

*HANDOUT #1***Foster Care Title IV-E****RECOVERY**

Number: 93.658

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Office: Administration for Children and Families

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**PROGRAM INFORMATION****Authorization (040):**

Social Security Act, Title IV-E, Section 470, et seq.; as amended.

**Objectives (050):**

The Title IV-E Foster Care program helps States, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations and Tribal consortia (Tribes) to provide safe and stable out-of-home care for children under the jurisdiction of the State or Tribal child welfare agency until the children are returned home safely, placed with adoptive families, or placed in other planned arrangements for permanency. The program provides funds to assist with the costs of foster care maintenance for eligible children; administrative costs to manage the program; and training for public agency staff, foster parents and certain private agency staff. In addition, \$3 million is reserved for technical assistance and plan development/implementation grants to eligible Tribes, beginning in fiscal year 09.

**Types of Assistance (060):**

Formula Grants; Project Grants

**Uses and Use Restrictions (070):**

Formula grant funds may be used by the State or local (under State supervision) child welfare agency or by the Tribal child welfare agency for Federal Financial Participation (FFP) in foster care maintenance payments on behalf of eligible children; for administrative and training costs; and for costs related to design, implement and operate a statewide data collection system. Funds may not be used for costs of social services such as those that provide counseling or treatment to ameliorate or remedy personal problem, behaviors, or home conditions for a child, the child's family, or the child's foster family. Plan development/implementation grants to Tribes are one-time grants for projects lasting up to 24 months that are to be used to develop a plan to operate a title IV-E program for foster care, adoption assistance and kinship guardianship as specified under section 479B of title IV-E. The Tribe must submit a plan for the title IV-E program within 24 months of receiving the plan development grant or must repay the grant funds, unless the HHS Secretary waives the requirements under section 471 to carry out a program under section 479B. There is \$3 million reserved for technical assistance and plan development/implementation grants to eligible Tribes beginning in FY 09.

**Eligibility Requirements (080)****Applicant Eligibility (081):**

States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, and Indian Tribes.

**Beneficiary Eligibility (082):**

Eligible children whose removal and placement in foster care are in accordance with a voluntary placement agreement or judicial determinations to the effect that continuation in the home would be contrary to the child's welfare and that reasonable efforts were made to prevent the removal (or that such efforts were not necessary), and whose placement and care are the responsibility of the State or Tribal agency administering the title IV-E program.

**Credentials/Documentation (083):**

Formula Grants: Costs are to be determined in accordance with OMB Circular No. A-87 and 45 CFR Part 92. Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Non-profit agencies must submit proof of non-profit status. Applicable costs and administrative procedures will be determined in accordance with 45 CFR Part 92. OMB Circular No. A-87 applies to this program.

**Application and Award Process (090)****Preapplication Coordination (091):**

Formula Grants: Consultation is available to States and Tribes from Regional Administration for Children and Families (ACF) offices. Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Standard application forms as furnished by Health and Human Services must be used. Environmental impact information is not required for this program. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

**Application Procedures (092):**

OMB Circular No. A-102 applies to this program. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-110. Formula Grants: Applications are made in the form of a title IV-E Plan, prepared in the format provided by the ACF Children's Bureau. Title IV-E plans and amendments must be submitted to the ACF Regional Child Welfare Program Manager for approval.

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Announcement of availability of funds for these grants is published on grants.gov and the ACF website, [www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open). Eligible applicants must submit applications by specified deadlines.

**Award Procedure (093):**

Formula Grants: Quarterly awards are made on the basis of estimated expenditures that are later revised accordingly to include only actual allowable claimed expenditures. Next quarter estimates are due on July 30, October 30, January 30, and April 30 each year. Final decisions and awards are made by the headquarters office. Letter-of-credit is issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Payment Management System.

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Applications are reviewed by professional Federal staff with expertise in child and family services, evaluation and related fields. Final decisions are made by the Commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families.

**Deadlines (094):**

Contact the headquarters or regional office, as appropriate, for application deadlines.

**Range of Approval/Disapproval Time (095):**

Formula Grants: HHS approves or disapproves title IV-E plans within 45 days of receipt by HHS.

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: HHS approves or disapproves within 3 to 6 months.

**Appeals (096):**

Appeals are processed in accordance with HHS regulations in 45 CFR Part 16.

**Renewals (097):**

Awards remain effective without plan renewal, but title IV-E plans may be amended as necessary.

**Assistance Consideration (100)**

**Formula and Matching Requirements (101):**

Statutory Formula: Funding is provided on an open-ended basis. Federal financial participation (FFP) is equal to the applicable Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate (as defined by sec. 1905(b), and sec. 479B(d) for Tribes) of the Social Security Act (i.e., from 50 percent to 83 percent, depending on the State or Tribe and the fiscal year) and as temporarily enhanced through Section 5001 of Public Law 111-5, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for the total expended for foster care maintenance payments; 75% of staff or provider training costs; and 50% of other administrative costs. Short term training provided to specified professional partners is subject to a special FFP rate that varies by fiscal year (60% FFP in FY 2010; 65% for FY 2011, 70% for FY 2012 and 75% for FY 2013 and thereafter).

