

MAINE STATE PAGE

COMPACT ADMINISTRATOR

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DEPUTY COMPACT ADMINISTRATOR

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All Placements

Interstate Placement Specialist

Address Correspondence and Telephone Calls To: Deputy Compact Administrator.

ICPC Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time Zone.

FAX: (207) 287-5282

GENERAL INFORMATION

ICPC Code Citation. 22 M.R.S.A., Sec. 4191 to 4200.

Statutory Penalties. Fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than 6 months. 22 M.R.S.A., Sec. 3800.

Age of Majority. 18 years. 22 M.R.S.A., Secs. 3700, 4192.

Court Jurisdiction.

-Probate Court: Adoption; surrender and release for adoption of child still in custody of own parents. Title 18-A, Article IX, Section 9-301.

-District Court: Child protection orders, termination of parental rights, both voluntary and involuntary, when a child is committed to the Department. 22 M.R.S.A., 4000 et seq. (1960) known as juvenile court when handling juvenile cases (15 M.R.S.A. Sec. 2551).

-Concurrent Jurisdiction: Probate court and District court. Child protection orders. 22 M.R.S.A. Sec. 4031 et seq. (1960).

REQUIREMENTS

Reports. Quarterly.

Licensing Requirements. Agencies or persons caring for or placing children under 18 years of age must be licensed. 22 M.R.S.A.; Sub Title 6, Chapters 1661 and 1663.

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PLACEMENTS

Independent Adoptive Placements. Independent adoptions are legal, but must be preceded by a social study of the adoptive family, child, and child's bio-parents. Anyone who advertises himself or holds himself out as finding homes for children for the purpose of adoptions must be licensed. 22 M.R.S.A., Chapter 1671, Sec. 8204. Advertisement must include statement that any interstate adoption must be done in compliance with 22 M.R.S.A. Chapter 1153.

Adoption Petition. Resident or non-resident may file petition in Probate Court of legal residence of adoptive parents, child, or placing agency. Title 18-A, Article IX, Sections 9-104 and Section 9-301. There is no specific requirement in Law for when an adoptive petition is filed in independent adoptions. However, a study by a licensed child placing agency is mandatory in all instances when the child is not related to the petitioner(s). The court may require that the child have lived in the home of the petitioners for one year before granting a decree of adoption. If agency adoption, petition is filed after successful completion of probationary experience. Title 18-A, Article IX, Section 9-304. Jurisdiction to grant such adoption and change of name shall be in the County where the person to be adopted lives, or in the County where the petitioner resides or the petitioners reside, or in the County in which the placing agency having custody of the child is located. Title 18-A, Article IX, Section 9-104.

Residential Placement.

-Placements Requiring Interstate Approval: All placements in Children's Residential Facilities.

-Requirements for Placements: ICPC-100A, letter of acceptance from the facility, and financial and medical plan. All placements must be in accord with provisions of the Compact.

-Approval of Facilities: The Department of Human Services and Department of Education are responsible for licensing/and approval of children's residential facilities. The Department of Human Services also licenses mental health and substance abuse programs in children's residential facilities.

-Rate Setting: Rates for Maine children are negotiated jointly by the Departments of Behavioral and Development Service, Corrections, Education and Human Services. For non-resident children, rates negotiated between the placing agency and facility.

-Monitoring of the Child: Responsibility of the sending agency and the facility.

-Philosophy for the Placement of Non-Resident Youth: Placements to be made in licensed facilities, appropriate to the needs of the children placed. Legal and financial responsibilities remain with the sending agencies.

Requirements for Foster Care Placements. Licensure is required for each foster home caring for children under 18 years of age. Approval for the placement of individual children is required.

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PAYMENTS

TANF Payments. Payments by Maine agencies are prohibited on behalf of children who are wards of sending state.

Foster Care Payments. For Maine children placed in foster care in another state, Maine foster care rates will be paid.

Medicaid Payments. Payments provided for Maine children placed with foster parents and relatives in other states. Payments are based on Maine Medicaid rates.

Special Education Payments. Payments provided for youth placed in Maine at the option of the boards of education.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Child Abuse/Neglect Registry and Hotline. 24 hour phone coverage with on call child protective social workers statewide. In-state toll-free telephone: (800) 452-1999. Out of state telephone non toll free: (207) 287-2983.

Juvenile Compact Office. Telephone: (207) 287-4340.

SPECIAL INFORMATION

Custody Investigation Reports. This service is not provided by the Department unless there is an indication of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of the child in his current situation. In the instance of alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation, the matter will be referred to the Department of Human Services, Child Protective Intake.