

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 15: Eligibility Section 10: Continued Title IV-E Eligibility Requirements	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 6

POLICY OVERVIEW

A child's continued Title IV-E Foster Care (Title IV-E) eligibility status is reviewed every so often, and anytime something changes that may affect it.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will determine a child's continued eligibility for Title IV-E funding by considering these criteria:

1. The child must be placed in a Title IV-E eligible placement;
2. DCS must still have responsibility for Placement and Care (PC) of the child; and
3. Reasonable Efforts to Finalize the Permanency Plan (REPP) language must be obtained timely in a written court order (see policy [6.10](#)).

Exception: Youth in Collaborative Care (CC) who have a written agreement with DCS are not required to meet the REPP requirement for continued eligibility.

A child will be considered to have entered foster care (for Title IV-E purposes) on whichever date is first:

1. The date of the first judicial finding that Child Abuse and/or Neglect (CA/N) occurred; or
2. 60 calendar days after the removal.

A child's Title IV-E continued eligibility status may change from month to month, depending on where they are placed and the timeliness of required court order language.

Administrative costs may be claimed if a child is:

1. In an Eligible Placement;

Note: This includes placement in a Child Caring Institution (CCI) even if the placement meets the requirements for Title IV-E funding to continue after 14 calendar days (see policy [15.13](#)).

2. Considered a runaway;
3. On a Trial Home Visit (THV);

Note: Reimbursement may be claimed up to six (6) months unless the court extends the THV.

4. Initially eligible and placed with a relative who has submitted an application for licensure;

Note: Administrative costs may be claimed for up to 12 months while the relative is becoming licensed.

5. Moved from an ineligible foster care setting into a licensed foster family home or CCI. The administrative costs may be claimed for one (1) calendar month; or
6. In the home but at imminent risk of removal.

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 31-9-2-107: "Relative"](#)
- [42 USC 671\(a\)\(15\): Requisite features of State plan](#)
- [42 USC 672\(a\)\(2\), \(c\), \(i\), and \(j\): Removal and foster care placement requirements](#)
- [45 CFR 1355.20\(a\): Definitions](#)
- [45 CFR 1356.21\(b\)\(2\): Judicial determination of reasonable efforts to finalize a permanency plan](#)