

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 4: Assessment Section 42: Plan of Safe Care	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 5

POLICY OVERVIEW

A Plan of Safe Care (POSC) helps keeps infants under age one (1) safe and healthy if they were exposed to drugs before birth. The POSC addresses the health and treatment needs of the infant and their parents and caregivers. A POSC is made with input from the parents and caregivers alongside healthcare providers and other professionals working with the family.

POLICY STATEMENT

A POSC will be completed regardless of the assessment outcome. The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will regularly review and update an existing POSC throughout involvement until the infant turns one (1) year old and has been:

1. Born affected by or exposed in utero to drugs (legal or illegal);
2. Diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS); and/or
3. Diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [Pub. L. No. 114-198: Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016](#)
- [42 USC Ch. 67: Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform](#)