

**Notice of Public Hearing**

LSA Document #16-216

**Notice of Public Hearing**

Under [IC 4-22-2-24](#), notice is hereby given that on October 26, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., at the Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Conference Room 29, Indianapolis, Indiana, the Department of Child Services will hold a public hearing on a proposed rule that does the following: Adds [465 IAC 4](#), regarding the federal-state adoption assistance program (AAP) and related state funded adoption subsidy program (SAS), and regarding the federal-state kinship guardianship assistance program (GAP) and related state funded guardianship assistance program (SGAP). Establishes assistance eligibility requirements for the child beneficiary, adoptive parents, and legal guardians. Describes program benefits, including nonrecurring expenses of adoption or establishment of the guardianship, periodic payments, health insurance coverage, and availability of supporting services to the child and family. Provides procedure for determination of periodic payment amounts within applicable limits. Defines funding priorities for the adoption assistance account established by statute. Requires periodic status reports to the department during the term of the assistance agreement, and notice to the department of certain reportable events. Describes circumstances and procedures for suspension of periodic payments and termination of agreements before the child beneficiary becomes 18 years of age. Provides for continuation of periodic payments for a youth over 18 years of age under defined conditions. Provides for continuation of payments to successor guardians named in the assistance agreement. Makes technical amendments to update provisions in [465 IAC 2-7-4](#) and to eliminate or update some provisions of the current rules relating to the interstate compact on adoption and medical assistance ([465 IAC 2-4](#)) and current assisted guardianships that were funded through the state TANF block grant before July 2012 ([465 IAC 2-8](#)). Repeals provisions of [465 IAC 2-7](#) relating to adoption assistance that are superseded by [465 IAC 4](#).

Pursuant to [IC 4-22-2-24\(d\)\(3\)](#), the Department of Child Services has determined that changes to the current rules and adoption of new rules are necessary to comply with current federal and state law, and to delete provisions that were rendered obsolete or unnecessary by changes in federal and state law. The proposed rule will not impose any new or increased costs on any regulated entity.

All parties interested in the proposed rule are invited to attend the public hearing and to offer public comments. In lieu of attendance at the public hearing, written comments may be sent to: DCS, Attention John Wood, 302 W. Washington St., Room E306, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Correspondence should be identified in the following manner: "COMMENT RE: LSA Document #16-216, Adoption and Guardianship Assistance". Written comments may also be submitted via email to [DCSpubliccomments@dcs.in.gov](mailto:DCSpubliccomments@dcs.in.gov). All written comments concerning the rule received by the Department of Child Services will be available for public inspection at the Department of Child Services Office of General Counsel, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Room E306, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Copies of the proposed rules and this notice are now available on the Department of Child Services website at:

<http://www.in.gov/dcs/3371.htm>

Copies of these rules are now on file at the Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Room E306 and Legislative Services Agency, Indiana Government Center North, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N201, Indianapolis, Indiana and are open for public inspection.

Mary Beth Bonaventura  
Director  
Indiana Department of Child Services

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