

# Alaska Court System Model Parenting Agreement

## Instructions

This form was developed by a superior court judge to help parents reach agreement on important issues concerning their children. It covers many issues that parents may not think about when making custody decisions. The form may be used in a divorce case, a dissolution, a custody case between unmarried parents, or an action to modify an existing custody order.

If you want this agreement to be part of your custody order, you must file it with the court. If the judge approves your agreement, it will become part of the custody order in your case.

The form offers you many options for arranging your children's custody and care. Fill out the sections you agree will apply to your children and you. In each section, you can pick one of the choices that is offered, or you can write your own arrangement in the space marked "Other." If you need more space, you can attach additional pages. (If you continue on a separate page, you need to make it clear which section of the agreement that you are writing about (for example: "*Continuation of agreement on vacations and travel by children – Sec. 4.4*").

You can fill out the form by hand. Be sure to print neatly in black ink. If you want to type your responses, an electronic version of the form is available on the Alaska Court System's web site at <http://www.alaska.net/~akctlib/forms.htm>. The clerk of court may also have the form available on a computer diskette.

Each parent must sign the form in front of a notary public. A court clerk can provide this notary service for you (at no charge) when you file this agreement with the court. You must bring a photo ID with you for the notarization.

If you have attached additional pages to the agreement, you should write the name of the document, the case title, and the case number in the bottom left corner of each page (for example: *Parenting Agreement, Smith v. Jones, 4FA-01-1234CI*).

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3. **Legal Custody.** The responsibility for making major decisions affecting the child(ren)'s welfare including major medical decisions, educational, legal and religious decisions.

3.1  We agree that legal custody of our child(ren) shall be: (*choose one*)

shared legal custody. We have the ability to communicate and make joint decisions regarding our child(ren)'s major medical, educational, legal and religious decisions that shall be in their best interest.

shared legal custody. Most of the time, we have the ability to communicate and make joint decisions regarding our child(ren)'s major medical, educational, legal and religious decisions that shall be in their best interest. However, after consultation with each other, if we are unable to decide an issue,  Dad  Mom shall make the final decision.

3.2  We agree that legal custody of our child(ren) shall be with  Dad  Mom. This parent shall keep the other parent advised of our child(ren)'s health status, education, grades, activities, legal and religious matters. This parent shall list the other parent on all forms and registrations as a parent and "emergency contact" person.

4. **Physical Custody.** The responsibility for the physical care and immediate, day-to-day supervision of the child(ren).

**Note:** Physical custody for child support purposes is governed by Civil Rule 90.3 and not by the choice made below.

(*choose either 4.1 or 4.2*)

4.1  **Shared Physical Custody:** We have the ability to communicate and coordinate with each other to provide for our child(ren)'s physical care on a day-to-day basis. The schedule set forth below (in Sec. 5 and/or 8) shall be the shared physical custody schedule for our child(ren).

4.2  **Primary Physical Custody:** Our child(ren)'s needs can best be met by primary physical custody being with  Dad  Mom and the child(ren) spending time with  Dad  Mom for visitation as set forth on the schedule we have chosen below (in Sec. 5 and/or 8).

4.3 **School Calendar.** (*choose one*)

No later than April 1 of each year,  Dad  Mom shall obtain the school calendar for the next year and shall mark it with Dad's time and Mom's time for the school year, holidays and summer under this agreement and give a copy to the other parent. The parents shall discuss any differences by May 1 and the parents shall reach an agreement or use the dispute provisions (Sec. 16) by June 1. This is the calendar that will be in effect for the following year.

No later than \_\_\_\_\_ (date) of each year,  Dad  Mom shall obtain the school calendar for the next year and shall mark it with Dad's time and Mom's time for the school year, holidays and summer under this agreement and give a copy to the other parent. The parents shall discuss any differences by \_\_\_\_\_ (date) and the parents shall reach an agreement or use the dispute provisions

(Sec. 16) by \_\_\_\_\_ (date). This is the calendar that will be in effect for the following year.

**4.4 Conflicts in Scheduling.**

- Sometimes "holiday time" may conflict with time set aside for the other parent. When this happens, the holiday time shall be observed over all other schedules. For example, if it is Mom's alternate weekend, but Dad's Labor Day weekend, Mom shall lose her weekend.
- Other:

**5. Parents Living in Same Community - Custody Schedule.**

**Note:** Physical custody requires a plan for day-to-day care for child(ren) that fosters stability and predictability. Some child(ren) can handle frequent changes with each parent and other child(ren) do better with a central residence. You must consider your child(ren) and what will help them get enough sleep, be prepared for and participate in their school actively, have routine meals and hygiene care, and receive nurturing and parental supervision. Some child(ren) spend school days in one home and weekends in the other, some spend more time in the summer in one home and school time in the other, some alternate between homes on a regular schedule. The child(ren)'s age and individual needs and school situation should be considered. Also, the parent's work schedules and availability to provide transportation and supervision may be factors.

