

**IL FAMILY LAW: ALLOCATION OF SIGNIFICANT DECISION-MAKING**  
750 ILCS 5/602.5

"Significant Issues" (i.e., major decisions, not day-to-day decisions)

Sphere of Influence	Notes
Education	Includes the choice of schools and tutors
Health	Non-emergency decisions regarding medical, dental, and psychological needs of the child and treatments arising from those needs
Religion	Child's religious upbringing
Extra-curricular	

**Factors for determination:**

1. the *wishes of the child*, taking into account the child's maturity and ability to express reasoned and independent preferences as to decision-making;
2. the *child's adjustment* to his or her home, school, and community;
3. the *mental and physical health* of all individuals involved;
4. the *ability of the parents to cooperate* to make decisions, or the level of conflict between the parties that may affect their ability to share decision-making;
5. the *level of each parent's participation in past significant decision-making* with respect to the child;
6. any *prior agreement* or course of conduct between the parents relating to decision-making with respect to the child;
7. the *wishes of the parents*;
8. the *child's needs*;
9. the *distance between the parents' residences*, the cost and difficulty of transporting the child, each parent's and the child's daily schedules, and the ability of the parents to cooperate in the arrangement;
10. whether a *restriction* on decision-making is appropriate under Section 603.10;
11. the *willingness and ability of each parent to facilitate and encourage a close and continuing relationship* between the other parent and the child;
12. the *physical violence* or threat of physical violence by the child's parent directed against the child;
13. the *occurrence of abuse against the child* or other member of the child's household;

14. whether *one of the parents is a sex offender*, and if so, the exact nature of the offense and what, if any, treatment in which the parent has successfully participated; and
15. any other factor that the court expressly finds to be relevant.