

Child Welfare Policy Manual

Questions & Answers

8.2C TITLE IV-E, Adoption Assistance Program, Interstate Compact

1. Question: What is the definition or description of the term "interstate compact" as used in the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Amendments of 1980 (Public Law 96-272)?

Answer: An interstate compact is an instrument to assure provisions for the protection of the interests of the child receiving agreed-upon financial assistance or other supportive services under a currently effective adoption assistance agreement when the adoptive parents and the child adopted under the agreement move to another State (Social Security Act, section 475 (3)). The Act requires that adoption assistance agreements remain in effect regardless of the State in which the adoptive parents are residents at any given time.

- **Source/Date:** ACYF-CB-PIQ-81-03 (10/20/81)
- **Legal and Related References:** Social Security Act - section 475