

## What Is A Child Placement Review Board?

Child Placement Review (CPR) boards in New Jersey were created through the 1978 Child Placement Review Act. CPR boards consist of court-appointed, trained volunteers who are charged with monitoring the cases of children placed outside their homes by the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) to ensure that such placement serves the best interests of the child. There is at least one CPR board in each county.

## Who Can Serve On A CPR Board?

CPR board members are volunteers who must either live or work in the county in which they serve. Boards should represent the ethnic, racial and economic populations of that county.

Volunteers must complete an initial CPR training before they can participate as CPR board members and an additional five hours of continuing education each year thereafter. Continuing education helps ensure that board members have a current and operational knowledge of the complex and changing nature of the problems facing children in out-of-home placement. Each vicinage provides additional training at least once a year. The Child Placement Advisory Council (CPAC) also provides training.

## How Does A CPR Board Operate?

Any child that is placed out of home is subject to a 45-day review by a CPR board. Documents, reports and other materials to be reviewed are sent to the CPR board by the family court before the CPR board meeting. At the CPR board

meeting, a 45 Day Review Checklist and a Recommendation to the Judge form are completed. The meetings are primarily held at the family court on a regularly scheduled basis.

## What Do CPR Boards Consider When Reviewing Child Placement?

CPR boards will review the child's safety and health, the circumstances of the placement, and any obstacles that could prevent the DCP&P from achieving a safe and permanent home for the child.

Information about each child's specific needs is gathered, including whether the DCP&P has:

- Assessed the child, parents and resource parents, formerly known as foster parents, for services and provided necessary services to them.
- Placed siblings together in foster care.
- Promoted sufficient visitation between the child and his or her parents and between the child and his or her siblings.
- Sought and assessed relatives as placement options.
- Scheduled a comprehensive medical examination for the child.

At the conclusion of the CPR board meeting, the 45 Day Review Checklist and the Recommendation to the Judge form are forwarded to the Family Court judge. The CPR board can make recommendations to the judge regarding the child's continuation in placement or the reunification of the child's family.

## What Is the New Jersey Child Placement Advisory Council?

CPAC was established by the 1978 Child Placement Review Act. All CPR board members can attend council meetings. The council has specific legal mandates that include:

- Advising the New Jersey Supreme Court on the rules governing the duties and practices of review boards.
- Reviewing DCP&P policies, practices and procedures on the placement of children outside their homes.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the Child Placement Review Act.
- Advising the Supreme Court on the establishment of guidelines and procedures for the training of CPR board members.
- Producing an annual report to Supreme Court, governor and the Legislature on the effectiveness of the implementation of the Child Placement Review Act.

The CPAC Executive Board consists of 15 members elected by county CPR members. The CPAC chair and vice chair meet annually with the chief justice and the administrative director of the courts.

(rev. 2016)

## Join a CPR board in your county

**Atlantic/Cape May**  
Atlantic County Civil Courthouse  
1201 Bacharach Blvd.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
609-594-3449

**Bergen**  
Bergen County Justice Center  
10 Main St., Suite 425  
Hackensack, NJ 07601  
201-527-2254

**Burlington**  
Burlington County Courts  
49 Rancocas Rd.  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060  
609-518-2511

**Cape May**  
Refer to Atlantic County

**Camden**  
Hall of Justice  
101 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Camden NJ 08103-4001  
856-379-2232

**Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem**  
Cumberland County Courthouse  
60 W. Broad St.  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302  
856-453-4563

**Gloucester**  
Refer to Cumberland County

**Essex**  
50 W. Market St.  
Newark, NJ 07102  
973-693-5700

**Hudson**  
595 Newark Ave.  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
201-795-6000

**Hunterdon**  
Refer to Somerset County

**Mercer**  
175 S. Broad St., PO Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650  
609-571-4804

**Middlesex**  
Middlesex County Courthouse  
120 New St., PO Box 2691  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903-2691  
732-519-3344

**Monmouth**  
Monmouth County Courthouse  
71 Monument Park, W Wing  
Freehold, NJ 07728-1266  
732-677-4471

**Morris/Sussex**  
Sussex County Judicial Center  
43-47 High St.  
Newton, NJ 07860  
973-579-7586

**Ocean**  
Ocean County Courthouse  
120 Hooper Ave., Room 240  
Toms River, NJ 08754  
732-288-7231

**Passaic**  
Passaic County Courthouse  
77 Hamilton St., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Paterson, NJ 07505  
973-247-8004

**Salem**  
Refer to Cumberland County

**Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren**  
Somerset County Courthouse  
Human Resources Division  
40 N. Bridge St.  
P.O. Box 3000  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
908-203-6189

**Sussex**  
Refer to Morris County

**Union**  
Union County Courthouse  
2 Broad St., 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Elizabeth, NJ 07207  
908-659-4604

**Warren**  
Refer to Somerset County

**CPAC**  
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex  
Administrative Office of the Courts  
P.O. Box 983  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0985  
609-633-2581 FAX: 609-633-8124

# CHILD PLACEMENT REVIEW BOARDS

[njcourts.com/volunteer](http://njcourts.com/volunteer)

[njcourts.com/family](http://njcourts.com/family)