**Section 226.550 Surrogate Parents**

The qualifications, responsibilities, and appointment procedures for surrogate parents shall conform to the requirements of 34 CFR 300.519 and Section 14-8.02a of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/14-8.02a]. In addition, the following requirements shall apply:

a) When a child who is a ward of the State is placed in a residential facility, a representative of that facility shall submit to the State Board of Education a request for the appointment of a surrogate parent. Upon enrollment of a student, the resident school district is responsible for ensuring the assignment of a surrogate parent if the residential facility has not already done so.

b) The State Board of Education shall appoint a surrogate parent for each child who requires one, in keeping with the criteria set forth in 34 CFR 300.519(d) and the following requirements.

1) All reasonable efforts shall be made to secure a surrogate parent whose racial, linguistic, and cultural background is similar to the child's.

2) The surrogate parent shall have been trained by the State Board.

c) When a surrogate parent is appointed, the State Board of Education shall provide written notification to the local school district, the individual appointed, and, if applicable, the residential facility of the name and address of the surrogate parent, the specific responsibilities to be fulfilled, and the length of time for which the appointment is valid.

d) When a child living in a residential facility no longer requires a surrogate parent, a representative of the facility shall notify the State Board of Education in writing to that effect. This notification shall include the reason for withdrawal of the request.

e) When a surrogate parent's appointment is terminated, the State Board of Education shall so notify the surrogate parent, the local school district, and, if applicable, the residential facility.

(Source: Amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 2220, effective January 13, 2016)