Plan Development/Implementation grants are available up to a maximum of \$300,000.

Matching Requirements: The non-Federal share of program costs (difference between total cost and FFP) in each funding category constitutes the required match to be met by the title IV-E agency. Matching funds from State agencies must be appropriated monies raised from non-Federal revenue sources. Matching funds from Tribal agencies must also be appropriated monies, but may at the option of the Tribe include Federal funds specifically authorized by Federal statutes to be used as match for other Federal programs and, in accordance with 45 CFR 1356.68 for administration and training costs only, in-kind expenditures (or contributions) from allowable third party sources.

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: There is no matching requirement.

This program does not have MOE requirements.

**Length and Time Phasing of Assistance (102):**

Formula Grants: Federal financial participation is available to a State or Tribe operating under an approved title IV-E plan. Method of awarding/releasing assistance: Quarterly, through a letter of credit.

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Provided on a one-time basis for generally 12 - 24 month project periods. Renewal funding for multiple year grants is dependent upon grantee performance and availability of funds. Method of awarding/releasing assistance: by letter of credit.

**Post Assistance Requirements (110)**

**Reports (111):**

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Program reports are required in accordance with the program announcement. Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Financial reports are required in accordance with the program announcement. No progress reports are required. Formula Grants: A report of estimates, expenditures

and children assisted (form CB-496) must be submitted 30 days after the end of each quarter. Other reports as required by the Secretary. No performance monitoring is required.

**Audits (112):**

In accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-133 (Revised, June 27, 2003), "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations," nonfederal entities that expend financial assistance of \$500,000 or more in Federal awards will have a single or a program-specific audit conducted for that year. Nonfederal entities that expend less than \$500,000 a year in Federal awards are exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in Circular No. A-133. Audits are conducted in accordance with the requirements in 45 CFR 92.

**Records (113):**

Formula Grants: States and Tribes must maintain all financial and programmatic records necessary for the proper and efficient operation of the program, including records of applications, determinations of eligibility, utilization of awarded grants and other funds for the provision of financial assistance and allocated indirect and direct administrative and training costs in accordance with requirements in Health and Human Services regulations at 45 CFR 92.42, and written guidance from the Administration for Children and Families.

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: All financial records are to be maintained for 3 years after termination of the project or until a required audit is completed, whichever comes first.

**Financial Information (120)****Account Identification (121):**

75-1545-0-1-609 - ARRA grants: 75-1545-0-1-609.

**Obligations (122):**

(Formula Grants) FY 12 \$4,291,000,000; FY 13 est \$4,288,515,469; and FY 14 est \$4,281,910,748

**Range and Average of Financial Assistance (123):**

Formula Grants FY 12: \$2,142,406 to \$1,170,994, with an average of \$80,073,974.

Plan Development/Implementation Grants: Estimated as ranging from \$50,000 to \$300,000.

**Program Accomplishments (130):**

Fiscal Year 2012: Grant awards were provided to a total of 51 States (including the District of Columbia) and one additional Tribe assisting an average of 157,300 in-placement children per month. Fiscal Year 2013: It is anticipated that a total of 51 States (including the District of Columbia) and one additional Tribe will receive grant awards assisting an average of 149,600 in-placement children per month. Fiscal Year 2014: It is anticipated that a total of 51 States (including the District of Columbia) and one additional Tribe will receive grant awards.

**Regulations, Guidelines, and Literature (140):**

45 CFR 1355-1356.

**Information Contacts (150)****Regional or Local Office (151) :**

See Regional Agency Offices. Consult the Children's Bureau Regional Child Welfare Program Manager. (See Appendix IV of the Catalog for a list of addresses of the Regional Offices.).

**Headquarters Office (152):**

Jennifer Butler-Hembree 1250 Maryland Ave, SW, 8th Floor, Washington, District of Columbia 20024 Email: [jennifer.butler-hembree@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:jennifer.butler-hembree@acf.hhs.gov) Phone: 225-654-2527

**Website Address (153):**

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb>.

**Related Programs (160):**

93.556 Promoting Safe and Stable Families; 93.560 Family Support Payments to States\_Assistance Payments; 93.599 Chafee Education and Training Vouchers Program (ETV); 93.645 Child Welfare Services\_State Grants; 93.659 Adoption Assistance; 93.674 Chafee Foster Care Independence Program

**Examples of Funded Projects (170):**

Not Applicable.

**Criteria for Selecting Proposals (180):**

Not Applicable.