

# Co-Parenting Agreement

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This **Co-Parenting Agreement** ("**Agreement**" hereinafter) is entered into by and between the following Parties;

**Parent 1**

**Parent 2**

## I. Purpose of the Agreement

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a cooperative, respectful, and legally enforceable framework for the upbringing, welfare, and care of Parties' children in a manner that promotes their best interests, emotional stability, and overall well-being. This Agreement is designed to ensure that the children maintain a healthy relationship with both parents, receive consistent care, and are provided with a nurturing, supportive environment. The Parties affirm that all provisions herein are guided by the principle of the best interest of the child, and they agree to work collaboratively, respectfully, and in good faith at all times.

## II. Legal and Physical Custody

The Parties agree that legal custody of the children shall be joint, meaning that both parents shall share in the decision-making authority concerning the children's education, medical care, religious upbringing, and major life choices. Physical custody arrangements shall be structured in a way that provides the children with regular and meaningful contact with both parents. Specific details of custody schedules, including primary residence, visitation, and exchange arrangements, shall be outlined herein, with the understanding that flexibility and the child's best interests shall guide any modifications.

## III. Parenting Schedule and Visitation

The Parties agree that legal custody of the children shall be joint, meaning that both parents shall share in the decision-making authority concerning the children's education, medical care, religious upbringing, and major life choices. Physical custody arrangements shall be structured in a way that provides the children with regular and meaningful contact with both parents. Specific details of custody schedules, including primary residence, visitation, and exchange arrangements, shall be outlined herein, with the understanding that flexibility and the child's best interests shall guide any modifications.

#### **IV. Communication and Decision-Making**

The Parties agree to communicate openly, directly, and respectfully concerning all matters related to the children. Major decisions regarding health, education, religion, or relocation shall require mutual agreement. In the event of disagreement, the Parties shall first attempt to resolve disputes through discussion and, if necessary, mediation before seeking judicial intervention. Routine daily decisions, including minor disciplinary matters and daily schedules, shall be made by the parent with whom the children are residing at that time. The Parties shall not undermine one another's parental authority and agree to present a united and respectful front to the children.

#### **V. Relocation and Change of Residence**

Neither parent shall relocate with the children to another city, state, or country without first providing reasonable notice and obtaining the written consent of the other parent, except in cases where a court order permits such relocation. The Parties recognize that relocation can significantly affect custody arrangements and the children's relationship with both parents, and therefore agree that any such change must be considered carefully, with the best interests of the children as the guiding principle.

#### **VI. Financial Responsibilities**

The Parties acknowledge their joint responsibility for supporting their children financially. Child support payments shall be determined in accordance with applicable law, with one parent providing regular support payments to the other to contribute to the costs of housing, food, clothing, education, healthcare, and other necessary expenses. In addition, extraordinary expenses such as medical treatments not covered by insurance, extracurricular activities, school tuition, or travel costs shall be shared by the Parties in a fair and proportional manner, based on their respective incomes and financial capacities.

#### **VII. Education and Extracurricular Activities**

The Parties agree that the children's education is a priority and shall cooperate in making decisions regarding school enrollment, academic programs, and tutoring. Both parents shall have access to school records, teacher communications, and the right to participate in school meetings. Decisions regarding extracurricular activities, including sports, arts, and social activities, shall be made jointly, and both parents are encouraged to attend and support the children's events whenever possible.

## **VIII. Health and Medical Care**

The Parties shall ensure that the children receive necessary medical, dental, and psychological care. Both parents shall have the right to access medical records and communicate with healthcare providers. Non-emergency medical decisions must be made jointly, while the parent in physical custody at the time may make emergency decisions and promptly notify the other parent. Health insurance coverage shall be maintained by one or both parents, and the Parties agree to share uncovered medical costs in proportion to their incomes.

## **IX. Discipline and Rules**

The Parties agree to maintain consistency in rules, discipline, and expectations across both households, recognizing that stability and uniformity benefit the children. Neither parent shall disparage the other in the presence of the children, nor shall they involve the children in parental disputes. The Parties agree to encourage positive relationships with the other parent and extended family, refraining from actions that might alienate the children from the other parent.

## **X. Travel and Passports**

The Parties agree that both parents shall have the right to travel domestically with the children, provided advance notice and an itinerary are given to the other parent. International travel shall require prior written consent of both parents. Passports and necessary travel documents shall be held in a manner agreed upon by the Parties and shared fairly to prevent unilateral restriction of travel rights.

## **XI. Modification and Review**

The Parties acknowledge that circumstances may change over time, and agree to review this Agreement periodically to ensure that it continues to serve the best interests of the children. Any modification to this Agreement must be made in writing and signed by both Parties, or by court order if the parents cannot reach mutual agreement.

## **XII. Dispute Resolution**

In the event of a dispute regarding interpretation or application of this Agreement, the Parties agree to attempt resolution through direct discussion, followed by mediation if necessary. Only if such methods fail shall court proceedings be initiated. This provision is intended to reduce conflict and encourage cooperative resolution of disagreements.

### **XIII. Governing Law**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the jurisdiction in which the children reside. Any legal proceedings arising out of this Agreement shall be brought in the courts of that jurisdiction.

### **XIV. Severability**

If any provision of this Agreement is found to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of the Agreement, and the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

By signing below, both Parties acknowledge that they have read, understood, and voluntarily entered into this Agreement. They further affirm that they consider this Agreement to be fair, equitable, and in the best interests of their children.

**Parent 1**

**Name**

**Date**

**Signature**

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**Parent 2**

**Name**

**Date**

**Signature**

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