

# Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC)

## Background Notes

Many of the children who are placed in foster care in Oregon have relatives who live out of state. DHS values placing children with family members, and we are required to search diligently for absent parents as well as relatives. Prior to placing a child in a home that is out of the state of Oregon, we must follow the rules and regulations of the Interstate Compact Agreement on the Placement of Children. We must also **receive permission** from ICPC before a child can be placed out of state. The primary purpose of the required use of the ICPC is to protect the child's interests. When placement is into another state, it is the authorities in that state that have the best opportunity to evaluate the proposed placement resource and the placement environment. It is also the person in the receiving state who is onsite to monitor the placement and to provide professional progress reports. The ICPC allows Oregon's jurisdiction to follow the child into the receiving state and Oregon remains responsible for the child's physical, medical and emotional well-being.

## Tasks / Assignments:

- Ask your Supervisor to view a case in which ICPC has been requested from another state or in which another state is requesting services from Oregon. What kinds of information are put into the request? Talk with the worker to find out approximately how long the process takes to receive an answer about whether or not a child can be placed out of state. What is the state's responsibility when they place a child out of state or when they receive a child from another state?
- Review the ICPC handbook (DHS 9053). You should be able to find a copy of this in your office or on the DHS forms website. Keep a copy of the handbook for future reference.
- Attend the ICPC NetLink if possible.

## Discoveries:

- *What did you learn about transitioning a child out of state or receiving a child from another state?*
- *How long does it take to get a home study completed in another state?*
- *How long does it take to place a child out of state?*
- *Are there ways to make the process quicker?*
- *Does the receiving state have to follow our policies regarding home studies and contact requirements?*

