

WAYNE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CO-PARENTING PLAN
EXPANDED PARENTING TIME

PURPOSE OF PLAN: The following plan is for use when the parents have been married and/or have a history of residing together, as a family, with the minor child(ren). In addition, it is necessary that the parents live reasonably close to one another. The parents may mutually agree to modify this parenting-time schedule. If the parents are able to reach an agreement as to parenting time, the parents can use the blank calendars included in this guide to mark the days and times each parent will have parenting time.

COURT’S GOAL: Both parents should help their child(ren) have a good relationship with their other parent.

TIPS:

- ** Make exchanges easier for your child(ren) by following set schedules, avoiding conflict with the other parent in front of your child(ren), and supporting your (child(ren)’s relationship with the other parent.
- ** The child(ren) should be allowed to take toys and/or important personal items with him/her back and forth to each parents’ home. The child(ren)’s items shall be returned to the home of the parent who provided the item.
- ** Do not talk badly about, or allow third parents to talk badly about, the other parent to or in front of the child(ren).
- ** Do not talk about court issues with the child(ren).

INFANT AND TODDLER PARENTING POLICY

The age of a child(ren) is an important issue in determining the amount and length of parenting time. As a young child develops, they will need more contact with each parent, but the length of the contact should be shorter. As a child(ren) becomes older, the contact may be less often but longer. So, for most infants, short contacts are the best way to build relationships without overwhelming the infant with too much change in routine or environment. Each child will have different needs and established routines that will also be considered by the Court. Examples would be whether the child(ren) is nursing, goes to daycare, spends the night with grandparents or other relatives, etc.

PLAN A:

AGE: 0 - 1 YEAR

SCHEDULE

Regular Parenting Time

Two contacts of up to 2 hours each **AND** one 6 hour contact per week. **NO** overnights.
If the parents are unable to agree, the days for the parenting time shall be:
Monday **AND** Wednesday 12PM to 2PM or 5:30 PM to 7:30PM **AND** Saturday or Sunday 1PM to 7PM.

Holiday Parenting Time

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET

365 overnights for CP/0overnights for NCP

AGE: 1- 3 YEARS

SCHEDULE

Regular Parenting Time

Every Tuesday at 5:30PM until 8:30PM **AND** alternate weekends
ALTERNATE WEEKEND time is defined as Friday 6PM until Saturday 6PM **OR** Saturday 6PM until Sunday 6PM

Holiday Parenting Time

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET

339 overnights for CP/26 overnights for NCP

AGE: 3 YEARS AND OLDER**SCHEDULE****Regular Parenting Time**

Every Tuesday at 6PM until Wednesday to school/daycare/ or custodial parent, no later than 10AM AND alternate weekends. ALTERNATE WEEKEND time is defined as Friday 6PM until Sunday 6PM

Holiday Parenting Time

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET

249 overnights for CP/116 overnights for NCP

 PLAN B:**AGE: 0 - 1 YEAR****SCHEDULE****Regular Parenting Time**

Two periods of 3-5 hours **AND** 1 overnight..
If the parents are unable to agree, the days for the parenting time shall be:
Monday **AND** Wednesday 1PM to 6PM **OR** 5:30PM to 8:30PM **AND** Saturday 6PM until Sunday 6PM **OR** Friday 6PM until Saturday 6PM

Holiday Parenting Time

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET

313 overnights for CP/52 overnights for NCP

AGE: 1- 3 YEARS**SCHEDULE****Regular Parenting Time**

One period of 3-5 hours **AND** 2 non-consecutive overnights each week.
If the parents are unable to agree, the days for the parenting time shall be:
Every Monday 5:30PM until 8:30PM **AND** Every Wednesday from 6PM until Thursday to daycare or custodial parent no later than 10AM AND Every Friday from 6PM until Saturday 6PM.

Holiday Parenting Time

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET

261 overnights for CP/104 overnights for NCP

AGE: 3 YEARS AND OLDER**SCHEDULE**

Every Tuesday at 6PM until Wednesday to school/daycare/ or custodial parent, no later than 10AM AND alternate weekends. ALTERNATE WEEKEND time is defined as Friday 6PM until Sunday 6PM

Holiday Parenting Time

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET

249 overnights for CP/116 overnights for NCP

PLAN C: The parents would share parenting time equally. There are several ways to arrange a parenting time schedule that allows the parents to share parenting time equally. An equal parenting time schedule requires the parents to be able to cooperate and communicate with respect to choosing childcare, ensuring that homework is completed, and transporting the children to/from school and extracurricular activities. It would also be expected that each parent has sufficient clothing and necessities for the child(ren) at his/her home. The following are a few examples of schedules that may work for your family:

Sample Schedule 1:

Mother is awarded parenting time each Monday from after school (6PM) until Wednesday morning to school (10AM if no school). Father is awarded parenting time each Wednesday from after school (6PM) until Friday morning to school (10AM if no school). The parents will alternate weekends from Friday after school (6PM) until Monday morning to school (10AM if no school).

