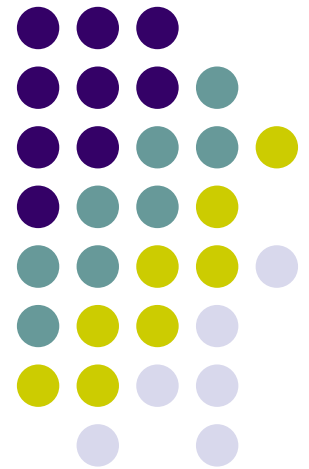


# Overview of the Title IV-E Juvenile Court Program

## WHAT IS TITLE IV-E?

Title IV-E is a federal program that subsidizes the cost of care for eligible youth placed in foster care

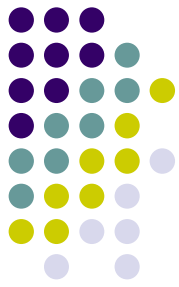


# PROGRAM HISTORY



- In 1980 in response to “foster care drift” Congress passed the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act (Public Law 96-272)
- This law amended the Social Security Act of 1935 and established the Title IV-E program to provide federal funding for placement service to children

# PROGRAM HISTORY



- Prior to Title IV-E, children received Aid to Dependent Children in Foster Care (ADC-FC) through Title IV-A
- Upon its creation, funding was transferred from Title IV-A to Title IV-E. However, Title IV-E eligibility remains dependent upon a child meeting Title IV-A requirements (ADC-relatedness, 1996)

# PROGRAM OBJECTIVES



- Reduce reliance on out-of-home care
- Encourage the use of preventive and reunification services
- Require permanency planning

**The Federal Government reimburses states while youth are in foster care for the following services:**



- Maintenance Costs
- Administration Costs
- Training Costs

# Maintenance Costs

*The cost of providing:*

- Food



- Shelter



- Clothing



- Personal Incidentals

- Examples: Personal Hygiene
- Special dietary foods
- Over-the-counter medications
- Special lessons etc.

- School Supplies

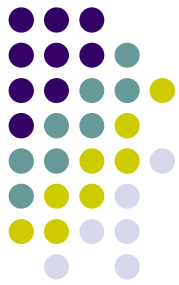


- Travel Costs – *reasonable cost of travel to a child's home for visitation*



- Daily Supervision

- Liability Insurance with respect to the child



# Administration Costs



- Overhead costs associated with administering the Title IV-E program
- Case Management Activities
- Cost of travel to children's judicial or case review

# Title IV-E Eligibility Requirements for Foster Care Maintenance Status



There are two distinct types of Title IV-E Foster Care Maintenance (FCM) statuses:

1. Program Eligible
2. Program Reimbursable

Both must be concurrently achieved before FCM payments may be issued

# Program Eligibility



**A child is eligible if at the time the child entered care the following have been met:**

## **ADC-Relatedness (*Standards from July 7, 1996*)**

- Age
- Living with a specific relative
- Deprivation
- Need
- Resources

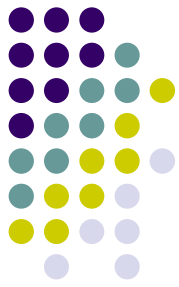
## **Judicial Determination**

- Best Interest
- Reasonable Efforts

## **Legal Responsibility**

- Care and control of the child

# Program Reimbursability



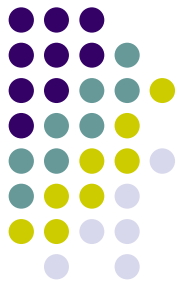
## 1. **Child's need for Reimbursement**

- Determined by comparing the child's income to the cost of care. If the child's income exceeds the cost of care the child will not be reimbursable

## ● **Child's Placement** -*Reimbursable Placement Settings*

- Licensed, approved and certified
- Public Facility with capacity of 25 or less
- Title IV-E rate established

# Foster Care Maintenance (FCM) Reimbursement Rate



- The rate is set every year at the beginning of the new Federal Financial Year (FFY)
- The current federal reimbursement rate is 68.34 % for October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010 (FFY2009)

# Administration & Training



**The method of claiming these costs is  
JFS Form 01797 Quarterly Billing**

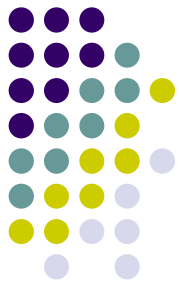
**There are three dynamics that make up the  
billing**

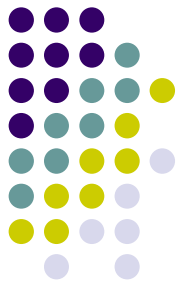
- 1. Allowable Costs**
- 2. Allowable Activities**
- 3. Allowable Youth**



