



State Intermediate Educational Unit-146 State House Station,
Augusta, ME 04333 Telephone (207) 624-6660-Fax (207) 624-
6661-TTY-1-888-577-6690

CDS Administrative Letter Number 19

DATE: June 26, 2009

TO: CDS Regional Board Chairs, CDS Site Directors, CDS State Level
Advisory Board

FROM: David Noble Stockford, Policy Director and Team Leader
Debra Hannigan, CDS State Director

RE: CDS Policy for CAPTA

Pursuant to Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth To Age Twenty, Section IV.1.A regarding referral for children B-2, which was amended by emergency adoption on June 22, 2009, *“The Boards of the regional Child Development Services sites are responsible for implementing the state policies and procedures for referral of a child under the age of 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse and neglect, or who is identified as affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure to the regional site.”*

The Keeping Children Safe Act of 2003 amended CAPTA, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (PL 108-36), and was signed into law on June 25, 2003. This law includes the requirement that the Department of Health and Human Services refer a child under the age of 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect to Child Development Services regional sites for early intervention services funded under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (section 106(b)(2)(A)(xxi)).” Part C is a component of PL 105-17, IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). Agencies providing Part C services are required to provide comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, early intervention for infants and toddlers with disabilities or developmental delays and their families.

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services are required to refer to the regional offices of Child Development Services within two days a child under the age of 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect or who is identified as affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure.

The regional CDS site upon receipt of the referral is required to implement Maine's Part C process pursuant to Maine Unified Special Education Regulations Birth to Age Twenty.

For further information, please contact Debra Hannigan, Child Development Services, at 207/624/6660 or email her at debra.hannigan@maine.gov