**5.1 Parents Living in Same Community: Regular Schedule - Infants to Age 3 (or Older).**

- Our child(ren) shall be with  Dad  Mom at the times listed below and with the other parent at all other times. (*choose one*)
  - Tu/Thurs Eve and Sat overnight  
Tuesday 4pm-7pm  
Thursday 4pm-7pm  
Saturday 10am-Sunday 10am
  - Tu/Thurs Eve and Sat overnight  
Tuesday 5pm-7:30pm  
Thursday 5pm-7:30pm  
Saturday 10am-Sunday 10am
  - Wed overnight/Sat overnight  
Wed 5pm-Thursday 9am  
Sat 12noon-Sun 6pm
  - Wed/Fri eve and Sat overnight  
Wed 5pm-7:30pm  
Fri 5pm-7:30pm  
Sat 5pm-Sun 6pm
  - Wed eve/Sun daytime  
Wed 5pm-7:30pm  
Sun 1pm-4pm

Supervised visits  
Supervised visits \_\_\_\_\_ times per week.  
The supervisor shall be \_\_\_\_\_ (person/agency)  
The \_\_\_\_\_ times \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ be:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Future:

This custody schedule shall remain the same as our child(ren) get older unless we agree to modify it or a court modifies the custody.

The custody schedule below in Section 5.2 shall apply when our child(ren) are older. The custody schedule shall change at \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ following \_\_\_\_\_ time:  
\_\_\_\_\_

If one of us moves, the custody schedule in the "Different Communities" part of this agreement (Sec. 8) shall apply unless we agree differently or a court order modifies the custody.

**5.2 Parents Living in Same Community: Regular Schedule - At Least Age 3 thru School Age.**

Our child(ren) shall be with  Dad  Mom at the times listed below and with the other parent at all other times.

If we have chosen a weekend plan below, then any "no school" days, such as teacher in-service days, go to the parent with that weekend.

Alternate weekends:

Alternate weekends of Friday 6pm to Monday am/school.

Alternate weekends Friday 6pm to Sunday 6pm.

Alternate weekends Saturday 10am to Sunday 6pm.

Alternate \_\_\_\_\_ weekends \_\_\_\_\_ from:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Three full weekends a month:

("Full weekend" means a weekend with a Saturday and Sunday in that month.)

First three full weekends of every month from Friday 6pm to Monday am/school.

First three full weekends of every month from Friday 6pm to Sunday 6pm.

First three full weekends of every month from Saturday 10am to Sunday 6pm.

First three full weekends of every month from:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Every weekend:

Every weekend from Friday 6pm to Monday am/school.

Every weekend from Friday 6pm to Sunday 6pm.

Every weekend from Saturday 10am to Sunday 6pm.

Every \_\_\_\_\_ weekend from:

Alternate weekends plus weeknight:

- Alternate weekends from Friday 6pm - Monday am/school plus every Wednesday 6pm - 8pm.
- Alternate weekends from Friday 6pm - Sunday 6pm plus every Wednesday 6pm - 8pm.
- Alternate weekends from Saturday 10am to Sunday 6pm plus every Wednesday 6pm - 8pm.
- Alternate weekends from: \_\_\_\_\_ plus every \_\_\_\_\_

Day visits only:

- Every Saturday from 10am to 6pm.
- Every Sunday from 10am to 6pm.
- Every \_\_\_\_\_ (day) from \_\_\_\_\_ (time) to \_\_\_\_\_ (time).
- Other:

Split every week:

- Dad  Mom from Saturday at 6pm to Wednesday after school and the other parent from Wednesday after school until Saturday 6pm.
- Dad  Mom from Sunday 10am to Wednesday after school and the other parent from Wednesday after school until Sunday 10am.
- Other:

Alternate weeks in each home:

**Note:** Alternate weeks or alternate 2 weeks in each home are generally too long away from each parent for child(ren) below about age 6.

- Alternate weeks in Dad's home and Mom's home with exchanges every Friday at 6pm.
- Alternate weeks in Dad's home and Mom's home with exchanges every \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (time).
- Other:

Alternate two weeks in each home:

- Alternate two weeks in Dad's home and Mom's home with exchanges every Friday at 6pm plus alternate Friday night from 6pm to Saturday noon with other parent.
- Alternate two weeks in Dad's home and Mom's home with exchanges every Friday at 6pm plus alternate Friday night from 6pm to 10pm with other parent.
- Alternate two weeks in Dad's home and Mom's home with exchanges every \_\_\_\_\_ (day) at \_\_\_\_\_ (time) plus alternate \_\_\_\_\_ (day) from \_\_\_\_\_ (time) to \_\_\_\_\_ with other parent.

