



- b. How much work have they missed?
    - c. How frequently do the parents miss work or adjust their schedule?
    - d. What does this mean for the parent(s) and child?
  - iii. Does the parent have specialized knowledge or skill which helps them to meet the special needs of the child?
    - i. What specialized knowledge or skill do the parent(s) possess?
    - ii. How did they obtain this knowledge or skill?
    - iii. How is their knowledge or skill demonstrated in their parenting?
    - iv. Is/are the parent(s) continuing to develop their knowledge or skill?
    - v. How are they continuing to develop their knowledge or skill related to meeting the needs of the child?
  - iv. What is the parent obligation to the child's service providers?
    - i. Is/are the parent(s) meeting with the service providers?
      - a. How frequently is/are the parent(s) meeting with service providers?
      - b. What is the purpose or intent of the service provider meetings?
      - c. How have the meetings helped the parent(s) to meet the special needs of the child?
    - ii. Is/are the parent(s) providing transportation to meetings?
      - a. How frequently is/are the parent(s) providing transportation?
      - b. How far must the parent(s) travel for meetings with service providers?
    - iii. Is/are the parent(s) missing work to meet with the child's service providers?
      - a. How much time does/do the parent(s) miss in a week, month, and/or year?
  - v. Is/are the parent(s) participating in services to help them meet the needs of the child?
    - i. What services do the parent(s) receive?
      - a. How frequently are the parent's receiving services?
      - b. What is the purpose or intent of the services received?
      - c. How have the services helped the parent(s) to meet the special needs of the child?
      - d. Is/are the parent(s) missing work to participate in services?
      - e. How far must the parent travel to participate in services?

**Tips for Negotiating the Supplemental Adoption Assistance**  
Topics for Social Worker and Pre-Adoptive Parent Discussion

- Supplemental maintenance payment corresponds to the child's needs and the care, supervision, and structure required and provided by the pre-adoptive parents.
- Discuss what the parent(s) need to meet the special needs of the child versus what they want.
- Discuss whether there are state, county, tribal, or community resources available to meet the needs of the child and family.
- Discuss the option to increase at a later date
- Gather more information specific to the type, frequency, severity, and intensity of child's special needs
  - Is the information provided by the parent(s) consistent with professional documentation?
  - Identify and explain inconsistencies
- Discuss normative child development
- Revisit the parent(s) motivation to adopt and evaluate claiming behaviors <sup>1</sup>
  - Invite the parents to revisit the initial motivation to adopt a child.
  - Ask why the decision has been made to adopt this particular child.
  - Has the family integrated the child into the home?
  - How has the family integrated the child into the home?

<sup>1</sup> Adoption Competency Curriculum Trainers Guide (2008). *Negotiating Title IV-E Adoption Assistance*, Southfield, MI: National Child Welfare Resource Center for Adoption