

# What is an Ed GAL?

*An Educational Guardian Ad Litem (Ed GAL) is a trained volunteer, appointed by a judge to represent the educational best interests of a child or youth in the juvenile deprived court system. To do this, the Ed GAL must investigate the child's educational circumstances, provide fact-based information, and recommend a course of action to the Court while becoming a source of support for the child. The Ed GAL works closely with the Educational Guardian Ad Litem Director, who provides technical support and direction.*

*Among the many and varied activities that an Ed GAL will employ, the following tasks are expected for every child's case:*

- ⇒ *Collect and utilize data to assess a CHILD'S ENGAGEMENT and EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS;*
- ⇒ *CHECK child's progress (electronically and from educational professionals regularly as determined by an assessment of the child's risk factors);*
- ⇒ *Facilitate CONNECT services necessary for success in school;*
- ⇒ *Provide the needed INTERVENTIONS such as: sharing CHECK information, providing feedback, discuss staying in school, problem solving about a risk behavior, teaching goal setting, involving parent, school and community in solutions, facilitate tutoring, and teaching organizational and study skills;*
- ⇒ *ADVOCATE for the child by preparing reports for the court, appearing at all court hearings and meetings with recommendations, and make sure that the educational best interest of the child is represented at every stage of the case proceeding;*
- ⇒ *MENTOR the child to reduce high risk factors to make school experiences positive, successful, and productive;*
- ⇒ *And, determine the BEST INTERESTS of the child by utilizing information from multiple sources, review all educational and service plans for appropriateness, and suggest additional services as needed.*

Educational  
Guardian  
ad Litem



## OLFC's Educational Guardian Ad Litem and Mentoring Program

*Our goal for each child is to have another caring adult assist him/her in becoming a successful productive student.*

### TIME COMMITMENT

One to four hours per month depending on the needs of the child, including face-to-face with the child, attendance at court hearings and school meetings.

### Contact Information:

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