

	GEORGIA DIVISION OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES		
	MEDICAID POLICY MANUAL		
	Chapter:	2800	Effective Date:
Policy Title:	Ineligibility For IV-E		
Policy Number:	2880	Previous Policy Update:	MT 45

REQUIREMENTS

There are circumstances that cause a child to no longer be IV-E eligible. Once a child loses IV-E eligibility, s/he cannot be IV-E eligible or reimbursable during the current placement episode.

BASIC CONSIDERATIONS

A child will lose IV-E eligibility if one of the following circumstances exists:

- The child no longer meets age requirement;
- DFCS no longer has custody per a court order;
- The child is in DFCS care and responsibility under a voluntary placement agreement (VPA) and a judicial determination to the effect that continued voluntary placement is in the best interests of the child was not obtained within 180 days of the signed VPA;
- The child is on a trial home visit or run away status beyond six months or the trial home visit exceeds the time frame authorized by the court.

The court may return a child who has been in out-of-home care back into the removal home for a *trial visit* for an unspecified period of time. If the trial visit, with continuous DFCS custody, is six months or less and the child returns to out-of-home care, the child retains IV-E eligibility. If the court authorizes a time frame longer than six months, the child can retain IV-E eligibility, provided the child returns to out-of-home care at the end of the specified time frame.

Special eligibility considerations exist when a child returns home on a trial visit.

- A child is never reimbursable when living in the home of a parent
- If the six-month time frame or the court's authorized time frame is exceeded, the child loses IV-E eligibility. If the child subsequently re-enters care, the

BASIC CONSIDERATIONS

placement is considered a new episode. A new initial custody order must be obtained pertaining to the current removal including a judicial determination of *contrary to the welfare/best interest and reasonable efforts to prevent removal*. A new IV-E eligibility determination must be made based on the child's eligibility in the home which s/he was subsequently removed.

- The same IV-E principles for trial home visits apply to IV-E eligible children on run away status.