Monday, April 13, 2020

The Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children
During COVID-19
DCF Order #27

The Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) remains in effect, though practice and circumstances of individual states, counties, and agencies may be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Wisconsin ICPC continues to accept outgoing referrals from counties to place children outside of Wisconsin, as well as assign home study and supervision requests to counties for referrals from other states.

Wisconsin counties are required to continue working on and accepting new home study and supervision requests, but DCF acknowledges that work may need to be adjusted or delayed. Counties should proceed with completing case work, home studies, and home visits according to guidance published on the DCF COVID-19 website.

If a Wisconsin county has an approved ICPC and is ready to place a child outside of WI, the county should communicate with the WI ICPC office to discuss any restrictions the receiving state may have on children traveling to that state (self-isolation or quarantine requirements, etc.). Similarly, the WI ICPC office will communicate with WI counties prior to out-of-state children being placed in Wisconsin to ensure the county does not have any specific requirements of the child and family related to travel.

Out-of-state facilities may be experiencing constraints or changing policy around admissions. This is specific to the state and facility. The national ICPC office continues to collect updated information from states on the status of specific travel restrictions or COVID-19 planning and practice. If you have specific questions about an ICPC case, please contact the assigned ICPC Specialist.