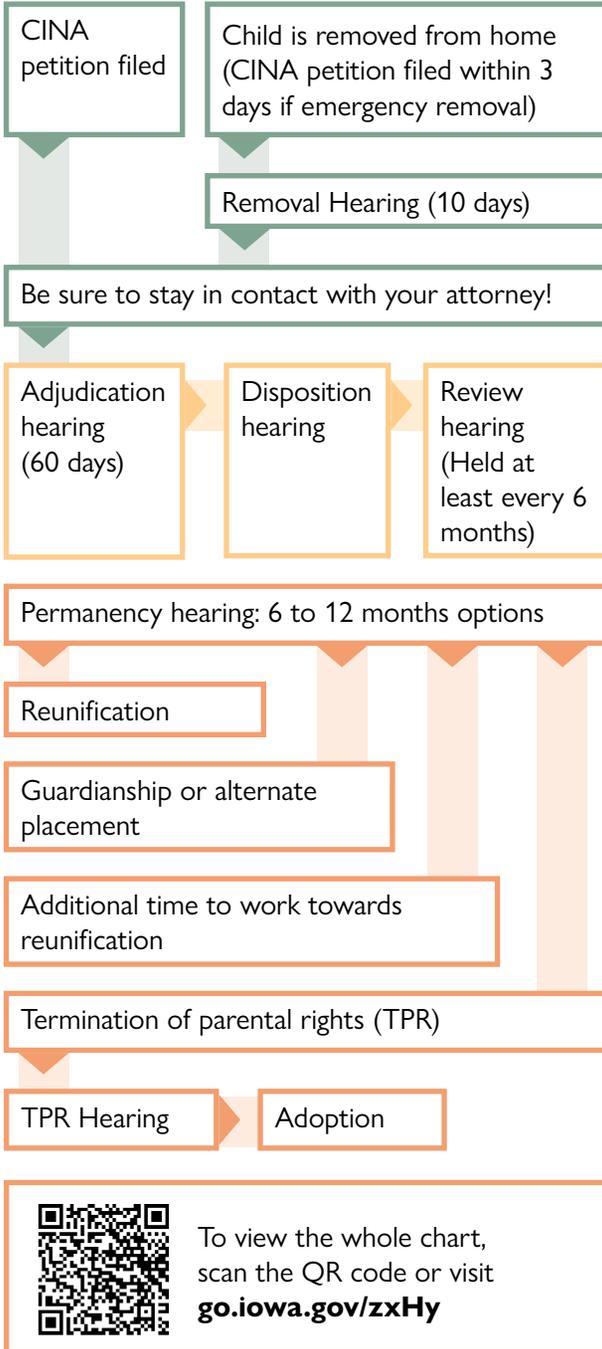


CINA Flowchart

A Child in Need of Assistance (CINA) petition is filed when the state believes a child is in need of assistance for legal reasons.



Most Common Acronyms

- | | |
|--|--|
| HHS – Iowa Department of Health and Human Services | GAL – Guardian Ad Litem |
| CINA – Child in Need of Assistance | ICWA – Indian Child Welfare Act |
| CPW – Child Protection Worker | NCP – Non-Custodial Parent |
| CSC – Child Safety Conference | PMIC – Psychiatric Mental Institution for Children |
| FCS – Family Centered Services | QRTP – Qualified Residential Treatment Program |
| FIP – Family Interaction Plan | SWCM – Social Work Case Manager |
| FPS – Family Preservation Services | SWS – Social Work Supervisor |
| FSS – Family Support Specialist | TPR – Termination of Parental Rights |

Contact and Information

HHS Child Protection Worker _____

HHS Social Work Work Case Manager _____

HHS Supervisor _____

Assessment Incident # _____

Family Support Specialist _____

My Attorney _____

GAL _____

Parent Partner _____

Judge _____

For additional information, please refer to the HHS website: hhs.iowa.gov/programs/CPS



Quick Guide For Families Involved with HHS and Child in Need of Assistance Proceedings





Parents Rights and Responsibilities

RIGHT

- ▶ Know why my child was removed and what needs to happen for them to be returned.
- ▶ Have my child placed with a relative if a relative can care for my child safely
- ▶ Have an attorney who represents my rights and interests in court

RESPONSIBILITY

- ▶ Meet with and stay in contact with my social worker
- ▶ Report any changes to my phone number or address
- ▶ Participate in creating my family and my child's case permanency plan
- ▶ Keep appointments and make agreed upon changes



To view the full list of Parents Rights and Responsibilities, scan the QR code.

The State Has my Child! What Can I Do?



English Version



Spanish Version

Important Terms to Know

Case Permanency Plan

The plan identifying goals, needs, strengths, services, time frames for meeting goals and for the delivery of services to the child and parents, objectives, desired outcomes, responsibilities for all parties involved and reviewing progress.

Relative or Fictive Kin Placement

Placement of a child in the home of an adult who is a member of the child's extended family or non-relatives who have an emotionally significant positive relationship with the child

Custody or Legal Custody

The rights and responsibilities parents have towards their child. Rights and responsibilities of legal custody include making decisions about the child's legal status, medical care, education, safety, extracurricular activities, religious instruction, and other major life decisions.

Guardian

A person who is not the parent of a child, but who has been appointed by a court or juvenile court having jurisdiction over the child to have a permanent self-sustaining relationship with the child, to make important decisions that have a permanent effect on the life and development of that child and to promote the general welfare of that child.

Concurrent Planning

A process in which case managers explore multiple permanent family options. Reunification is often the primary plan. When reunification is not an option, concurrent planning can help find a permanent placement by looking for multiple solutions in case the primary plan is not possible. Concurrent planning works to find the best placement for a child and their family, while keeping time in foster care in mind.

Permanency

A child has a safe, stable, custodial environment in which to grow up and a lifelong relationship with a nurturing caregiver.

Permanency Hearing

The court makes a determination whether continuation of the child in the child's home is contrary to the child's welfare. A primary permanency goal will be identified. If a permanency plan is in place at the time of the hearing, the court will also decide if reasonable progress is being made to get to the permanency goal and if the other items in the permanency plan are being followed.



Your Child Protective Assessment

To file an appeal on a Child Abuse Assessment, you will have 90 days to send a written and signed statement that tells why you disagree with the assessment. Send electronically at hhs.iowa.gov/programs/appeals.