

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE MANUAL	
	Chapter 7: In-Home Services	Effective Date: October 1, 2008
	Section 1: Child at Imminent Risk of Placement	Version: 2

POLICY

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will make an initial determination as to whether an individual child is at imminent risk of placement and therefore a candidate for kinship care/foster care. DCS will redetermine imminent risk every 180 days.

DCS defines a child at imminent risk of placement as a child less than 18 years of age who reasonably may be expected to face out-of-home placement in the near future as a result of at least one (1) of the following:

1. Abuse or neglect;
2. Emotional or mental disturbance; or
3. Family conflict so extensive that reasonable control of the child is not exercised.

Code References

[42 U.S.C. 5101 § 106\(6\) \(2\) \(a\) \(v\)](#)

PROCEDURE

The Family Case Manager (FCM) will:

1. Make an initial determination that a child is at imminent risk for placement with a substantiation of abuse or neglect by the DCS as documented by an approved substantiated Assessment of Alleged Child Abuse or Neglect SF113/CW0311.

Note: The case type of CHINS 6 does not typically result in an Assessment unless there are allegations of abuse and/or neglect. The intake for a CHINS 6 is entered into ICWIS as a service request, which creates a CHINS case. If a CHINS 6 resulted from a service request, the initial documentation will be the opening a CHINS case.

2. Make a redetermination that the child continues to be at imminent risk for removal. The redetermination will be completed on every child with an open case type of Informal Adjustment (IA) or In Home Child in Need of Services (CHINS) within six (6) months of the initial determination. Redeterminations will be conducted as follows:

CHINS:

- a. Complete a Risk reassessment in the Indiana Child Welfare Information System (ICWIS);
- b. Document via the Hearings Module in ICWIS under “Hearing Information” that:
 - 1.) The child is at imminent risk for out-of-home placement and that Reasonable Efforts are continuing to be made to maintain the child at home and the Risk Assessment indicates a need for continued services; or
 - 2.) The child is no longer at imminent risk for out of home placement. Reasonable Efforts have been offered and available to prevent the need for removal. These services offered have been successful to allow the child to remain at home.

For IA Cases:

- a. Redeterminations will be documented by requesting a three (3) month extension of the original six (6) month IA agreement. The redetermination of imminent risk for placement should be documented on the Progress on Program of Informal Adjustment information screen (formally the 5-month report). The Family Case Manager (FCM) will document that:
 - 1.) The child is at imminent risk for out-of-home placement and that reasonable efforts are continuing to be made to maintain the child at home and the Risk Assessment indicates a need for continued services; or
 - 2.) The child is no longer at imminent risk for out of home placement. Reasonable Efforts have been offered and available to prevent the need for removal. These services offered have been successful to allow the child to remain at home.
- b. Failure to substantially comply with the IA can also result in the need for an increased level of intervention; (i.e., the filing of a CHINS petition). The resulting Intake Officers Report of Preliminary Inquiry (PI) and Investigation will serve as the re-determination documentation.

PRACTICE GUIDANCE

Definition:

Imminent Risk

Immediate threat of injury or harm to a child when no interventions have occurred to protect the child.

FORMS AND TOOLS

1. Assessment of Alleged Child Abuse or Neglect (SF 113/CW0311) – Available in ICWIS
2. Family Risk Assessment – Available in ICWIS
3. Family Risk Reassessment – Available in ICWIS
4. Progress Report on Program of Informal Adjustment - (SF 52434) – Available in ICWIS

5. Intake Officers Report of Preliminary Inquiry and Investigation – Available in ICWIS

RELATED INFORMATION

Outlining the population

Candidates for out-of-home placements/children at imminent risk for placement include:

1. Child residing in his/her own home;
2. Children on the run from home/facility; and
3. Children placed with the non-custodial parents.

Children at imminent risk for placement do not include:

1. Children in out-of-home placement care;
2. Children placed in licensed foster homes, unlicensed relative homes; and
3. Children on a trial home visit for the initial six (6) months, and/or children for whom an extension of the trial home visit has been granted by the court.