



REHABILITATION & COMMUNITY  
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## **ACF Children's Bureau & PA DHS OCYF Guidance**

The Administration for Children and Families' Children's Bureau (CB) is aware of questions and concerns regarding a number of child welfare issues in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency, including whether CB can waive statutorily required judicial proceedings. The CB, and thus the Department of Human Services, Office of Children Youth and Families, cannot waive these statutory requirements, but expects that courts and states will work together to determine how best to balance child-safety related statutory requirements against public-health mandates. The ACF Guidance can be read [here](#). Additional telehealth communications options can be viewed [here](#).

It is being recommended that the use of video conferencing and other telehealth options be utilized to accommodate both visitation and court proceeding according with County Child Welfare Offices. The [Pennsylvania Supreme Court](#) ordered that only essential functions take place. Please contact [Jim Sharp](#), Children's Division Director at RCPA, with any questions or feedback.