

**Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services
(CCDCFS)
Policy Statement**

Policy Chapter: Substitute Care
Policy Number: 6.01.10
Policy Name: Multi-Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA) Monitor

Original Effective Date: 02/01/2005
Revision Date(s): 04/01/2021, 12/01/2017, 09/01/2014, 02/01/2013
Current Revision Date: 04/01/2024
Approved By: Jacqueline M. Fletcher

PURPOSE: To outline the agency protocol for selecting a Multi-Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA) Monitor.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all employees and services of the Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services (CCDCFS) covered by the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA).

POLICY

I. Selection of MEPA Monitor

CCDCFS has specific employees designated to serve as the agency's internal MEPA Monitor as required by Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) section 5101:2-33-11.

The designated employees are available on a rotation schedule and will be assigned to cases by the Agency's MEPA Compliance Coordinator, Deputy Director of Resources and Placement. The actual person selected as the monitor for each case will be determined based upon the factors particular to that situation, recognizing that DCFS operates 24 hours per day/ 7 days per week.

The MEPA Monitor reviews and monitors foster and adoptive placement decisions when race, color or national origin are used as a factor in a child's placement decision. The MEPA Monitor shall not be the child's caseworker or within the caseworker's chain of command. The MEPA Monitor shall not serve as an agency's civil rights coordinator.

SEE ALSO:

Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:2-33-11