



Press Release

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Court Improvement Program Launches Child in Need of Aid (CINA) Laws e-Learning course

Anchorage, AK, July 27, 2022 - The Court Improvement Program (CIP) has launched its [Child in Need of Aid \(CINA\) Laws e-Learning course](#). The CIP monitors and improves the way the court system handles child in need of aid (CINA) cases and enhances coordination between the court system and other agencies and Tribes involved in CINA cases. Members of the CIP Committee include judges, tribal representatives, youth representatives, and state agency representatives involved in child welfare from around the state. The curriculum subcommittee of CIP developed the e-Learning course.

The curriculum was developed by an interdisciplinary team representing the different participants in CINA cases. The course is based on in-person and zoom trainings that are regularly provided for judges, tribal representatives, attorneys, child protection workers, and child advocates. Now the course is available to anyone who wants to learn more about CINA laws from seasoned practitioners and judges to new participants in CINA cases and members of the public. Anyone with an interest in the child welfare system are also welcome to take the course or refer to individual sections without taking the entire course.

The course is divided into four training modules:

- Module 1: How a Case Comes into Court (laws and protocols governing OCS investigations and interventions),
- Module 2: Roles and Responsibilities of CINA Participants,
- Module 3: Child in Need of Aid State and Federal Laws, and
- Module 4: CINA Court and Administrative Proceedings.

Modules can be used in whole or part – it is possible to easily access just the information of interest. Learners can apply their knowledge in a series of learning interactions following a case study at the end of each subject matter session.

The eLearning course will enable anyone to access the training resources at their own pace and in whatever way is most helpful to them:

- reading through the materials,
- listening to a podcast style narration, or
- watching videos of Alaska judges and practitioners presenting the materials.

The course also hosts a [training resources list](#) that includes links to legal research materials, OCS practice model guide, training opportunities, and more.

Each module has been approved by the Alaska Bar Association for Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits. A total of 24 CLE credits, including 3.75 ethics credits for module 2, are available for those who complete all the modules.

About the Alaska Court System

The mission of the [Alaska Court System](#) is to provide an accessible and impartial forum for the just resolution of all cases that come before it, and to decide such cases in accordance with the law, expeditiously and with integrity.