

**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):** 02/01/2013  
**Current Revision Date:** 09/01/2014  
**Approved By:** Patricia L. Rideout *PLR*

**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 MEPA Monitor as required by Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) sections 5101:2-33-11.

The designated employees are available on a rotating schedule. The designated monitors include; the agency's Family to Family Coordinator (who also serves as the agency's MEPA Compliance Coordinator), and six Senior Managers representing the following departments: Hotline, Adoptions, Placement Services, Direct Services, Resource Management and designee of the Director.

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.

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.

**SEE ALSO:**

Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:2-33-11