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET: 183 overnights for the CP and 182 overnights for NCP

Sample Schedule 2:

The parents will alternate weeks of parenting time with all exchanges taking place Sunday evening at 6PM. The parent who does not have parenting time in any given week will enjoy dinner on Wednesdays from after school (6PM) until 8PM.

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET: 183 overnights for the CP and 182 overnights for NCP

Sample Schedule 3:

The parents will rotate enjoying parenting time with the child(ren) on a 3-day on/3-day off schedule. There is no award of weekday or weekend parenting time in this scenario.

See Pages 5-6 for the appropriate Holiday schedule.

PARENTAL TIME OFFSET: 183 overnights for the CP and 182 overnights for NCP

Please note: The above schedules are meant to promote frequency and consistency of contact, which is important for young children. Equally important is a transitional period to prepare the child(ren) for extended time with both parents. The FOC and the Family Assessment Mediation and Education (FAME) Department can assist the parents in setting a customized parenting time schedule upon filing a Parenting Time Motion.

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HOLIDAY PARENTING TIME SCHEDULE

COMMON CHILD is defined as a child whose parents are the parties to this case.

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	FAMILIES WHERE THE OLDEST COMMON CHILD IS YOUNGER THAN 1 YR OLD	FAMILIES WHERE THE OLDEST COMMON CHILD IS 1 – 3 YRS OLD		FAMILIES WHERE THE OLDEST COMMON CHILD IS AT LEAST 3 YRS OLD	
	<u>THE NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT (NCP) SHALL EXERCISE</u>	<u>EVEN YEARS</u>	<u>ODD YEARS</u>	<u>EVEN YEARS</u>	<u>ODD YEARS</u>
		See “A” on Page 6 for specific times.		See “A” and “B” on Page 6 for specific times.	
Memorial Day	N/A	Mother	Father	Mother	Father
4th of July Weekend	N/A	Father	Mother	Father	Mother
Labor Day Weekend	N/A	Mother	Father	Mother	Father
Halloween	N/A	Father	Mother	Father	Mother
Child’s Birthday	5 hours – based upon the work schedules of the parties.	Mother	Father	Mother	Father
Thanksgiving Weekend	12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Day, only	Father	Mother	Father	Mother
Christmas/Holiday Break	N/A	N/A	N/A	See “B” Below on Page 6	See “B” Below on Page 6
• Christmas Eve	N/A	Mother	Father		
• Christmas Day	12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Father	Mother		
• New Year’s Eve	N/A	Mother	Father		
• New Year’s Day	N/A	Father	Mother		
Spring Break	N/A	N/A	N/A	Father	Mother
Easter Weekend (if not included in Spring Break)	12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Easter Sunday, only	Mother	Father	Mother	Father
Mid-Winter Break	N/A	N/A	N/A	Father	Mother

OTHER RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: The above holiday parenting time schedule includes the most common government and religious holidays recognized by most school districts. If your family practices additional religious holidays (listed or otherwise) such as Islamic, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Baha’, Jain, Pagan, Shinto, or Sikh parenting time shall alternate from year to year, and the time for those holidays shall be from 7:30AM – 7:30PM unless the parents agree otherwise.

If the holiday and/or school break parenting time falls next to a parent’s regularly scheduled parenting time, the parenting time shall be continuous. Holiday and school break parenting time shall take precedence over regularly scheduled parenting time and may result in one parent having two or more weekends in a row.

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A. HOLIDAY PARENTING TIME WHEN THE OLDEST CHILD IS AT LEAST 1 YEAR OLD

- **Memorial Day Weekend** begins at 6PM the Friday before Memorial Day and ends at 6PM Memorial Day.
- **Fourth of July** begins at 6PM on July 3rd and ends at 6PM on July 5th.
- **Labor Day Weekend** begins at 6PM the Friday before Labor Day and ends at 6PM Labor Day.
- **Halloween:** Parenting time begins at 6PM and ends at 8PM.
- **Thanksgiving Weekend** begins at 6PM the Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day and ends at 6PM the following Sunday at 6PM.
- **Christmas Eve:** Begins December 23 at 6PM and ends December 24 at 6PM
- **Christmas Day:** Begins December 24 at 6PM and ends December 25 at 6PM
- **New Years Eve:** Begins December 30 at 6PM and ends December 31 at 6PM
- **New Years Day:** Begins December 31 at 6PM and ends January 1 at 6PM
- **Child's Birthday:** If the child's birthday falls on a scheduled school day, parenting time shall be from 6PM until 8:30PM. If the child's birthday falls on a non-school day, parenting time shall be from 9AM to 6PM. If the child's birthday takes place on the same date as a recognized holiday, the holiday parenting time will take precedence over the birthday parenting time.
- **Easter:** If the children's Spring Break does not include Easter, Easter shall be exercised from Friday before Easter at 6PM until Easter Sunday at 6PM.
- **Mother's Day/Father's Day:** The child(ren) shall be with their mother on Mother's Day from 9AM until 6PM, and with their father on Father's Day from 9AM until 6PM.

