



## AAICAMA FAQs Series

### Medicaid and Title IV-E Adoption Assistance

#### 1. Question: Is it mandatory for a child to receive Medicaid if the child is eligible for title IV-E adoption assistance?

**Yes**, it is mandatory for children to receive Medicaid if they are eligible for title IV-E adoption assistance. Individuals eligible for title IV-E adoption assistance are in a Medicaid eligibility group known as 'mandatory categorically needy'. This means that their receipt of Medicaid is automatic by virtue of their eligibility for title IV-E adoption assistance.

Note: A separate Medicaid application is unnecessary and precluded by law.

*Cite: 42 U.S.C. §1396a (10)(A)(i)(I); 42 C.F.R. §§435.115(1), 435.145, 435.909 and 436.114.*

**Note:** Medicaid is not an automatic benefit of state-funded adoption assistance. All states provide Medicaid to state-funded adoption assistance eligible children when the child resides/remains in the adoption assistance state. However, if a child is placed for adoption outside the state with custody of the child, or if a child moves out of state after placement, they are not guaranteed to receive Medicaid in the new state of residence. Many states provide Medicaid to resident children who have a state-funded adoption assistance agreement with another state, but some states do not.

U.S.C. refers to the United States Code  
C.F.R. refers to the Code of Federal Regulations