

Family Court Case Types & Definitions

Case Type	Definition
Termination of Parental Rights	Petition to permanently end a parent's rights when a child in foster care
Child Protective	Petitions claiming a child is neglected or abused
Abuse	Petition claiming someone responsible for a child's care hurt the child or allowed someone else to hurt the child
Neglect	Petition claiming someone responsible for a child's care did not provide the minimum amount of care needed
Juvenile	Petitions to handle disobedient or violent children
Designated Felony	Petition claiming a child between the ages of 7 – 17 committed a serious violent act that would be a crime if committed by an adult
Juvenile Delinquency	Petition claiming a child between the ages of 7 – 17 committed an act that would be a crime if committed by an adult
Person in Need of Supervision	Petition asking for the Court's help in supervising a disobedient child under the age of 18
Adoption/Foster Care	Petitions to find a temporary home (foster care) or permanent home (adoption) for a child that needs parental care
Adoption	Petition to make someone the new legal parent of a child
Adoption Certificate	Petition to decide if someone is qualified to adopt a child
Adoption Surrender	Petition for someone to voluntarily end their rights as a child's parent
Destitute Child	Petition to assist a child who is not neglected or abused but is suffering from a lack of food, clothing, shelter, or medical care
Foster Care Placement	Petition to find a temporary home for a child who was removed from their home by a court order or with a parent's consent
Guardianship	Petition to appoint someone to take legal responsibility for a child's care
Family Offense	Petition for an order of protection when a person or their child are hurt, threatened, harassed, or stalked by someone who is related by blood or marriage (even if separated or divorced), or is an intimate partner, or has a child with the other person
Custody/Visitation	Petition to decide who is responsible for a child's care and who is allowed to visit a child
Support-Related	Petitions to decide who is responsible to support a child or spouse and the amount they must pay
Paternity	Petition to determine who a child's father is
IVD	A state agency helps the person applying (petitioner) with their case
Non-IVD	The person applying (petitioner) does not get help from a state agency
Support	Petition to get support or health insurance payments for a child or spouse
IVD	A state agency helps the person applying (petitioner) with their case
Non-IVD	The person applying (petitioner) does not get help from a state agency
Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA)	Petition to get child support or health insurance payments from someone who lives outside of New York State
IVD	A state agency helps the person applying (petitioner) with their case
Non-IVD	The person applying (petitioner) does not get help from a state agency
Other	Miscellaneous case type
Permanency Hearings	Hearing held every 6 months to review the plan for a child who was removed from their home by a court order or with their parent's consent