AAICAMA FAQs Series

Medicaid and State-Funded Adoption Assistance

4. Question: What is meant by the term ‘COBRA-reciprocity’ in reference to state-funded adoption assistance and Medicaid receipt?

Answer: States can choose to provide Medicaid to resident children with whom they have a state-funded adoption assistance agreement. This is the COBRA option. States can also currently choose whether to provide Medicaid to resident children who have state-funded adoption assistance agreements with other states. This is known as COBRA-reciprocity. If a state has ‘COBRA reciprocity’ with another state, it means that the state will provide Medicaid to resident children with whom the other state has a state-funded adoption assistance agreement. Not all states provide Medicaid to resident children with adoption assistance agreements funded through other states.

Note: Please see AAICAMA website at http://www.aaicama.org for AAICAMA’s current listing of state policies regarding the interstate provision of Medicaid to state-funded adoption assistance eligible children.