



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY

Chapter 15: Eligibility

Section 09: Age and Citizenship Requirements for Title IV-E Initial Eligibility

Effective Date: February 1, 2022

Version: 4

- [Procedure](#)
- [Definitions](#)

- [Forms and Tools](#)
- [Related Policies](#)

- [Legal References](#)
- [Practice Guidance](#)

POLICY OVERVIEW

The age and citizenship of a child must be considered when determining a child's eligibility for Title IV-E Foster Care (Title IV-E) funding.

[Back to Top](#)

PROCEDURE

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will verify and document the age and citizenship of a child to determine eligibility for Title IV-E funding.

Age

In order to be eligible for Title IV-E, the child must be under 18 years of age at the time of removal or entering the Collaborative Care (CC) program. See policy 11.18 Eligibility for Collaborative Care for information on CC eligibility criteria.

Citizenship

In order to be eligible for Title IV-E, the child must be either a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

The DCS Central Eligibility Unit (CEU) will:

1. Review the eligibility information in the case management system. Examples of acceptable supporting documentation that may be used to verify the child's age may be found in the CEU Eligibility Binder; and

Note: See policy 2.23 Verifying Citizenship or Immigration Status for examples of supporting documentation to verify citizenship.

2. Make a determination of whether the age and citizenship criteria are met.

[Back to Top](#)

RELEVANT INFORMATION

Definitions

N/A

Forms and Tools

- [CEU Eligibility Binder](#)

Related Policies

- [2.23 Verifying Citizenship or Immigration Status](#)
- [11.18 Eligibility for Collaborative Care](#)

[Back to Top](#)

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 31-9-2-13: Child](#)
- [IC 31-28-5.8: Collaborative Care](#)
- [42 USC 671\(a\)\(27\): State Plan for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance](#)
- [42 USC 672\(a\)\(3\): Foster care maintenance payments program](#)
- [42 USC 675\(8\): Definitions](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRACTICE GUIDANCE- DCS POLICY 15.09

Practice Guidance is designed to assist DCS staff with thoughtful and practical direction on how to effectively integrate tools and social work practice into daily case management in an effort to achieve positive family and child outcomes. Practice Guidance is separate from Policy.

N/A

[Back to Top](#)