**5.3 Parents Living in Same Community: Summer Schedule - At Least Age 3 thru School Age.**

Same schedule as school year:

- The same schedule shall continue through the summer.
- The same schedule shall continue through the summer except that either parent may travel with the child(ren) for up to 15 days for a vacation with notice to the other parent at least 30 days in advance and a schedule, location and telephone numbers provided at least 10 days before travel.
- Other:

Opposite schedule as school:

- The summer schedule shall be the exact opposite of the school year schedule for Dad's time and Mom's time.
- The summer schedule shall be the exact opposite of the school year schedule for Dad's time and Mom's time except that either parent may travel with the child(ren) for up to 15 days for a vacation with notice to the other parent at least 30 days in advance and a schedule, location and telephone numbers provided at least 10 days before travel.
- Other:

Divided summer:

- Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from one week after school is out until July 15th and  Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from July 15th until one week before school starts. The other parent shall have reasonable visits arranged between the parents during the summer.
- Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from the time school is out until \_\_\_\_\_ (date) and  Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from \_\_\_\_\_ (date) until school starts. The other parent shall have reasonable visits arranged between the parents during the summer.
- Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from one week after school is out until \_\_\_\_\_ (date) and  Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from \_\_\_\_\_ (date) until one week before school starts. The other parent shall have the child(ren) every week from Wednesday night at 6pm to Thursday morning.
- Other:

**5.4 Parents Living in Same Community: Winter School Break (Christmas).**

**Note:** Consider that this school break is not exactly the same dates every year and may be as short as 12 days to as long as 20 days. Check your child(ren)'s school calendar each year. Consider whether you want your child(ren) to have the traditions of having things the same every year, such as Christmas Eve with one parent and Christmas Day with the other parent, or if you want them to rotate so that Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are different every other year for you and for them.

Definition:  Winter Break is 6pm the last day of school until 6pm the day before school starts again.

Winter Break is defined as:

Regular schedule or one parent:

- whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular custody schedule shall have all of Winter Break.
- Dad  Mom shall have all of Winter Break every year.

All of break alternate years:

- Dad  Mom shall have all of Winter Break in  even  odd years.
- Dad  Mom shall have all of Winter Break in  even  odd years.

One-half of break:

- Dad  Mom shall have first half of Winter Break every year and  Dad  Mom shall have second half of Winter Break every year.
- Dad  Mom shall have first half of Winter Break in even years and  Dad  Mom shall have the second half of Winter Break. The schedule shall be the opposite in odd years.

Christmas Eve/Christmas Day:

- the schedule chosen above shall apply.
- in addition to the above schedule, the following applies:
  - One parent Christmas Eve, one parent Christmas Day - same every year:
    - Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from 10am until 10pm Christmas Eve and  Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from 10pm Christmas Eve until 6pm Christmas Day every year.
  - One parent Christmas Eve and one parent Christmas Day - alternate years:
    - Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from 10am until 10pm Christmas Eve and  Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) from 10pm Christmas Eve until 6pm Christmas Day in even years. The schedule shall be the opposite in odd years.
  - One parent both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day - alternate years:
    - Dad  Mom shall have the child(ren) Christmas Eve from 10am to Christmas Day at 6pm in even years. The schedule shall be the opposite in odd years.
  - Other:

Travel during Winter Break:

- Either parent may travel with the child(ren) during their time under the above schedule.
- Dad  Mom may travel with the child(ren) for the entire Winter Break in even years.  Dad  Mom may travel for the entire Winter Break in odd years.
- If either parent is going to exercise the "travel during Winter Break" option, they must provide notice to the other parent no later than  Nov 1  Nov 15  Dec 1  Dec 15  Other: \_\_\_\_\_ of when and where they plan to travel with the child(ren). At least ten days prior to traveling, the parent shall provide a schedule, location, and phone numbers for the trip.

Other:

### 5.5 **Parents Living in Same Community: Other Holidays.**

NOTE: By deciding how your child(ren) will spend important days like holidays and birthdays your child(ren) and you will know what to expect and can plan events and traditions. Pick only the holiday options that you agree will have priority over your regular schedule for school, summer, and winter break.

**Mother's Day/Father's Day:**

If the child(ren) are not already with the mother/father on this day, then the mother/father shall be entitled to have the child(ren) for up to 4 hours. The mother/father shall give notice to the other parent of the schedule at least two days in advance.

Other:

**Thanksgiving:**  defined as 10am to 8pm on Thanksgiving Day.  
 defined as Wednesday after school until \_\_\_\_\_

(day & time)  
 defined as \_\_\_\_\_

whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular schedule.

Dad  Mom shall have Thanksgiving every year.

Dad  Mom shall have Thanksgiving in even years and  Dad  Mom shall have Thanksgiving in odd years.

Other:

**Halloween:**  defined as 4pm to 8pm on Halloween day.  
 defined as \_\_\_\_\_

whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular schedule.

Dad  Mom shall have Halloween every year.

Dad  Mom shall have Halloween in even years and  Dad  Mom shall have Halloween in odd years.

Other:

**Easter Sunday:**  defined as 10am to 6pm on Easter Sunday.  
 defined as: \_\_\_\_\_

whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular schedule.

Dad  Mom shall have Easter Sunday every year.

Dad  Mom shall have Easter Sunday in even years and  Dad  Mom shall have Easter Sunday in odd years.