B. SUMMER AND SCHOOL BREAK PARENTING TIME WHEN THE OLDEST COMMON CHILD REACHES THE AGE OF 3 YEARS AND THE YOUNGEST COMMON CHILD IS OLDER THAN 1 YEAR.

- **Summer Break:** Summer Break is defined as the period between the last day of school at the end of the school year until the day school starts again in the Fall. Each parent shall have one week (7 consecutive overnights) of uninterrupted parenting time each month in July and August. If the parents do not agree in writing (signed by both parents) on their summer parenting time, it shall be exercised as follows:
 - **July/August summer parenting time.** The parenting time for the noncustodial parent shall begin the second Sunday in July and August at 6PM and continue until the following Sunday at 6PM. The parenting time for the custodial parent shall begin the third Sunday in July and August at 6PM and continue until the following Sunday at 6PM.
- **Spring and/or Mid-Winter Break:** The parents shall defer to the Spring and/or Mid-Winter Break schedule of the school district in which the eldest child in common primarily resides, is enrolled, or will attend. Spring and/or Mid-Winter Break parenting time shall be from 6PM on the day school is recessed until 6PM the day before school is scheduled to resume.
- **Christmas/Holiday Break:** The parents shall defer to the Christmas/Holiday Break schedule of the school district in which the eldest child in common primarily resides, is enrolled, or will attend.
 - **In Odd Numbered Years:** Father shall have parenting time from 6PM on the day that the school recesses for holiday (Christmas) Break until 6PM December 24th. Mother shall have parenting time from 6PM December 24th until 6PM December 31st. Father shall have parenting time from December 31st at 6PM until 6PM the day before school is scheduled to resume. Thereafter the normal parenting time schedule shall resume.
 - **In Even Numbered Years:** Mother shall have parenting time from 6PM on the day that school recesses for winter (Christmas) Break until 6PM December 24th. Father shall have parenting time from 6PM December 24th until 6PM December 31st. Mother shall have parenting time from December 31st at 6PM until 6PM the day before school is scheduled to resume. Thereafter the normal parenting time schedule shall resume.

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Other Issues:

- **Transportation:** Each party is responsible for picking up the children at the start of his/her parenting time. An adult that is familiar to the children may provide transportation. The child(ren) shall be secured in an appropriate child safety seat at all times while being transported in a vehicle. **NEITHER PARTY OR ANY THIRD PARTY SHALL TRANSPORT THE MINOR CHILD(REN) WITHOUT A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.**
- The parenting time schedule shall be exercised in a prompt manner. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, a 30 minute delay in collecting or returning the children is considered allowable, but notice of a delay is always to be given where possible. This is to be used on rare occasions and should not become routine. The custodial parent shall not withhold the non-custodial parent's parenting time due to illness of the child unless transporting the child to/from parenting time would be detrimental to the child's health/welfare and the same is documented by the child's physician.
- The custodial parent must inform the other parent of necessary medication and possible illness. The custodial parent must provide prescriptions to the non-custodial parent during his or her parenting time.
- The custodial parent shall not interfere with the non-custodial parent's right to access school and medical information in accordance with MCL 722.30.
- The parents shall cooperate when making plans for the child(ren) or enrolling the child(ren) in extracurricular activities to ensure that the activities do not interfere with the other parent's regularly scheduled parenting time, unless otherwise agreed. Violations of this provision may result in an enforcement action.
- All schedules for the child(ren)'s activities shall be exchanged with the other parent immediately upon receipt (i.e, sports, music, academics, etc.). Both parents are required to transport the child(ren) to the activity during his/her parenting time. Parents may attend a child(ren)'s extracurricular activities that occur during the other parent's scheduled parenting time, unless barred by a Court Order, Personal Protection Order, or No Contact Order.
- When you are taking your child(ren) on vacation, you must give the other parent at least one month advance written notice, unless otherwise ordered. The other parent shall be provided with an itinerary including your destination, inclusive dates of travel and a telephone number where you can be reached.
- Parents exercising parenting time need to be certain homework is completed.
- Pursuant to Public Act 600 of 2012 amended MCL 722.27a, commencing January 9, 2013 parenting time is prohibited in a nation that is not a party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction unless both parents provide the court with written consent to allow parenting time in a nation that is not a party to this convention.

This document is not valid unless attached to and incorporated into a signed Court Order.

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