# 1. Allowable Costs

- **Development of the Cost Pool**



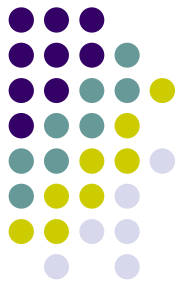


## 2. Allowable Activities

- **Conduct quarterly Juvenile Court Random Moment Sample (JCRMS) Time Studies**

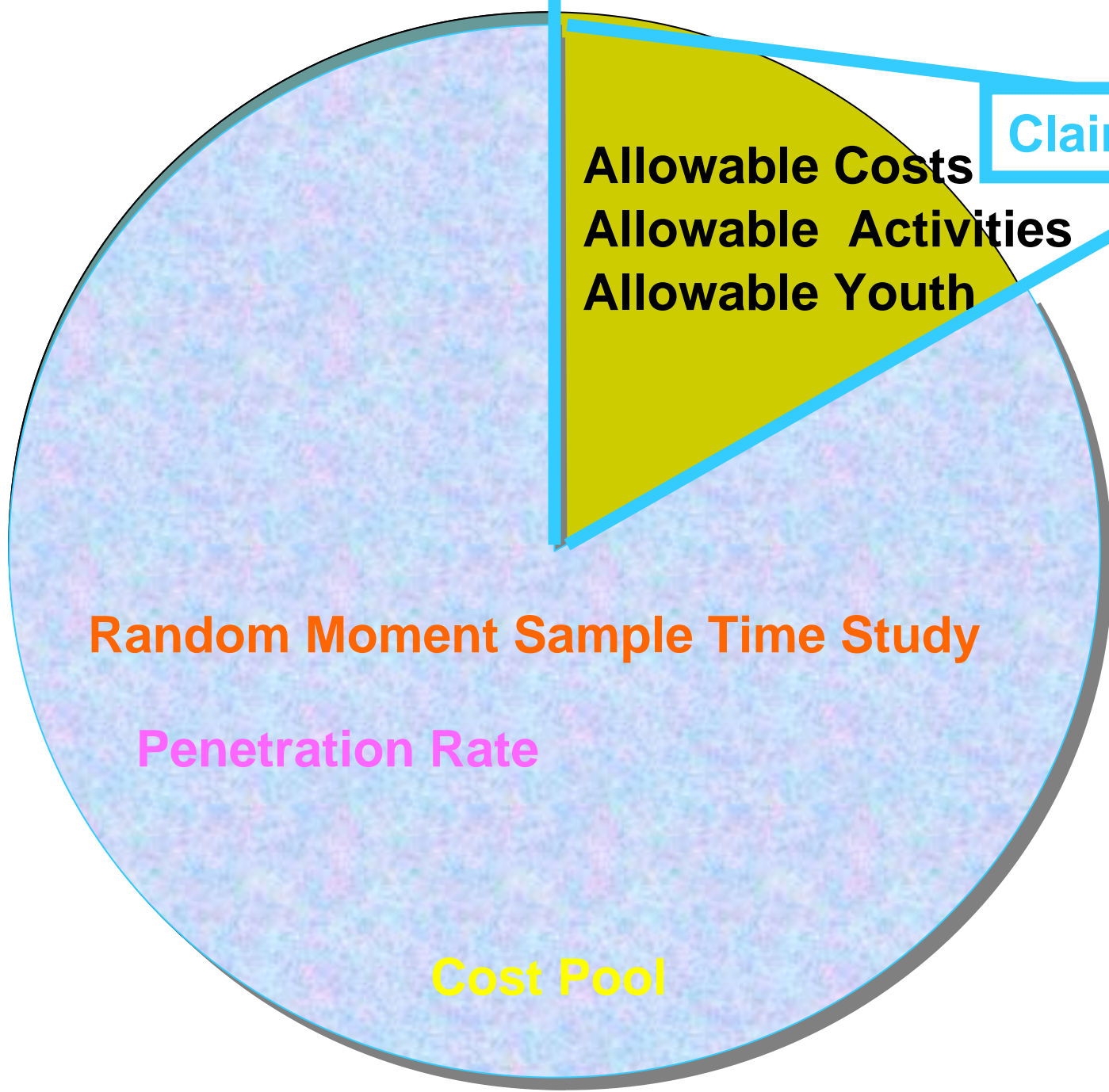


# 3. Allowable Youth



- **Determine the IV-E Ratio**





**Claim**

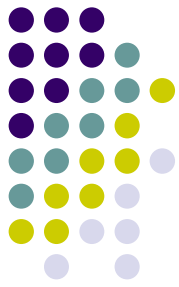
**Allowable Costs**  
**Allowable Activities**  
**Allowable Youth**