- Other:
- July 4th:  defined as 10am to 8pm on July 4<sup>th</sup>.  
 defined as \_\_\_\_\_
- whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular schedule.
- Dad  Mom shall have July 4th every year.
- Dad  Mom shall have July 4th in even years and  Dad  Mom shall have July 4th in odd years.
- Other:
- Passover:  defined as 6pm to 8pm.
- Dad  Mom shall have the  first night  second night every year.
- Dad  Mom shall have the  first night  second night every year.
- Other:
- Hanukkah:  defined as 6pm to 8pm.
- Dad  Mom shall have nights: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 (*circle which nights*)
- Dad  Mom shall have nights: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 (*circle which nights*)
- Yom Kippur and Roshashanah: \_\_\_\_\_
- Spring Break:  defined as 6pm last day of school to 6pm the day before school starts (Sunday).  
 defined as \_\_\_\_\_
- whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular schedule.
- Dad  Mom shall have Spring Break every year.
- Dad  Mom shall have Spring Break in even years and  Dad  Mom shall have Spring Break in odd years.
- Other:
- Spring Break Travel:
- Either parent may travel with the child(ren) during Spring Break during their time and shall give at least 30 days notice to the other parent and a schedule, location and phone numbers at least 10 days before travel.
- Other:

- Memorial Day weekend:  defined as Friday 6pm to Monday 6pm.  
 defined as \_\_\_\_\_

- 
- whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular schedule.
- Dad  Mom shall have Memorial Day weekend every year.
- Dad  Mom shall have Memorial Day weekend in even years and the other parent shall have Memorial Day weekend in odd years.
- Other:

- Labor Day weekend:  defined as Friday 6pm to Monday 6pm.  
 defined as \_\_\_\_\_

- 
- whichever parent the child(ren) are with that year under our regular schedule.
- Dad  Mom shall have Labor Day weekend every year.
- Dad  Mom shall have Labor Day weekend in even years and the other parent shall have Labor Day weekend in odd years.
- Other:

- 5.6 Parents Living in Same Community: Birthdays.**

Dad's Birthday is: \_\_\_\_\_(date)

Mom's Birthday is: \_\_\_\_\_(date)

Parent's Birthday:

- When it is Dad's or Mom's birthday, the birthday parent shall have their celebration during their regularly scheduled time with the child(ren).
- When it is Dad's or Mom's birthday, the birthday parent shall be entitled to have the child(ren) for up to three hours for a celebration on the birthday and shall give notice to the other parent of their plan to exercise this option at least three days in advance.
- Other:

Child(ren)'s Birthday:

- When it is our child(ren)'s birthday each parent shall hold their celebration during their regularly scheduled time with the child.
- When it is our child(ren)'s birthday, Dad shall hold a celebration during even years and Mom shall hold a celebration during odd years.
- We shall hold a joint birthday celebration every year with Dad organizing it during even years and Mom organizing it during odd years.

Other:

**6. Parents Living in Same Community: Transportation and Exchanges of Child(ren).**

**6.1 Transportation.**

- The parent receiving the child(ren) shall transport the child(ren).
- Dad  Mom shall provide all the transportation between parents.
- Other:

**6.2 Exchanges.**

- Exchanges shall be at mother's and father's homes unless we agree to another place.
- Exchanges shall be at \_\_\_\_\_ unless we agree to another place.
- Exchanges shall occur on time. Each parent shall be on time for the drop off and pick up of the child(ren) and shall have the child(ren) ready. If a parent is more than 15 minutes late without contacting the other parent to make other arrangements, the parent with the child(ren) may proceed with other plans and activities for the child(ren).
- Exchanges shall occur on time. Each parent shall be on time for the drop off and pick up of the child(ren) and shall have the child(ren) ready. If a parent is more than \_\_\_\_\_ late without contacting the other parent to make other arrangements, the parent with the child(ren) may proceed with other plans and activities for the child(ren).
- Other:

**7. Move by Parent - Notice and Future Schedule.**

**Note:** If you do not have an agreement about how your child(ren) will spend time with both parents if one of you moves then you may create a very difficult time for your child(ren). It is helpful to have an agreement in place as to what the arrangement will be if one parent moves, and then either parent can file a Motion to Modify with the court. A Motion to Modify Custody or Visitation takes from about 2 months to 8 months to be decided by the court, depending on the issues.

*(choose all that apply)*

- Each parent shall give at least 120 days notice to the other parent of any intent to move.
- Each parent shall give at least \_\_\_\_\_ days notice to the other parent of any intent to move.
- After receiving notice of a move, we shall review our parenting agreement to try to reach a modified parenting agreement that shall be best for our child(ren).

- When one parent moves, the "Different Communities" part of this agreement (Sec. 8) shall apply until we reach a modified parenting agreement or the court decides a modification after one of us has filed a Motion to Modify Custody.
- The child(ren) shall remain with the non-moving parent until we reach a modified parenting agreement or the court decides a modification after one of us has filed a Motion to Modify Custody.

**8. Parents Living in Different Communities - Custody Schedule.**

**Note:** In deciding a custody schedule for child(ren) when parents live in different communities one of the primary considerations is how many trips can the parents arrange and pay for each year. Each trip by airplane requires a round trip for each child and a roundtrip for two escorts, one each way, if escorts are used.

**Example:** *Two children traveling Summer Break and Winter Break is 4 tickets a year (8 tickets with escorts)*

Take the average cost of a ticket---\$500, \$600, \$700 -- and multiply it times the number of child(ren) and escort tickets times the number of trips per year to get the total cost and evaluate what Mom and Dad can arrange and pay for each year.

