

The **Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA)** is a template for school boards and children's aid societies (societies) to use to create local protocols that support the academic success and well-being of students in care or students receiving services from societies. The Ministry of Education (EDU) and the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services (MCCSS) launched the JPSA in 2015 following input from educators, societies, and youth formerly in care.

The 2023 JPSA has been updated to reflect current applicable legislation, policies, programs, and practices to enhance services to support Children and Youth in Care. It includes special considerations for Indigenous students, to be considered when societies and school boards update their local protocols. In addition, the 2023 JPSA has been updated with input from the education and the child welfare sectors such as feedback from school boards and societies (including Indigenous).

The **major updates to the JPSA 2023** include:

- Considerations for Indigenous, Black, racialized, 2SLGBTQI+ students and communities, and the provision of identity-based, culturally responsive and trauma-informed supports;
- Information about new programs and grants, such as EDU's Transportation and Stability Supports for Children and Youth in Care, the Indigenous Graduation Coach program, and the Graduation Coach Program for Black Students;
- New section on school board enrolment, with guidelines for enrolment and attendance
- References to updated provincial acts and guidelines, such as:
 - The *Child, Youth and Family Services Act*, CYFSA, 2017;
 - New provisions Part X (CYFSA) on information sharing and consent
 - The Enrolment Register Instructions, 2021; and
 - Ontario's Quality Standards Framework to Improve the Quality of Care for Children and Young Persons in Licenced Residential Settings, 2020.
- Reports and recommendations from the Office of the Chief Coroner (e.g., Information sharing, enrolment, attendance, student mental health and well-being supports, etc).
- Updated terminology to refer to children and youth in care rather than crown wards.

The original content in the 2015 template was revised and condensed to provide space for **additional features**, such as:

- Promising practices for collaboration and supporting students (based on feedback from school boards and societies);
- enhanced areas for local customization;
- additional subsections on how societies and school boards can promote student well-being, extra-curricular activities and community supports; and,
- an updated glossary (terms defined in the glossary are marked with an Asterix (*) when first referenced in the document).