

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 8: Out-of-Home Services Section 02: The Interethnic Placement Act (IEPA)	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 3

POLICY OVERVIEW

This policy does not affect the provision of the Indian child in the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA).

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) follows the Interethnic Placement Act (IEPA) of 1996 and will not deny placement of a child based on their race, color, or national origin.

POLICY STATEMENT

DCS will recruit a diverse group of resource and prospective adoptive parents to reflect the children in out-of-home care.

DCS will not delay a child's placement because of the race, ethnicity, or culture of the resource parent or child, regardless if the removal was voluntary or involuntary.

Note: Exceptions may be considered if there are compelling reasons in the best interest of the child.

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [42 U.S.C. Sec. 1996b: Interethnic Adoption \(Inter-ethnic Placement Act \[IEPA\]\)](#)