

Child Welfare Policy Manual

Questions & Answers

8.2D.2 TITLE IV-E, Adoption Assistance Program, Payments, Duration

1. Question: May a title IV-E agency limit the duration of payments pursuant to an adoption assistance agreement?

Answer: Title IV-E agencies may limit the duration of payments under an adoption assistance agreement for individual eligible children to a period which may end prior to the child's eighteenth birthday, if the decision is made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the provisions of section 473 (a)(2) of the Social Security Act. Title IV-E agencies may not have a blanket policy which limits the duration of all adoption assistance payments to a date earlier than the eighteenth birthday of eligible children, although a time limit may be set in individual cases with the concurrence of the adopting parents, depending on the needs of the child and the circumstances of the parents.

- **Source/Date:** ACYF-CB-PIQ-81-02 (12/8/81)
- **Legal and Related References:** Social Security Act - section 473