowed.

7. Telephone Access:

- a. As between the parents: Telephone communication by the children with the parent with whom they are not residing shall occur not less than one time per week for not less than 1/2 hour. Children can call the other parent as often as the parent and child agree, at reasonable times, so long as the call is collect if it is a long distance call. The non-possessory parent shall be allowed to communicate with children not less than one time per week for not less than 1/2 hour by either calling or having the children call him/her. Possessory parent shall not interfere with or stop the telephone communication.
- b. At school, day care facilities, extracurricular activities, or all other public locations: Provision 7a., above shall not in any way contravene the statutory directives granting equal access by both parents to their children at any and all times while the children are at school, at a day care facility, babysitter, attending extracurricular activities, etc.

8. Transportation: Responsibility for transportation costs should be decided in advance and a plan written into an Order of the Court. The costs of transportation, in the appropriate case, may be a basis for deviation from the child support schedule.

9. Moving: Upon either parent learning or determining, whichever first occurs, that he/she will be moving, he/she will immediately notify the other parent and provide the other parent with the moving date, new residence address and telephone number, and such other pertinent information necessary to effectuate a smooth move for the children. The parents shall attempt, in good faith, to renegotiate an appropriate and beneficial new visitation schedule.

10. Current Address and Telephone Number: Except as provided in the court order, each parent shall keep the other informed of his/her current address and telephone number at all times.

- a. Emergency Contact: Both parents shall at all times, regardless of whether the children are with him/her, provide the other parent with a telephone number for contact in the event of an emergency.

11. Car Seat: For any and all children required by law to ride in a car seat, the parents shall transfer the car seat with the child as visitation exchanges occur.

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