

Hamilton County Juvenile Court Standard Companionship Schedule

Critical to the success of any companionship schedule is the absence of conflict between the parties. Studies support that regular and consistent contact between a child and both parents free of conflict is important to the health, growth, and development of a child. Essential to the success of a companionship schedule is the parties' willingness to be flexible, cooperative, and respectful of the changing needs of a child as they develop.

This schedule has been designed to take into consideration the changes needs of children as they develop as well as family dynamics. When a child is very young or there has been extended time without regular contact, frequent but shorter periods of companionship are necessary to prepare a child for the transition. As children develop and bonds are formed, extended periods of companionship become more appropriate.

A. General considerations:

For purposes of this order, _____, shall be designated as the residential party, _____, shall be designated as the non-residential party.

All times not designated to the nonresidential party shall be the residential party's companionship time.

Parties with children in more than one age group should agree to adapt the schedule to best suit the needs of the children. If the parties are unable to agree they shall follow the schedule under section children ages 6 to 10 years.

B. Companionship schedule by age:

Birth until 6 months:

1. The non-residential party shall have companionship time three days a week on _____, _____, and _____ from the hours of _____ to _____.
(Recommended time periods between 3-5 hours)

6 months until age 2 years:

1. The non-residential party shall have companionship time two days a week on _____, _____, from the hours of _____ to _____.
(Recommended time periods between 3-6 hours)
2. The non-residential party shall have one overnight each week on _____ beginning at _____ until the following day at _____.

2 years until 6 years:

1. The non-residential party shall have companionship time one day a week on _____ from the hours of _____ to _____.
(Recommended time periods between 3-6 hours)
2. The non-residential party shall have two nonconsecutive overnights each week on _____ beginning at _____ until the following day at _____; and _____ beginning at _____ until the following day at _____.
3. The non-residential party is entitled to two weeks of extended parenting time. Extended time may be taken in nonconsecutive one week increments. Extended time may be exercised during the summer, the child's winter or spring break from school, or other appropriate times which do not interfere with the child's school

schedule. Extended time must be exercised in accordance with section C.

4. The residential party is entitled to one week of extended parenting time. Extended time may be exercised during the summer, the child's winter or spring break from school, or other appropriate times which do not interfere with the child's school schedule. Extended time must be exercised in accordance with section C.

6 years until 10 years:

1. The non-residential party shall have companionship time one day every week on _____ from the hours of _____ to _____.
(Recommended time periods between up to 6 hours or single overnight)
2. The non-residential party shall have two consecutive overnights every other week on _____ beginning at _____ until _____ at _____.
3. The non-residential party is entitled to four weeks of extended parenting time. Extended time may be taken in no more than two consecutive weeks at a time. Extended time may be exercised during the summer, the child's winter or spring break from school, or other appropriate times which do not interfere with the child's school schedule. Extended time must be exercised in accordance with section C.
4. The residential party is entitled to two weeks of extended parenting time. Extended time may be taken in either one or two week increments. Extended time may be exercised during the summer, the child's winter or spring break from school, or other appropriate times which do not interfere with the child's school schedule. Extended time must be exercised in accordance with section C.

10 years until 14 years:

1. The non-residential party shall have companionship time one day every week on _____ from the hours of _____ to _____.
(Recommended time periods between up to 6 hours or single overnight)
2. The non-residential party shall have four consecutive overnights every other week on _____ beginning at _____ until _____ at _____.
3. The non-residential party is entitled to four weeks of extended parenting time. Extended time may be taken in no more than two consecutive weeks at a time. Extended time may be exercised during the summer, the child's winter or spring break from school, or other appropriate times which do not interfere with the child's school schedule. Extended time must be exercised in accordance with section C.
4. The residential party is entitled to two weeks of extended parenting time. Extended time may be taken in either one or two week increments. Extended time may be exercised during the summer, the child's winter or spring break from school, or other appropriate times which do not interfere with the child's school schedule. Extended time must be exercised in accordance with section C.

14 years and above:

1. Children age 14 and above may set their own schedule with the nonresidential party. If the nonresidential party is a parent the schedule shall not be less than one weekend a month from Friday at 6:00 p.m. until Sunday at 6:00 p.m. and one week of extended parenting time each year. Extended time may be exercised during the summer, the child's winter or spring break from school, or other appropriate times which do not interfere with the child's

school schedule. Extended time must be exercised in accordance with section C.

C. General provision for use of Extended Companionship Time

1. Parties are entitled to annual extended companionship time with the children to be used during breaks from school in accordance with section B. Neither party may remove a child from school to exercise extended parenting time without agreement by both parties.
2. Each party must notify the other in writing at least thirty days in advance of the requested time to exercising extended time.
3. If both parties wish to exercise the same time period whoever notifies the other party first by either email or register mail is entitled to take the requested extended time.
4. If the party exercising extended time intends to take the child out of town for vacation during that period, a written itinerary detailing where they will be vacationing must be provided to the other party one week prior to departure. Required information includes the address where they will be staying, a telephone number where the party and child can be reached during the vacation, and the method of travel including flight information if relevant.

