

Neurological Injury Compensation Association **(NICA)**

<http://www.nica.com/what-is-nica.html> - **What is NICA?**

The Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association (NICA) was created by the Florida Legislature in 1988. NICA is a statutory organization that manages the Florida Birth Related Neurological Injury Compensation Plan ("Plan") used to pay for the care of infants born with certain neurological injuries. This Plan is available to eligible families statewide without litigation. By eliminating costly legal proceedings, and through professional management of its disbursements, NICA ensures that birth-injured infants receive the care they need while reducing the financial burden on medical providers and families.

http://www.nica.com/eligibility_benefits.html - **Eligibility and Benefits.**

Acceptance into the Plan is determined by an Administrative Law Judge after a petition is filed with the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings. Once accepted by an order from the judge, the child is covered for lifetime, and no other compensation from a malpractice lawsuit is available. It is an exclusive compensation plan which is only available if there has not already been a settlement in a lawsuit. Instead, there are lifetime benefits and care available through the Plan.

http://www.nica.com/participating_providers.html - **Participating providers.**

Only physicians are identified on the NICA web links, as participating providers. It appears Transitional Living Facilities in Florida are not receiving monies from this fund.