**Example:** *2 kids x 2 trips [4 tickets] per year to Seattle at \$500 per ticket = \$2,000 (\$4,000 with escorts)*

- If we have been living in the same community and one parent moves, the child(ren) shall remain with the non-moving parent and the following schedule for visits with the moving parent shall apply unless we agree differently or the court modifies the custody.
- We are or shall soon be living in different communities. Our child(ren) shall be with  Dad  Mom except for the times agreed to below when our child(ren) shall visit with  Dad  Mom.
- Other:

**8.1 Parents Living in Different Communities: Infant to Age 3 (or Older).**

- Our infant/toddler shall have the same visitation as we have arranged for the siblings in the other part of this agreement.
- Dad  Mom shall travel to the community that our child(ren) are in \_\_ times per year, with 30 days notice to the other parent, and shall have daily visits of at least 4 hours and increasing to alternate day overnights. The visiting parent shall provide information as to schedule, location and telephone numbers for each visit.
- Dad  Mom shall travel to the community that our child(ren) are in \_\_ times per year, with 30 days notice to the other parent. After a re-acquaintance, the parent then may take our child(ren) for a trip. The re-acquaintance visits shall be at least two 4-hour visits. Our child(ren) may then travel for a visit with  Dad  Mom for up to \_\_ days. The parent shall provide information as to schedules, locations and telephone numbers for the visit at least ten days in advance.
- Other:

**8.2 Parents Living in Different Communities: Summer Visits - At Least Age 3 thru 6 Years (or Older).**

- Our child(ren), aged 3-6 years, shall have the same visitation we have arranged for the siblings in the other part of this agreement.
- Dad  Mom shall have summer visitation
  - 3 weeks when age 3
  - 4 weeks when age 4
  - 5 weeks when age 5
  - 6 weeks when age 6.

The visit shall not begin until at least one week after school is out and shall end at least one week before school begins. No later than April 1 each year  Dad  Mom shall notify the other parent of the dates of the summer visit and what the transportation arrangements will be. The parent shall provide information as to schedules, locations and telephone numbers for the visit at least ten days in advance of travel.

- The summer visit shall continue to be 6 weeks every summer.
- Beginning the summer of \_\_\_\_\_ (year), the summer visit shall be as below (see Sec. 8.3).
- Other:

**8.3 Parents Living in Different Communities: Summer Visits - At Least Age 6 thru School Age.**

- Dad  Mom shall have summer visitation from one week after school is out until one week before school begins. No later than April 1 each year  Dad  Mom shall notify the other parent of the dates of the summer visitation and what the transportation arrangements will be. The parent shall provide information as to the schedules, locations and telephone numbers for the visit at least ten days in advance of travel.
- Dad  Mom shall have summer visitation from one week after school is out until one week before school begins. No later than

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each year  Dad  Mom shall notify the other parent of the dates of the summer visitation and what the transportation arrangements will be. The parent shall provide information as to the schedules, locations and telephone numbers for the visit at least

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days in advance of travel.

- Dad  Mom shall have summer visitation of 8 weeks each summer to begin no earlier than one week after school is out and to end at least one week before school begins. No later than April 1 each year  Dad  Mom shall notify the other parent of the dates of the summer visitation and what the transportation arrangements will be. The parent shall provide information as to the schedules, locations and telephone numbers for the visit at least ten days in advance of travel.
- Other:

**8.4 Parents Living in Different Communities: Failure to Give Notice / Loss of Summer Visit.**

- The parent who is entitled to the summer visitation has the duty to notify the other parent of their intention to have the child(ren) for summer visitation by the date we agreed to above. If the parent has not given notice of the dates they intend to exercise summer visitation, the parent the child(ren) are with may choose the dates.
- The parent who is entitled to the summer visitation has the duty to notify the other parent of their intention to have the child(ren) for summer visitation by the date we agreed to above. If the parent has not given notice of their intention to exercise summer visitation, the parent the child(ren) are with may assume there shall be no summer visit and make other plans with the child(ren).
- Other:

**8.5 Parents Living in Different Communities: Winter School Break (Christmas).**

**Note:** Consider that this school break is not exactly the same period every year and may be as short as 12 days to as long as 20 days. Check your child(ren)'s school calendar each year.

- Definition:  defined as the day school is out until the day before school starts.
- defined as: \_\_\_\_\_

One parent every year:

- Dad  Mom shall have all of Winter Break every year.
- Other:

Parents all of break alternate years:

- Dad  Mom shall have all of Winter Break in  even  odd years.
- Dad  Mom shall have all of Winter Break in  even  odd years.

Parents half of break every year:

- Dad  Mom shall have first half of Winter Break in  even  odd years and  Dad  Mom shall have first half of Winter Break in  even  odd years. The other parent shall have the second half of Winter Break.

Away parent all of break plus one-half of break alternate years:

- The parent who does not live in the same community with the child(ren) shall have all of Winter Break in  even  odd years and the second half of Winter Break beginning after Christmas Day in the alternate year.

Parent travels:

- The parent who does not live in the same community with the child(ren) shall travel to the child(ren)'s community and shall have time with the child(ren) as follows:
- 
- 

- Other:

**8.6 Parents Living in Different Communities: Spring Break.**

Definition:  Spring break is the school break beginning on the last day of school and ending on the day before school starts again.

