

Eric J. Holcomb, Governor Eric Miller, Director

"Children will live in safe, healthy and supportive families and communities."

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, call the Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline at (800) 800-5556.

Date: July 3, 2024 To: All DCS Staff

From: Eric Miller, Director

Subject: Adoption Assistance Eligibility Update

DCS-2024-3

Late last month, the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) announced changes to the adoption assistance program designed to remove barriers to permanency and meet children's needs. DCS is excited to share that the agency is implementing additional changes to the eligibility criteria for adoption assistance.

Effective July 1, 2024, a child under the age of two (2) may now be eligible for a subsidy. This change will allow more families to receive assistance in meeting their children's needs.

Foster parents who are interested in applying may contact DCSAdoption@dcs.in.gov for more information about eligibility requirements or call 1-888-25-ADOPT (1-888-252-3678). DCS is providing separate communication to foster parents regarding this update.

This change impacts the following policies:

- 1. 10.14 Indiana Adoption Assistance Program Overview
- 2. 10.15 Eligibility Requirements for Adoption Assistance

The above policies will be updated to reflect these changes. Please send any questions regarding this information to <u>Central Eligibility Unit</u>.

APPROVED

Date: 7/1/2024

Eric Miller

Director, Indiana Department of Child Services

