

# ICWA Quick Resource Guide



The National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) has compiled the following resources to support the work and education of state and tribal child welfare workers and other professionals working with Native children and families in state child welfare systems. These resources are specific to the application of the Indian Child Welfare Act (24 U.S.C. § 1901 et. seq.), which applies in state child custody proceedings involving an Indian child (25 U.S.C. §1903(1), (4)). When a case is under tribal court jurisdiction, the tribe's child welfare code and policies apply.

Note: Some links below lead to external websites and may change over time.



## I. ICWA Overview

- a. [Indian Child Welfare Act \(ICWA\) Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- b. [A Guide to Compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act](#)
- c. [The Indian Child Welfare Act: A Family's Guide](#)
- d. [The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978](#)
- e. [2016 ICWA Regulations](#)
- f. [2016 ICWA Guidelines](#)

## II. Making The Case for ICWA's Protections

- a. [Fact Sheet on Disproportionality in Child Welfare](#)
- b. [Understanding ICWA Placements Using Kinship Care Resources](#)
- c. [Contemporary Attachment and Bonding Research: Implications for American Indian/Alaska Native Children and their Service Providers](#)
- d. [Fact Sheet on Cultural Connectedness and Indigenous Youth Well-Being](#)
- e. [The Heart of ICWA – YouTube Videos](#)
- f. [Dr. Maria Yellow Horse Brave Heart on Historical Trauma – YouTube Videos](#)

## III. Other ICWA and Child Welfare Related Online Resources

### Family Resources

- a. NICWA's [Resources for Families](#) page
- b. NICWA's resources on [Voluntary Services](#)



**NICWA**  
National Indian Child Welfare Association  
Protecting Our Children • Preserving Our Culture

5100 S Macadam Avenue, Suite 300  
Portland, Oregon 97239  
Telephone: (503) 222-4044 | Fax: (503) 222-4007  
Web: [www.nicwa.org](http://www.nicwa.org)

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- c. NICWA's resources on [Private Adoption](#)
- d. NICWA's [ICWA Doesn't Apply to My Child Welfare Case. What Other Help Can I Receive?](#)
- e. NICWA and the Grandfamilies and Kinship Support Network: A National Technical Assistance Center tip sheets
  - i. [Legal Assistance for Native Kinship/Grandfamilies Involved with Child Welfare: How to Find an Attorney & Help Them Help You](#)
  - ii. [How Relative Caregivers Can Advocate for Relative Native Children in State Child Welfare Custody](#)
  - iii. [How Relative/Kin Caregivers Can Access Services and Advocate for Native Children in Their Care](#)
- f. NICWA's [Tracing Native Ancestry](#) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs's (BIA) [A Guide to Tracing American Indian & Alaska Native Ancestry](#)

## Service Provider Resources

- a. NICWA's [Resources for Service Providers](#) page
- b. BIA's [ICWA page](#), includes directory of ICWA designated tribal agents
- c. Native American Rights Fund's [A Practical Guide to the Indian Child Welfare Act](#)
- d. National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judge's [ICWA Judicial Benchbook](#)
- e. Association on American Indian Affairs and Casey Family Program's [A Survey and Analysis of Tribal-State Indian Child Welfare Act Agreements](#)
- f. Casey Family Program's [Strategies for Successfully Recruiting and Retaining Preferred-Placement Foster Homes for American Indian Children](#)
- g. NICWA's Policy Page on [Latest State ICWA Developments and Resources](#)
- h. NICWA's [online ICWA course](#), [training institutes](#), and [training in your community](#)
- i. NICWA's [State of American Indian and Alaska Native Children and Families Report](#)
- j. Capacity Building Center for Tribes – [Resource Library](#)

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