

# ARKANSAS STATE PAGE

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## **COMPACT ADMINISTRATOR**

L. Dean Godfrey  
Department of Health and HealthHHuman Services  
Services

Division of Children & Family Services  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S567  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437  
Telephone: (501) 682-8556  
Email: [Dean.Godfrey@Arkansas.gov](mailto:Dean.Godfrey@Arkansas.gov)

## **DEPUTY COMPACT ADMINISTRATOR**

Patricia Robins  
Department of Health and Human

Division of Children & Family Services  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S567  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437  
Telephone: (501) 682-8557  
Email: [patricia.robins@arkansas.gov](mailto:patricia.robins@arkansas.gov)

### **Federal Express Address**

Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Children & Family Services  
Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children  
Donaghey Plaza South  
700 Main, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor (7<sup>th</sup> & Main Streets)  
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Address Correspondence and Telephone Calls To:** Deputy Compact Administrator

**ICPC Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Central Time Zone.

**FAX:** (501) 682-8561 (Call for approval before faxing a dozen or more pages)

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**ICPC Code Citation.** Ark. Stat. Ann. S 83-1201 et seq.

**Statutory Penalties Under Article IV.** Arkansas has enacted no criminal penalties for violation of Interstate Compact. See also Chapter IV of the Arkansas Criminal Code (offenses against the family) codified as Ark. Stat. Ann. S 41-2401 et seq.

**Age of Majority.** Eighteen (18) years of age. Ark. Stat. Ann. S 45-403.

**Court Jurisdiction.** Juvenile Court: Jurisdiction over delinquent children, children in need of supervision, and dependent/neglected children. Circuit Court: Jurisdiction of criminal trials for those under eighteen (18), discretionary; appeal de novo from Juvenile Court; emancipation; change of name. Chancery Court: Jurisdiction over all custody except specifically reserved to Juvenile Court and emancipation and change of name. Probate Court: Jurisdiction over guardianship including power to consent to adoption and adoption.

## **SPECIAL INFORMATION**

**Custody Investigations.** Requests for investigations concerning custody disputes and/or divorce action should be forwarded to the appropriate county Chancery Court.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

**Reports.** Reports on foster homes are required quarterly or more often if requested. Four (4) reports on adoptive homes are required for the first six (6) months.

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Licensing Requirements. Day care centers, residential centers, group homes and foster homes are licensed by the Child Care Facility Review Board, unless exempt by law. Division of Social Services foster homes, exempt from licensing, are approved by the County Offices. Child Placement Agencies (i.e., any agency who plans for the placement of or places a child in an institution, foster home, or adoptive home) must be licensed by the Commissioner of the Division of Social Services of the Department of Human Services. Doctors and lawyers actively engaged in practice in Arkansas are exempt. Ark. Stat. Ann. S 83-1209-83-1221. Arkansas requires approval or licensing of facilities it uses in other states in accordance with their state law.

### **PLACEMENTS**

Independent Adoptive Placements. Lawful. ICPC procedures must be followed by the parties involved in the independent placement.

Adoption Petition. Petition must be filed in Probate Court by prospective adoptive parents. Arkansas requires six (6) months placement prior to finalization.

#### Residential Placements.

-Placements Requiring Interstate Approval: All residential placements require interstate approval with the exception of facilities that are educational or medical.

-Requirements for Placement: Same requirements for all ICPC placements.

-Approval of Facilities: Responsibility for licensing facilities lies with the Child Care Facility Review Board. Licenses are reviewed annually.

-Rate Setting: Private facilities determine their own rates. State Agencies who contract with facilities negotiate the rate with the facility.

-Monitoring of the Child: Responsibility of monitoring lies with the sending agency and the facility unless other arrangements are negotiated prior to the placement.

-Philosophy for the Placement of Non-resident Youth: Placement must comply with Interstate Compact requirements and be in the best interest of the child.

Requirements for Foster Care Placements. Licensure/approval/certification for foster homes is required. Receiving state's method of regulating foster homes will be accepted.

### **PAYMENTS**

AFDC Payments. AFDC payments are provided on behalf of non-resident children/youth placed in Arkansas with relatives.

Medicaid Payments. Children eligible for Medicaid in Arkansas are also eligible to receive Medicaid coverage out of state. The vendor must be approved by Arkansas Medical Services, Division of Social Services. Medical expenses not paid under Medicaid on children in Arkansas Social Services' custody will be paid by Arkansas Social Services. For non-Social Services' children, the sending agency is responsible for payments. Foster Care Payments. The sending state's rate is paid.

Special Education Payments. We do not have policy at this time.

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## **USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Child Abuse/Registry. Calls from outside Arkansas are toll free. Telephone: 1-800-482-5964.

Juvenile Compact Office. Telephone: (501) 682-1929.

Mental Health Compact Office. Telephone: (501) 686-9045.

Adult Compact. Telephone: (501) 682-9510.