

NEW YORK STATE PAGE

COMPACT ADMINISTRATOR

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DEPUTY COMPACT ADMINISTRATOR

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Rensselaer, NY 12144-2796

PLEASE DO NOT ADDRESS CASE SPECIFIC CORRESPONDENCE TO ANY SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL AS THIS WILL DELAY DELIVERY AND PROCESSING.

TELEPHONE CALLS/CASELOAD ASSIGNMENTS: Caseload is divided alphabetically by the last name of the child(ren) concerned. For cases with multiple last names, use the last name occurring first alphabetically.

All PRIVATE Adoptions & Residentials M-Z (supervises adoption unit)

Jim Keeler (518) 473-1591
Email: James.Keeler@ocfs.state.ny.us

All PUBLIC Adoptions & Residentials A-L

Bob Burns (518) 402-6521

Children with last names A thru G (foster care, parent, relative)

Lucy Bolden (518) 408-0767

Children with last names H thru M (foster care, parent, relative) (supervises foster care unit)

Migdalia Czelusniak (518) 402-6774
Email: Migdalia.Czelusniak@ocfs.state.ny.us

Children with last names N thru Z (foster care, parent, relative)

Sharon Jocelyn (518) 474-9582
Email: Sharonbeth.Jocelyn@ocfs.state.ny.us

ICPC Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

FAX: (518) 486-6326

NEW YORK STATE PAGE

GENERAL INFORMATION

ICPC Code Citation. McKinney's Social Services Law, Section 374-a.

Statutory Penalties Under Article IV. Any persons, corporation, agency, society institution or organization, willfully violating Article 6, Title 1 of the Social Services Law pertaining to "care and protection of children" and/or guilty of a misdemeanor, on 389(1) of the Social Services Law. Any person who or other legal entity which violates the provision of Section 374(6) of the Social Services Law pertaining to the request, acceptance or reception of compensation or thing of value, directly or indirectly, for placing out a child shall be guilty of a misdemeanor for the first offense, and a felony after having been once convicted of violating such provision (Section 389 [2] of the Social Services Law). Failure of an out-of-state person, agency or other legal entity to comply with the responsibilities associated with an interstate placement can result in a termination of licensure and/or a forfeiture of such portion of a blanket indemnity bond as is appropriate (Section 382 of the Social Services Law).

Age of Majority. 18 years. McKinney's Social Services Law, Section 371 (1978-1979 Supp.) foster care and adoption subsidy payments may be continued to 21 years.

Court Jurisdiction. Family Court and Surrogate Court have concurrent jurisdiction over Adoption proceedings (Section 641 of the FCA), and termination of parental rights (Section 384-b of the Social Services Law; Sections 611-634 of the Family Court Act). As a matter of practice, the Family Court has exclusive jurisdiction over support proceedings, (Section 411 of the FCA) abuse and neglect proceedings (Section 1013 of the FCA) and juvenile delinquency (Section 713 of the FCA).

SPECIAL INFORMATION

Custody Investigations. Requests are to be sent directly to the Probation Department of the local county in which the party to be investigated resides. EXCEPTION: Requests of New York City and its boroughs are to be sent to: Dr. Wilda Chevers, Deputy Commissioner of Family Court Services, Office of Probation, 115 Leonard Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10013.

REQUIREMENTS

Reports. Required semi-annually or as requested on the ICPC-100A. McKinney's Social Services Law, Section 372. The Child Welfare Reform Act of 1979 also requires that the child in the jurisdiction of a New York Agency must have a service plan and a Uniform Case Record (Social Services Law 409[e] and [f]).

Licensing Requirements. In New York State a local department of social services issues a license to a family to board children placed directly by parents, relatives or guardians. If a family desiring to board children is to receive payment, their home must be certified by either the local department of social services or by a state approved child caring agency. (Social Services Laws 375-379.)

NEW YORK STATE PAGE

PLACEMENTS

Independent Adoptive Placements. A parent, legal guardian, or relative may place a child out. (Social Services Law, Section 374[2].)

New York Social Services Law 382 and 371(10)(c) requires that any individual or agency placing a child for adoption into New York must be licensed or approved in its home state and must obtain approval from New York to make adoptive placement. The New York State Interstate Compact Office should be contacted for further information.

Adoption Petition. Requirements for a petition to adopt through an authorized agency are found in Sections 112-114 of the Domestic Relations Law; requirements for a petition to adopt by way of a private placement adoption are found in Sections 115-116 of the Domestic Relations Law. Generally, the child must reside with the adoptive parents for three months before an order of adoption would be granted in an agency adoption. (Section 112 [6] of the Domestic Relations Law); a three-month waiting period commencing on the date of receipt by the court of a petition to adopt is required for the processing of a private placement adoption. (Section 116 [1] of the Domestic Relations Law.) In both instances, the court may reduce the period. Adoption proceedings are to be instituted in the county where the adoptive parents reside or the authorized agency has its principle office (Section 115 [1] of the Domestic Relations Law).

Residential Placements.

-Placements Requiring Interstate Approval: All residential placements require Interstate approval with the exception of those facilities which care for the mentally ill, mentally defective or epileptic, or are primarily educational or medical in nature.

-Requirements for Placements: ICPC-100A, Child Summary, diagnostic evaluations and custody documents.

-Approval of Facilities: New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) approves authorized child caring agencies and issues operating certificates for residential programs for youths generally under 18 years old operated by such authorized agencies. The approval of OCFS is not required for residential programs for youth which fall within the jurisdiction of the Department of Health, the Office of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disability of the State Education Department.

-Rating Setting: Rates are negotiated between the facility and the sending agency. The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) sets standards of payments for foster care (Section 398-a of the Social Services Law).

-Monitoring of the Child: The sending agency is ultimately responsible for all arrangements made for the purpose of supervising and monitoring its interstate placement unless otherwise appropriately discharged.

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

NEW YORK STATE PAGE

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

TANF Payments. TANF payments are available to an eligible child whose residence is in the State of New York. Eligibility will continue during periods of temporary absence from the State. Such payments are not generally available to a child placed into New York State whose care and custody is the responsibility of an out-of-state public or private child caring sending agency.

Medicaid Payments. Medicaid payments are available for an eligible child who was a resident of New York State at the time such child came under the care and custody of an authorized private or public child care agency in New York State. Eligibility will continue under the care and custody of the authorized agency. Such payments are generally not available while care and custody of the child, placed into New York State, is the responsibility of the out-of-state public sending agency.

Foster Care Payments. Available at the New York State rate to an eligible child who has been placed by an authorized agency into receiving state. Such payments are not available to a child who has been placed into New York State while under the care and custody of an out-of-state sending agency.

Special Education Payments. The responsibility of sending state.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Child Abuse Hotline. Calls from outside New York are not toll free. Telephone: (518) 474-8740.

Juvenile Compact Office. Telephone: (518) 473-4512 (Runaways), (518) 474-8082 (other Juvenile Compact Cases).

Mental Health Compact Office. Telephone: (518) 474-8933.