Spring break is defined as:

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- Dad  Mom shall have Spring Break every year.
- Dad  Mom shall have Spring Break in  even  odd years and the other parent shall have Spring Break in  even  odd years.
- The parent who does not live in the same community with the child(ren) shall travel to the child(ren)'s community and shall have time with the child(ren) as follows:
- 

- Other:

**8.7 Parents Living in Different Communities: Other Holidays.**

If the parent who does not live in the same community as the child(ren) comes to visit, we agree to arrange reasonable time for our child(ren) to be with the visiting parent. The visiting parent shall provide information as to schedule, location, and telephone number where the child(ren) will be.

If we have the financial ability to pay and travel is reasonable, considering the distance, time, school, and our child(ren)'s age, we may agree to visits for other holidays not listed above.

- Other:

**8.8 Parents Living in Different Communities: Birthdays.**

Dad's Birthday is: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Mom's Birthday is: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Parent's Birthday:

When it is Dad's or Mom's birthday and the child(ren) are not with that parent, the other parent shall assist the child(ren) in telephoning the birthday parent.

- Other:

Child(ren)'s Birthday:

- When it is our child(ren)'s birthday, the parent the child is not with shall telephone the child and the other parent shall make the child available to talk with the parent on their birthday.
- Other:

**9. Parents Living in Different Communities: Transportation.**

**9.1 By Car**

- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by car, we agree that  Dad  Mom shall provide transportation both ways unless we agree differently.
- Other:

**9.2 By Airplane.**

- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by airplane, we agree to assist our child(ren) by considering jet lag, settling in times, and "best option in light of the price" schedules appropriate to our child(ren)'s age and needs.
- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by airplane, we agree that we shall split the cost of the summer visit each paying half.  Dad  Mom shall purchase the ticket and the other parent shall reimburse within 30 days. Transportation for other visits shall be paid by the away parent that does not live in the same community as the child(ren).
- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by airplane, we agree that  Dad  Mom shall purchase all roundtrip tickets for all trips and the other parent shall reimburse half of the cost of the child(ren)'s ticket within 30 days.
- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by airplane, we agree that the costs of roundtrip tickets shall be paid by each parent as follows:
  - Summer  Dad  Mom
  - Spring Break  Dad  Mom
  - Winter Break/Christmas  Dad  Mom
  - Other:  Dad  Mom
- We agree that if a parent cannot financially pay for transportation, then the other parent has the option of paying for the transportation for the visit to take place.
- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by airplane, we agree that our child(ren) may miss school  half-day  1 day  2 days, if they are otherwise doing well in school, in order to accommodate travel arrangements and be with the other parent.
- Other:

**9.3 Airplane Escorts.**

- We agree to consult with each other about whether an escort is appropriate for our child(ren) when they are going to be making an airplane trip.
- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by airplane, we agree that the costs of roundtrip tickets for any escorts, including for a parent, shall be split 50/50.
- When we live in different communities where transportation will be by airplane, we agree that the costs of roundtrip tickets for a parent escort shall be paid by the parent doing the escort.
- Other:

**10. Vacations and Travel by Child(ren).**

- We agree that either parent may travel with our child(ren) during their custody time. The parent traveling with the child(ren) shall give the other parent at least 30 days notice before traveling unless there is an emergency, and shall provide the other parent with a schedule, locations and phone numbers at least ten days before traveling.
- We agree that our child(ren) may travel with others, such as a sports team, church, or school activity, with relatives or similar travel as arranged by the parent the child(ren) are with during that parent's time. We understand that if our child(ren) are involved in a special activity, it may be in their best interest for both parents to agree the child(ren) may travel during one parent's time.
- We agree that if our child(ren) are traveling with others, such as with a sports team, church, or school activity, with relatives or similar travel for more than \_\_\_\_\_ days, that we shall give the information to the other parent in advance of the travel.
- Other:

**11. Information About Events and Activities.**

- When we live in the same community each parent shall make a good faith effort to give information to the other parent about events and activities in our child(ren)'s lives like school programs, concerts, award ceremonies, plays, sports events and other things our child(ren) are participating in. Sometimes this information may be at the last minute but we recognize this happens with child(ren) and shall make an effort to let the other parent know so that they can attend or talk about it with our child(ren).
- When we live in different communities each parent shall make a good faith effort to send the other report cards, school calendars, school pictures, copies of awards or programs from events and activities our child(ren) are involved in.
- Other:

**12. Parent Traveling. (choose one)**

- If either parent is traveling, they shall let the other parent know in advance where they can be reached in the event of an emergency or if the child(ren) want to contact them.
- If either parent is traveling, they shall leave information with another adult in their home where they can be reached in the event of an emergency or if the child(ren) want to contact them.
- Other:

**13. Changes or Modification of the Agreement. (choose all that apply)**

- We understand that we can vary this agreement for special events, changes in circumstances and to adjust to our child(ren)'s schedule when we agree. However, when we do not agree to change something, this agreement is in effect. Either of us may file a Motion to Modify Child Custody with the court when we believe that there has been a substantial change in circumstances such that it is in the best interest of our child(ren) that the agreement be substantially modified by the court.
- When we decide to make a substantial change in the agreement, such as the custody arrangement, it shall be put in writing and signed by both of us and filed with the court with a Motion to Modify.
- We agree that minor changes in the agreement, such as travel times or exchange times can be put in a writing, signed by both of us, for clarification and for a record, but are not required to be.
- We agree that any change in the agreement must be put in writing signed by both of us.

