

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 11: Older Youth Services Section 27: Permanency for Collaborative Care (CC) Youth	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 5

POLICY OVERVIEW

Helping young people build stronger, more caring relationships with trusted adults can give them the emotional support they need as they deal with past experiences and prepare to leave out-of-home care. When Another Planned Permanency Living Arrangement (APPLA) is the best option, the goal is to strengthen the youth's current relationships or help build new ones with adults they can trust.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) is committed to ensuring permanency for youth in CC. In extraordinary cases, Reunification, Adoption, Legal Guardianship, and Permanent Placement with a Fit and Willing Relative may not be appropriate legal permanency options anymore. When that happens, other types of APPLA may be considered, including, but not limited to:

1. Relational permanency;
2. Adult adoption; or
3. Re-connecting with biological family members.

Note: APPLA is only an option for youth age 16 and older. DCS must document why other Permanency Plan options are not in the best interest of the child and all ongoing diligent efforts to find adult relatives/kin.

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 31-28-5.8-7: Periodic reviews by court; notice; participation; orders](#)
- [IC 31-24-21-7.5: Placement prohibited in residence of individual who has committed certain acts or offenses; criminal history check; contents of permanency plans](#)