

**281—120.37(34CFR303) Ward of the state.**

**120.37(1) General.** Subject to subrules 120.37(2) and 120.37(3), “ward of the state” means a child who, as determined by the state where the child resides, is:

- a. A foster child;
- b. A ward of the state; or
- c. In the custody of a public child welfare agency.

**120.37(2) Exception.** “Ward of the state” does not include a foster child who has a foster parent who meets the definition of “parent” in rule 281—120.27(34CFR303).

**120.37(3) Interpretive note.** “Ward of the state” is a term rarely used in Iowa law. It would be an extremely rare occurrence for a child to be a ward of the state while not being either a foster child or in the custody of a public child welfare agency.

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