**14. Care of Our Child(ren).**

**14.1 Parent Remarks and Behavior.**

**Note:** It causes pain to your child(ren) when you criticize their other parent. Even infants and toddlers pick up on a parent being disrespectful of their other parent. Frustration with the other parent from time to time is not unusual but comments are best saved for sharing with adult friends outside the presence of your child(ren).

- We agree that our child(ren) have the right to be free of bad comments and behavior by one parent about the other. We agree that we shall not badmouth, criticize, roll our eyes, be sarcastic and otherwise be disrespectful of the other parent in the presence of our child(ren) and we shall not let others do this.
- Other:

**14.2 Child(ren) as Messengers.**

- We agree that all communications regarding the child(ren) shall be between the parents and we shall not use the child(ren) as messengers to convey information, ask questions or set up custody changes.

- We shall keep a notebook that goes back and forth with the child(ren) that gives information about their schedule, problems, eating, sleeping, cute stories, new experiences and other information for the other parent. We shall stop using the notebook when we both agree.
- Other:

**14.3 Discipline.**

- Either parent may use reasonable discipline techniques, but we shall not use physical discipline.
- Either parent may use reasonable discipline techniques, with physical discipline as a last resort.
- Either parent may use reasonable discipline techniques, including physical discipline.
- Other:

**14.4 Education.**

- Both parents may participate in school conferences, events and activities and may consult with teachers and other school personnel. Each parent may contact the school to receive grades, attendance, calendars, schedules, mailings and notices.
- Other:

**15. Decision-Making.**

**15.1 Communication Between Parents.**

- We shall communicate with each other: (*choose all that apply*)
  - in person
  - by telephone
  - by letter
  - by e-mail
  - other:

**15.2 Day-to-Day Decisions.**

- Each parent shall make decisions regarding day-to-day care of each child while the child is residing with that parent. Either parent may make emergency decisions affecting the health and safety of the child(ren).
- Other:

**15.3 Records.**

- Both parents shall have full access to school, day care, medical and other records of our child(ren).

- Both parents shall have equal and independent authority to confer with the child(ren)'s school, day care and other programs with regard to the child(ren)'s educational, emotional and social progress.
- Other:

**15.4 Braces.**

- We agree that if a dentist or orthodontist recommends braces for our child(ren) that we shall provide them.
- We agree that if a dentist or orthodontist recommends braces for our child(ren) that we shall obtain a second opinion and if it recommends also then we shall provide them.
- We shall consider braces as any other non-emergency medical decision.
- Other:

**16. Disputes.**

- Whenever possible we shall discuss the issues and attempt to reach an agreement based on what is best for our child(ren) at that particular time.
- If we are unable to reach an agreement on an important issue about our child(ren) after we have discussed it with each other, either parent may initiate dispute resolution by:
  - arranging for us to meet with a counselor to discuss and try and reach agreement.
  - arranging for us to meet with a trained mediator to try and reach an agreement.
  - \_\_\_\_\_(name) has agreed to be an arbitrator and after we each present what we think is best for our child(ren) the arbitrator shall make the final decision.
  - Other:

**17. Contact with the Child(ren) When with the Other Parent.**

**17.1 Telephone. (choose all that apply)**

- We shall each try to maintain answering machines so that the child(ren) can leave and receive our messages.
- Our child(ren) may telephone the other parent whenever they want to.
- The parent the child(ren) are not with shall make an effort to talk at least \_\_\_\_\_ times a  week  month by calling the child(ren) at reasonable times.
- The parent the child(ren) are not with shall telephone on the following days and times:

- If a message is left from the parent the child(ren) are not with, the other parent shall assist the child(ren) in returning the call.
- Reasonable times to call the child(ren) at the other parent's home are:
  - between 8am and 8pm
  - between \_\_\_ am and \_\_\_ pm
- We agree that telephone calls and other communication shall not be monitored by the other parent unless they believe in good faith that the child is having a problem.
- Other:

**17.2 Mail.** (choose all that apply)

**Note:** Child(ren) generally love to get mail. The parent the child(ren) are not with can foster their relationship with the child(ren) by sending pictures, cards, postcards, magazine pictures, stickers and letters. These make a child feel important and become treasures of how important they are. Fax machines are a wonderful gift for a child and an away parent. Homework can be faxed and corrected, edited and praised. Certificates and awards can be sent. Preschool drawings can be faxed.

- We agree that our child(ren) shall be given all mail and packages sent by the other parent. If any mail is withheld the other parent shall be informed immediately.
- We agree that our child(ren) and the other parent may communicate by email when computers are available.
- Either parent may send audio tapes, including story tapes and video tapes to the child(ren).

