

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
Chapter 9: Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) Section 11: Transportation Costs		Effective Date: January 1, 2026 Version: 3

POLICY OVERVIEW

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) is responsible for paying transportation costs of a DCS ward in an out-of-state placement.

POLICY STATEMENT

DCS will pay all travel costs related to the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) for a DCS ward placed out of state. This includes:

1. Travel for the child to return to Indiana for visits with parents and/or siblings; and
2. Travel for the Family Case Manager (FCM) to visit the child placed out of the state through the ICPC.

Note: All out-of-state travel must be approved ahead of time by the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA).

DCS will **not** pay any travel costs related to:

1. ICPC placements of children from other states placed in Indiana;
2. Private interstate adoptions; or
3. International adoptions.

For DCS wards, DCS will pay to bring the child back to Indiana if:

1. The placement fails; or
2. The placement is no longer in the child's best interest.

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 31-28-4: Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children](#)
- [IC 31-28-4-2: Financial responsibility for placed children](#)