11. Question: Can Medicaid be terminated or suspended if a state attempts to withhold title IV-E adoption assistance payments while a child is in a Residential Treatment Facility?

No, Medicaid cannot be terminated or suspended if a state attempts to withhold title IV-E adoption assistance payments while a child is in a Residential Treatment Facility. Title IV-E adoption assistance can be terminated only under three conditions. Title IV-E adoption assistance cannot be terminated, suspended, or discontinued for any other reason. Withholding adoption assistance payments due to a temporary placement outside the home, as in the circumstance of an RTF placement, is impermissible. As long as a parent continues to provide any support* to the child, the child remains eligible for title IV-E adoption assistance and is, therefore, Medicaid eligible.

*Note: Support can be other than financial, such as providing items of clothing or maintenance of the child’s room in the home.

Cite: 42 U.S.C. 673 (a)(4).