**18. Re-Involving A Parent.**

- Dad  Mom has not had frequent contact with our child(ren) for approximately \_\_\_\_\_, and wishes to begin more actively participating in our child(ren)'s life. To make this transition work for all of us, we agree: (check all that apply)
  - We shall both seek counseling to assist us in helping the child(ren) with this transition and to receive advice about how to make the transition work.
  - We shall begin contact with the child(ren) by having the following schedule of contacts:
  - After the above schedule of contacts has been kept for \_\_\_\_\_ (time), we shall reach an agreement about increasing the time the child(ren) spend with the other parent.
  - Other:

**19. Child Care.**

**19.1 Parents Living in Same Community - First Option Other Parent.**  
*(choose one)*

- Each parent shall call the other parent and give them first option to care for the child(ren) when they need childcare.
- Each parent shall call the other parent and give them first option to care for the child(ren) when we need childcare for more than:
  - 2 hours    4 hours    6 hours    8 hours
- Other:

**19.2 Parents Living in Different Communities - First Option Other Parent.**

- We agree that if the parent who the child(ren) are with will be traveling, is ill, working out of town or otherwise unavailable to care for the child(ren) for an extended period, that the other parent will be given first option to care for the child(ren) in the child(ren)'s home community or the other parent's community, depending on what is best for the child(ren) at that time.
- Other:

**19.3 Child Care by Other People.** *(choose one)*

- We agree that we are each free to choose appropriate child care providers.
- We agree that any child care provider for our child(ren) shall be:  
*(choose all that apply)*
  - a licensed child care provider.
  - a close relative or friend.
  - over the age of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Other:

**20. Grandparents and Extended Family.**

- Each parent agrees that they shall provide the child(ren) with visitation with the grandparents and extended family on their own side of the family as they decide is in the child(ren)'s best interest during their custody time.
- We agree that we shall cooperate to help the child(ren) attend special events with grandparents and extended family by making reasonable requests of each other, considering the school situation and the child(ren)'s best interest and needs.
- Other:

**21. Parents Same Community or Different Communities: Transition Times.**

**Note:** After parents separate, it is child(ren) who make the most day-to-day changes. They are the ones who do the traveling, who have two different homes, two different sets of rules and expectations and must adjust to the constant change. Parents can help by being aware of the stress of these transitions and seeking to actively participate in helping the child(ren).

*(choose all that apply)*

- We agree that when our child(ren) has to travel by air or car long distances that we shall each reassure them, tell them about the schedule, and use airline services that will help the child(ren).
- We agree that we shall assist our child(ren) to have comfort items like blankets, stuffed animals, and favorite things with them when they go from one home to the other.
- We agree that we shall give the other parent information about our child(ren)'s homework, school projects, appointments and activities that need attention while the child(ren) are with the other parent.
- We agree to talk to each other about the child(ren)'s sleep and eating schedule, any medications or health matters and their general condition before exchanges.
- We agree that when we are exchanging the child(ren) we shall not discuss other issues and that we shall not fight, be sarcastic or demonstrate anger during the exchange.
- Other:

**22. Federal Taxes. (choose one)**

**Note:** Any agreement regarding which parent has a child deduction is still subject to federal tax law and Alaska Statutes 25.24.152 and 25.24.232

- No agreements are made. Federal tax law applies.
- Dad  Mom shall claim our child(ren) on their federal income taxes each year.
- We shall claim our child(ren) on our federal income taxes each year as follows:

child: \_\_\_\_\_  Dad  Mom  
child: \_\_\_\_\_  Dad  Mom  
child: \_\_\_\_\_  Dad  Mom  
child: \_\_\_\_\_  Dad  Mom  
child: \_\_\_\_\_  Dad  Mom

- Other:

**23. Permanent Fund Dividend.** (choose one)

- Dad  Mom shall apply for the child(ren)'s Permanent Fund Dividend each year and (1) may use half of the PFD in the best interest of the child(ren); (2) shall place half of the PFD in an interest-bearing account; (3) shall provide the other parent with proof of deposit of the PFD and an annual statement by February 1 of each year; and (4) shall pay any taxes out of the child(ren)'s account.
- Dad  Mom shall apply for the child(ren)'s Permanent Fund Dividend each year and (1) may use the money in the best interest of the child(ren) or save it; (2) shall keep a written accounting of how the money was used; and (3) shall pay any taxes.
- Dad  Mom shall apply for the child(ren)'s Permanent Fund Dividend each year and (1) place the money in an  interest-bearing account  investment account; (2) shall provide the other parent with proof of deposit of the PFD and an annual statement by February 1 each year; and (3) shall pay the taxes from the child(ren)'s account. Withdrawals from this account may only be made if both parents agree or by a court order.
- Dad  Mom shall apply for the child(ren)'s Permanent Fund Dividend each year and (1) shall place the money in an interest-bearing savings account that is in the name of both parents and requires both parent's signatures for withdrawal of funds; and (2) shall pay any taxes.
- Other:

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

I acknowledge that I am signing this agreement freely and voluntarily for the purposes stated therein.

\_\_\_\_\_ Dad's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Mom's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Acknowledged before me on \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
20\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
in \_\_\_\_\_, Alaska

Acknowledged before me on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
20\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
in \_\_\_\_\_, Alaska

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Court, Notary Public, or other  
person authorized to administer oaths.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Court, Notary Public, or other  
person authorized to administer oaths.

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

(Seal)

(Seal)