

INTERSTATE COMPACTS

There are three (3) interstate compacts that may affect children and youth in care.

- **Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC)**
- **Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ)**
- **Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (ICAMA)**

Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC)

This is an agreement among the states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands that establishes standardized procedures for the placement of children across state lines. The ICPC offers services and provides protections to a child moved across state lines for purposes of placement in foster care, adoption or reunification with parents. The ICPC assigns legal and financial responsibility, details eligibility and home study processes and outlines requirements for termination and courtsey supervision.

The Compact applies to placement:

- Prior to adoption
- In foster care, including foster homes, group homes, certain residential treatment facilities and institutions
- With a parent or relative when a parent or relative is not making the placement
- Of a youth adjudicated delinquent in an institution in another state

The following placements are exempt from the Compact:

- In any institution that is primarily educational
- In a medical or mental health facility
- Of a child, who is not in the temporary custody, custody, or under the guardianship of the Department, with a close relative (parent, stepparent, grandparent, adult brother or sister, uncle or aunt or child's non-agency guardian) when the placement is initiated by another close relative.

Compact Administrator: Kathleen Letourneau (Kathleen.Letourneau@dcyf.ri.gov)

Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ)

This is an agreement among the states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands that establishes procedural means to effect and regulate the movement of a juvenile across state lines while

serving the ends of justice, the welfare of the youth, and the protection of the community. Also, it serves as the only legal process for returning runaways.

There are four categories of youth who may be involved with this Compact:

- Youth living in RI who were adjudicated and sentenced to probation in another state
- Youth placed on probation in RI but who are living in another state
- Youth on probation in RI who are traveling to another state for a short time, either on vacation, to test a placement, etc.
- Youth who runaway to or from RI. These youth include those on probation; youth who runaway while charges are pending; escapes from a facility or non-delinquent runaways. Non-delinquent runaways may or may not be involved with DCYF.

RI Commissioner for the ICJ: Kevin McKenna (Kevin.McKenna@dcyf.ri.gov); Deputy Administrator: JoAnn Niksa (JoAnn.Niksa@dcyf.ri.gov)

Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (ICAMA)

This is an agreement among 49 states and the District of Columbia that provides for uniformity and consistency of policy and procedure when a family from one state adopts a child with special needs from another, or the adoptive family moves to another state.

The children covered by ICAMA are those:

- Adopted pursuant to adoption assistance agreements between states and prospective adoptive parents under the terms of Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.
- States may also extend these protections to children adopted through state-funded adoption assistance programs.

Compact Administrator: Diane Savage (Diane.Savage@dcyf.ri.gov)