

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 9: Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC) Section 08: Minimum Contacts for DCS ICPC Placements	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 8

POLICY OVERVIEW

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) says that children who are being cared for by a child welfare agency must be seen face-to-face every 30 days. This rule also includes:

- Children who are placed in Indiana from another state, and
- A child from Indiana placed in a different state

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) uses the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) Unit to make sure all children under the care and supervision of DCS are safe and have positive outcomes. ICPC also ensures children placed in another state receive courtesy supervision, including face-to-face contact, with appropriate child welfare personnel in the state where the child is placed.

POLICY STATEMENT

Through the ICPC process, states and U.S. territories share in providing protection, support services, face-to-face contact, and supervision of the child placed through the ICPC approval process. The frequency of face-to-face contact with the child depends upon the receiving state's policy.

Minimum Contacts with Children Placed in Indiana

DCS must have face-to-face contact at least **monthly, with no more than 30 calendar days between** each contact, for children placed in Indiana through an approved ICPC program. The location of the monthly visits may alternate, with one (1) face-to-face contact in the child's home and the next at a designated location, such as the child's school or daycare. It is required that most of the visits must occur in the home. DCS will be available to meet with the sending state's interstate worker when there is a scheduled visit with the child placed in Indiana.

Minimum Contacts with Indiana Children Placed Out-of-State

For a child from Indiana placed out-of-state, DCS will have weekly contact by phone or virtual face-to-face contact (e.g. FaceTime) and face-to-face contact **once every four (4) months** with the child in their placement.

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 31-28-4: Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children](#)