

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE MANUAL	
	Chapter 8: Out-of-Home Services	Effective Date: March 1, 2011
	Section 9: Placing a Child in Out-of-Home Care	Version: 3

POLICY

[REVISED] The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will provide the resource family with as much information about the child and his or her case as legally possible, including, but not limited to, the reason for removal, health care information, educational information, any alternate plan, and any special needs to the extent known. See Related Information for additional details. See separate policy, [2.6 Sharing Confidential Information](#).

At the time of placement, DCS will provide the daytime phone number(s) of the assigned Family Case Manager (FCM) and the emergency after-hours phone number for the DCS local office to:

1. The resource family; and
2. The child, if appropriate, based upon the child's age and developmental status.

Code References

N/A

PROCEDURE

Prior to placing the child, the FCM will:

1. Contact the resource family to confirm the placement; and
2. Conduct the required criminal history background checks, if the placement is in the home of an unlicensed relative. See separate policies, [13.5 Conducting Background Checks for Unlicensed Placements](#) and [13.6 Evaluation of Background Checks for Unlicensed Placements](#).

Upon arriving at the placement location, the FCM will:

1. Introduce the child to the resource family and inform the child when the FCM will return for a visit;
2. Confirm or clarify any information previously shared with the child and the resource family;
3. Advise the resource family to immediately decontaminate the child, if the child was removed from a meth lab and was not decontaminated prior to arriving at the placement location. See separate document, [Indiana Drug Endangered Children Protocol](#);
4. Provide the resource family with the following:
 - a. Full and accurate medical information (e.g., current conditions, history, a list of any medications the child is currently taking, and prescription information); [Medical Passport \(DCS Pamphlet 036 \(R2/3-06\)\)](#) and medical authorization card; Medicaid number and any other insurance cards the child may have. See separate policy, [8.29 Routine Health Care](#);
 - b. Relevant court orders and the Case Plan (SF 2956/DCS 0046);

- c. Any clothing and personal belongings that the child brought with him or her and/or information regarding securing emergency clothing for the child. See separate policy, [16.1 Clothing, Personal Items, and Permitted Per Diem Expenses](#),
 - d. Any relevant school information, if the child is attending school (e.g., name of the school, child's grade level, name of the teacher). See separate policies, [8.22 School Transfers and Legal Settlement](#), and [8.20 Educational Services](#),
 - e. The daytime contact number(s) for the FCM and the emergency after-hours phone number for the DCS local office,
 - f. Notification of any scheduled court hearings and/or Child and Family Team (CFT) Meetings. See separate policy, [5.7 Family Team Meetings](#).
5. Provide the resource family with a copy of the [Acknowledgment of Out of Home Policies](#) form and policies listed on that form, review the policies with the resource family, and answer any questions;
 6. Obtain resource family signatures on the [Acknowledgement of Out-of-Home Policies](#) form;
 7. Prepare a report for the court that includes the child's current placement information; and
 8. Ensure that a plan for visitation between the child and his or her sibling(s) (if placed separately) is developed within five (5) days of removal. See separate policy, [8.12 Developing the Visitation Plan](#).

PRACTICE GUIDANCE

N/A

FORMS AND TOOLS

1. [Acknowledgment of Out-of-Home Policies](#)
2. [Substitute Caregiver Agreement \(SF 47344/CW0015\)](#)
2. [Medical Passport \(DCS Pamphlet 036 \(R2/3-06\)\)](#)- Available only in hard copy
3. Visitation Plan
4. Case Plan (SF 2956/DCS 0046)

RELATED INFORMATION

N/A