

PERMANENCY OPTIONS

	Adoption	Allocation of Parental Responsibility (APR)	Guardianship
Initiating Option(s)	Filing of adoption petition after order terminating parental rights (TPR). C.R.S. 19-3-702.	D&N case closes with APR order that is certified to a domestic relations (DR) case.	D&N case closes with a guardianship order that is certified to a probate (PR) case.
Typical Timeframe	Months after adoption petition is filed.	Depends on whether APR is contested.	Depends on whether guardianship is contested.
Typical Ease	Easy with department assistance once adoption petition is filed. Appeal of TPR order can delay filing of adoption petition.	Easy to difficult, depending on whether APR is contested.	Easy to difficult, depending on whether guardianship is contested. Some required forms can be difficult for caregivers to locate or obtain.
Biological Parent Rights	Bio parent is a legal stranger. Open adoption agreement may grant bio parent rights to post-adoption contact.	As outlined in APR order.	As outlined in guardianship order.
Caregiver Authority	Complete decision-making authority. Open adoption agreement possible pursuant to C.R.S. 19-5-208(4.5).	As outlined in the guardianship order.	As outlined in guardianship order. Except as limited by court order, guardian has duties and responsibilities of a parent regarding child's support, care, education, health, and welfare. C.R.S. 15-14-207(1).
Child's Inheritance Rights	Full inheritance from adoptive parents.	Inheritance from biological parent remain intact until final adoption decree. C.R.S. 19-3-608.	Inheritance rights from biological parent remain intact. Caregiver may include child in a will.
Ongoing Court Involvement	No, except enforcement or termination of open adoption agreements pursuant to C.R.S. 19-5-208(4.5).	Yes, upon motion to modify filed C.R.S. 14-10-129 and 14-10-131.	Guardian must file annual report. May be terminated or modified via court order. C.R.S. 15-14-210(1).
Modification	No, unless adoptive parents petition to relinquish parental rights or have a D&N filed. Modifications to open adoption agreements must be agreed upon.	Yes, pursuant to C.R.S. 14-10-129 and 14-10-131.	Yes, pursuant to C.R.S. 15-14-210.

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Typical Cost	Case-dependent, may involve legal assistance costs.	Minimal. Filing fee may be waived. May involve legal assistance costs.	Minimal. Filing fee may be waived. May involve legal assistance costs.
Financial and Other Assistance	<p>May be included in adoption assistance agreement. 12 CCR 2509-4:7.306.45.</p> <p>Colorado Works (Colorado TANF) if eligible.</p> <p>Chafee services and Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) if eligible, eligibility includes being in foster care on or after 14th birthday.</p> <p>FosterEd if eligible, eligibility foster care (as defined in C.R.S. 19-1-103) on or after 13th birthday.</p>	<p>May be included in a guardianship assistance agreement, C.R.S. 26-5-110(2), 12 CCR 2509-4:7.311 <i>et seq.</i></p> <p>Court may order child support.</p> <p>Colorado Works (Colorado TANF) if eligible.</p> <p>Chafee services and Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) if eligible, eligibility includes being in foster care on or after 14th birthday.</p> <p>FosterEd if eligible, eligibility foster care (as defined in C.R.S. 19-1-103) on or after 13th birthday.</p>	<p>May be included in guardianship assistance agreement, C.R.S. 26-5-110(2), 12 CCR 2509-4:7.311 <i>et seq.</i></p> <p>Colorado Works (Colorado TANF) if eligible.</p> <p>Chafee services and Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) if eligible, eligibility includes being in foster care on or after 14th birthday.</p> <p>FosterEd if eligible, eligibility foster care (as defined in C.R.S. 19-1-103) on or after 13th birthday.</p>
Medical and Mental Health Coverage for Child	<p>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) if included in an adoption assistance agreement (12 CCR 2509-4:7.306 <i>et seq.</i>).</p> <p>Some supplemental medical and mental health payments if included in an adoption assistance agreement (12 CCR 2509-4:7.306.511).</p> <p>Colorado's Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) if eligible.</p> <p>Private health insurance.</p>	<p>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) if eligible.</p> <p>Colorado's Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) if eligible.</p> <p>Private health insurance, court may order parent or caregiver to take responsibility for medical care/needs.</p>	<p>Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) if eligible.</p> <p>Colorado's Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) if eligible.</p> <p>Private health insurance may accept guardian for coverage of a child.</p>