

2801 - ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN IN PLACEMENT OVERVIEW

POLICY STATEMENT	<p>The Assistance to Children in Placement Chapter contains policy on Medicaid Classes of Assistance (COA) and procedures associated with children who are under the care and supervision of the state Child Welfare Agency.</p>
BASIC CONSIDERATIONS	<p>Children who are in placement may be eligible for Medicaid coverage under several COAs. These include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IV-E Foster Care or IV-E Adoption Assistance• SSI• Child Welfare Foster Care <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Right From the Start Medicaid (RSM)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">State Adoption Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medically Needy• Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA). <p>Children who are IV-E or SSI eligible are automatically eligible for Medicaid. Therefore, eligibility for IV-E should always be considered first by the Revenue Maximization Medicaid Eligibility Specialist (MES). If the child is not eligible for IV-E or SSI benefits, other classes of assistance should be considered in the order above.</p> <p>The state receives reimbursement for administrative costs based on the total number of children eligible for IV-E. In order for a state to receive federal reimbursement for the foster care maintenance costs of an individual child in care, the child must meet both eligibility and reimbursability criteria. Initial eligibility is determined once, while reimbursability may change on a monthly basis depending on the placement, the child's income and other factors. A child who is non-reimbursable is also ineligible for administrative costs.</p> <p>Coordination between the Social Services Case Manager (SSCM) and the Revenue Maximization MES is critical in determining coverage for children in placement.</p>

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)**

The SSCM is responsible for the following:

- Makes referral to the eligibility section on all children entering out-of-home care.
- Collects child and family data for the initial determination of eligibility at the Revenue Maximization MES' request.
- Reviews court orders for the required judicial determinations and provides copies of the initial order placing the child in foster care, the "*contrary to the welfare*" order, the "*reasonable efforts*" order, all custody extension orders, TPR orders, all permanency plan language orders, and any other documents of the court pertaining to the child to the Revenue Maximization MES.
- Provides notification of changes in placement and other eligibility factors to the Revenue Maximization MES.
- Initiates action with the Social Security Administration for children receiving SSI.
- Provides requested information/documentation to the Revenue Maximization MES for redeterminations.

The Revenue Maximization MES is responsible for the following:

- Determines initial eligibility for IV-E and other Medicaid classes of assistance.
- Notifies the SSCM/JPPS if child and family data is needed for initial determination.
- Completes Form 529 for initial determination, class of assistance changes, each review and case closures. This form is not signed by the Revenue Maximization MES.
- Refers the absent parent(s) to Office of Child Support Services when appropriate. Refer to [Section 2851](#), Child Support Referrals, for exception criteria
- Completes six-month redeterminations.

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)****CHILDREN IN JOINT
CUSTODY WITH DJJ**

Situations will occur when DFCS and DJJ share custody of a child. In these situations of joint custody the agency responsible for the placement of the child is responsible for the initial IV-E determination and any subsequent reviews.