Need for an Educational Surrogate: Decision Making Flow Chart Is the child his or her own legal guardian or an emancipated youth? YES NO Is the child a ward of the State? No surrogate needed. Child is his/her own educational decision maker as defined in IDFA. YES NO Is the child living Is the child an unaccompanied homeless youth living in an emergency shelter, with foster parents? transitional shelter, independent living program or street outreach program? YES NO No surrogate Is the child living with a needed. Foster grandparent, step-parent or Can the child's parents be identified and located? parents are the other relative, or some educational decision other individual over 18 Is the child living in a maker as defined in that is Legally responsible group home or IDEA. for the child's welfare? staffed private NO YES residential setting? YES NO YES No surrogate needed. Surrogate appointment No surrogate needed. Child needed.* Child lives with someone lives with someone who can who can act as the Note that appropriate staff at the Has parent retained parental rights and act as the educational educational decision maker emergency shelter, the transitional provided evidence of this? decision maker as defined in shelter, the independent living as defined in IDEA. program or the street outreach IDEA. program may serve in the role of temporary educational decision maker YES NO until a parent can be located or an educational surrogate is appointed. No surrogate needed. Surrogate appointment needed.* Parent continues to be the educational decision maker. Note that parent may attend IEP meetings at the request of the educational surrogate because the parent is someone who has * Request a surrogate using the Surrogate System Web Application.

For more information about the Surrogate System, visit our website at: http://dese.mo.gov/se/compliance/EdSurrogate

knowledge of the child, but the

educational surrogate is the educational decision maker.

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