



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor  
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**Child Support Hotline: 800-840-8757**  
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Dear field staff,

I am writing to share an important update with you. This session, the General Assembly passed legislation (HEA 1001) that requires DCS to negotiate certain adoption subsidies starting at no less than 50% of the per diem paid for the child while in foster care. This is effective July 1, 2021. As written, the legislation impacts only children with a CANS score of 3 or higher whose subsidies would be funded by the State Adoption Subsidy (SAS), not IV-E Adoption Assistance Program (AAP). As you know, this would apply to a very small number of children and families we serve.

Adoption is one of the important ways we achieve permanency for children, and dollars and cents should never stand in the way of a forever home. Thank you for all you do to step up for children at this critical juncture in their lives. I appreciate each and every one of you.

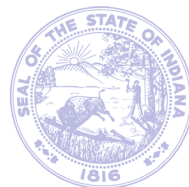
- In light of this, DCS is updating its policy to apply the 50% starting point to negotiations for all children with a CANS score of 3 or above, regardless of the source of their subsidy funding, starting with any cases in negotiations as of July 1, 2021.
  - Please note that this new process will not be applied retroactively.
  - This also applies to children who are eligible for GAP or SGAP with a CANS score of 3 or above. This recognizes that children with CANS scores of 3 or above often have complex needs that are not always easy to break down to a dollar amount during negotiations.

Adoption is one of the important ways we achieve permanency for children, and dollars and cents should never stand in the way of a forever home. Thank you for all you do to step up for children at this critical juncture in their lives. I appreciate each and every one of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terry Stigdon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Terry Stigdon, MSN, RN  
Director  
Indiana Department of Child Services



*Indiana children will live in safe, healthy and supportive families and communities.*