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**PROTECTION AND PERMANENCY INFORMATION MEMORANDUM, 23-05**

**TO:** Service Region Administrators  
Service Region Administrator Associates  
Service Region Clinical Associates  
Regional Program Specialists  
Family Services Office Supervisors

**FROM:** Melanie Taylor, Director  
Division of Protection and Permanency

**DATE:** May 9, 2023

**SUBJECT: Guidance related to the end of the federal public health emergency and Stafford Act flexibilities**

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise staff that all Stafford Act flexibilities offered by the Children's Bureau in response to the COVID-19 pandemic disaster declarations will expire on June 30, 2023, as outlined in [ACYF-CB-IM-23-05](#). Although Kentucky's state of emergency ended on March 22nd, 2022, the federal state of emergency was extended through May 11, 2023. These flexibilities include but are not limited to virtual face-to-face visits.

Through the federal state of emergency, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (Cabinet/CHFS) had flexibilities in place for conducting face-to-face caseworker visits virtually. Flexibilities for virtual caseworker visits will end on June 30, 2023, and pre-pandemic in person face-to-face visit requirements will resume on July 1, 2023. As a reminder, visits to children in out-of-home care (OOHC) shall occur at least once every calendar month in-person and face to face.

All interviews for adult protective services (APS) and child protective services (CPS) investigations will be conducted by in person, face-to-face means as indicated in the standards of practice (SOP).

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact:

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