D. Holiday Time:

1. Parties may modify the holiday schedule by agreement with a minimum of one week's notice.

Check if Holiday applies	Holiday	Odd # Year	Even # Year	Unless an alternative agreement is reached
	New Year's Holiday	Residential	Nonresidential	12/31/ 7:00p.m. – 1/1 7:00p.m.

	Martin Luther King	Non-residential	Residential	Sunday 7:00 p.m. – Monday 7:00 p.m.
	President's day	Residential	Non-residential	Sunday 7:00 p.m. – Monday 7:00 p.m.
	Easter	Non-residential	Residential	Sunday 7:00 p.m. – Monday 7:00 p.m.
	Memorial Day	Residential	Non-residential	Sunday 7:00 p.m. – Monday 7:00 p.m.
	4 th of July	Non-residential	Residential	July 4 th 7:00 p.m. – July 5 th 7:00 p.m.
	Labor day	Residential	Non-residential	Sunday 7:00 p.m. – Monday 7:00 p.m.
	Halloween	Non-residential	Residential	4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	Thanksgiving	Residential	Non-residential	Wed. 5:00p.m. – Friday 8:00 p.m.
	Christmas eve	Non-residential	Residential	
	Christmas day	Residential	Non-residential	

	Kwanzaa	Non-residential	Residential	1 st night only: 4:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	Rosh Hashanah eve	Residential	Non-residential	4:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
	Rosh Hashanah day	Non-residential	Residential	9:00a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	Yom Kippur eve	Non-residential	Residential	4:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	Yom Kippur day	Residential	Non-residential	9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	Passover	Non-residential	Residential	1 st night only: 4:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.
	Hanukkah	Residential	Non-residential	1 st night: noon until noon 2 nd night
	Hanukkah	Non-residential	Residential	2 nd night noon until 3 rd night noon
	Mother's day	Mother	Mother	10:00 am - 8:00p.m.
	Father's day	Father	Father	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	Child's B-day (school day)	Non-residential	Residential	Immediately after school until 8:00p.m.

	Child's B-day (non-school day)	Non- residential	Residential	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramadan)	Residential	Non- residential	5:00p.m. the night before until 7:00p.m.
	Eid al-Adha (end of Hajj)	Non- residential	Residential	5:00p.m. the night before until 7:00p.m.

E. General Companionship provisions:

1. The residential parent may not remove the child from the contiguous counties of Hamilton Ohio to establish residence, without a court order or an agreement signed by the parties and filed with the court.
2. Any party relocating within the counties contiguous to Hamilton County, must file a written notice of relocation with the Court and file a copy in the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office. Approval by the court or consent of a party is NOT required for movement within the contiguous counties, only written notice is required.
3. Makeup days shall be given if due to an emergency, the child, Non-residential or Residential party cannot visit at the scheduled time, or if the residential party denies visitation with just cause. All makeup days shall be rescheduled and exercised within thirty (30) days.
4. In the event the parties are unable to reach an agreement regarding transportation for visitation, the Residential party shall provide transportation at the commencement of the visit and the Non-residential party shall provide transportation at the termination of the visitation period.

5. Both parties are entitled to reasonable telephone contact with the child when they are with the other party. Reasonable contact is considered one phone call per day.
6. Both parties have the duty to immediately notify the other of any significant medical issues that arise with the child during their companionship time. Significant is defined as matters requiring medical intervention or assessment.
7. The party who has the child is responsible for getting them to and from any scheduled activities which the child might have during their companionship time.
8. School releases. **This provision only applies if the nonresidential party is the child's parent.** The residential party shall arrange for the appropriate school officials to release any and all information concerning the child to the nonresidential party.
9. Medical records and information. **This provision only applies if the nonresidential party is the child's parent.** Outside of an illness which affects a child's ability to attend scheduled companionship time the residential party is not required to share information related to the child's medical condition with a nonparent party. If the nonresidential party is the child's parent then the residential party shall authorize the release of any and all medical information/records concerning the child to the nonresidential party. In the event the child's illness requires medical attention by a physician, the residential party shall promptly notify the nonresidential party. Elective surgery shall only be performed after consultation with the nonresidential party.
10. Addresses. Each party shall keep the other party notified of any change in email, address, and telephone number. The residential party's current email address is _____, phone number _____, address _____.

The nonresidential party's current email address is _____
____, phone number, _____, address _____.

11. Order of precedence for resolution of conflicts in companionship time. Holiday parenting time shall take precedence over the extended schedule. The extended schedule will take precedence over the normal weekly schedule.

12. Other provisions: _____

13. WILLFUL NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE VISITATION ORDER OF THE COURT MAY RESULT IN A FINDING OF CONTEMPT, WITH UP TO THIRTY (30) DAYS TO NINETY (90) DAYS INCARCERATION, A \$250.00-\$1,000 FINE, AND AN AWARD OF THE MOVING PARTY'S ATTORNEY'S FEES.