



Administrative Policies and Procedures: 1.30

Subject:	Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children
Authority:	TCA 37-5-106, 37-4-201 – 37-4-207; P.L. 109-239 Safe & Timely Interstate Placement of Foster Children Act of 2006; P.L.110-351 Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008
Standards:	DCS Standards: 6-501 A, Chapters V-IX
Application:	Department of Children's Services and other Public or private Child Agencies in Party States, Licensed Child-Caring and Child-Placing Agencies, Courts, Tribes and Parents/ Relatives/Guardians

Policy Statement:

The State of Tennessee is a party to the *Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC)* and as such cooperates with the other member states in accordance with the provisions of the Compact.

The Tennessee Department of Children's Services (DCS) is assigned responsibility to administer the ICPC among and between party states/agencies and with community partners to ensure protection and services to children who are placed across state lines for the purpose of foster care, adoption or facility placement.

The TN DCS Office of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC):

- ◆ Is the clearinghouse for all requests for placement and other services pursuant to the ICPC;
- ◆ Is authorized to determine decisions regarding placement and permanency pursuant to the ICPC;
- ◆ Establishes and promulgates policies and procedures to be used by the designated parties for compliance with the ICPC and in conjunction with other applicable child-welfare laws;
- ◆ Monitors and enforces compliance with law, policy and procedure applicable to the ICPC;
- ◆ Maintains data collection in the current child welfare information system; files reports;
- ◆ Provides information, technical assistance and consultation to all parties involved in or with the ICPC; and
- ◆ Designs and implements basic training/orientation on ICPC procedures.

Purpose:	
<p>The purpose of the ICPC is to ensure protection and services to children who are placed across state lines for the purpose of foster care, adoption, or facility placements. These protections and services are the same as would be provided to the child or children if they remained in their home state or jurisdiction. All relevant federal and state child-welfare laws and policy that applies to a child in Tennessee applies to that child if placed across state lines.</p>	
Procedures:	
<p>A. Overview of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children</p>	<p>The Compact establishes orderly procedures for the interstate placement of children and specifies responsibility for those involved in placing the child. In order to safeguard both the child and the parties involved in the child's placement, the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides the sending agency the opportunity to obtain home studies and an evaluation of the proposed placement. 2. Allows the prospective receiving state to ensure that the placement is not "contrary to the interests of the child"; and that its applicable laws and policies have been followed before a decision regarding placement is issued. 3. Guarantees the child legal and financial protection by fixing these responsibilities with the sending agency or individual. 4. Ensures that the sending agency maintains jurisdiction over the child sufficient to determine all matters in relation to custody, supervision, care and disposition of the child which it would have had if the child remained in the sending agency's state; and 5. Provides the sending agency the opportunity to obtain supervision and regular reports on the child's adjustment and progress in the placement promoting permanency.
<p>B. ICPC Policies and Procedures Manual</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All matters relating to the ICPC shall be administered in accordance to the ICPC statute, promulgated ICPC Regulations, Tennessee Code Annotated child-welfare citations, and Department of Children's Services child welfare policies and procedures as established herein. 2. The DCS <i>Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children Practices and Procedures Manual</i> contained herein includes, but is not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Definitions of the types of placements and placers subject to the law; b) Procedures to be followed in making an interstate placement; c) Procedures to be followed in accommodating a placement; d) The specific protections, services and requirement brought by the enactment of the law; and

	e) Penalties for non-compliance.
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Forms:	<u>CS-0523, ICPC 100B Interstate Compact Report on Child's Placement Status</u> <u>CS-0525, ICPC 100A Interstate Compact Placement Request</u> <u>CS-0563, ICPC 101 Sending State's Priority Home Study Request (ICPC Regulation #7 Only)</u> <u>CS-0682, Expedited Placement Summary</u> <u>CS-0795 ICPC Financial-Medical Plan</u> <u>CS-0796, ICPC Referral Checklist</u>
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Collateral Documents:	<u>Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children(ICPC) Regulations</u> <u>DCS Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children Practices and Procedures Manual</u>
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