**Random Moment Sample Time Study**

**Penetration Rate**

**Cost Pool**

# Administration & Training Reimbursement Rate

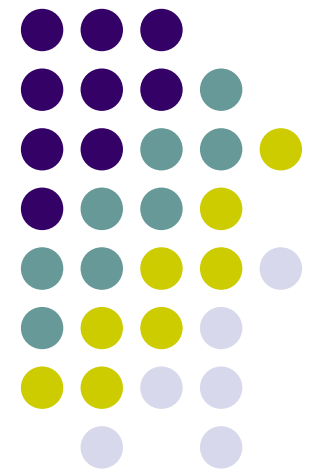


- The federal reimbursement rate for Administration Costs is set at 50%.
- The federal reimbursement rate for Training Costs is set at 75%.

# *How do I become a Title IV-E Court ?*

## *Title IV-E Procedures for Interested Juvenile Courts*

### **Action steps/Timeline**



## ***Title IV-E Procedures for Interested Juvenile Courts, cont'd***



- ✓ Send a letter of interest to:

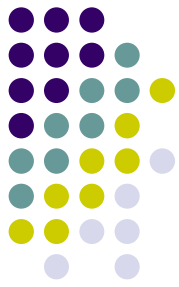
**Ohio Department of Job and Family  
Attn: Ricardo Murph  
Bureau of Administration and Fiscal Accountability  
P.O. Box 182709  
Columbus, Ohio 43218-2709**

**or e-mail it as an e-mail attachment to**

**[Ricardo.Murph.@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Ricardo.Murph.@jfs.ohio.gov)**

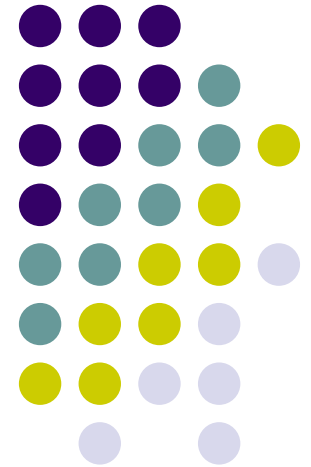
- ✓ ODJFS e-mails information package to interested court (model of the Subgrant Agreement and other important Title IV-E related information)
- ✓ Court reviews the material with their Public Children's Services Agency (PCSA) and County Commissioners
- ✓ If needed, the court contacts ODJFS to clarify any issues regarding the information package
- ✓ Courts then will be trained by ODJFS staff

## *Title IV-E Procedures for Interested Juvenile Courts, cont'd*



- ✓ Once the various trainings have occurred a Readiness Review will be conducted
- ✓ After passing the Readiness Review, ODJFS will start the Subgrant Agreement process:
  - ✓ ODJFS will forward the original draft of the agreement to the interested court
  - ✓ The court is responsible for obtaining signatures of the authorized court representative and the county commissioners and return the draft to ODJFS, Ricardo Murph, in a timely manner
  - ✓ After the ODJFS Director's signature is obtained and the agreement has been processed, an executed copy of the final agreement will be provided to the court
- ✓ The executed copy of the agreement is the legal document that authorizes the juvenile court to act as a Title IV-E agency

# The ODJFS Subgrant Agreement with the County Juvenile Courts





# Parties to the Subgrant Agreement

- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS)

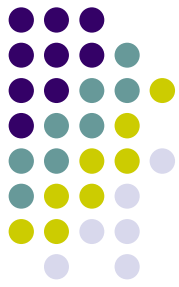


- The County Board of Commissioners



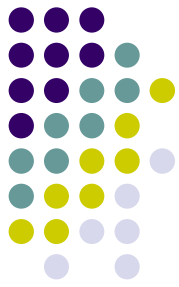
- The County Juvenile Courts





## Responsibilities of the Court (Subgrantee)

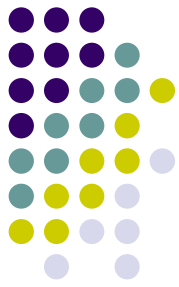
- *A court having responsibility for the placement and foster care of children:*
  - Will exercise authority granted under ORC Chapter 2151 and the Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedure
  - Will render adjudicatory and dispositions regarding children within the jurisdiction of their county
  - Will supervise the implementation of such determinations, as necessary to perform such other duties that may be required of it by the operation of Title IV-E



## Responsibilities of the Court (Subgrantee)

- Will develop and implement a case plan for the child as required by ORC Rule 2151.412
- Will conduct the periodic review of the child's case plan, placement or custody agreement as required by ORC 2151.416 and 2151.417, 42 USCA 675 (5) (A), and will incorporate any findings of that review into the case plan
- Will refer the child's case to the County Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) whenever appropriate
- Will conduct all dispositional hearings required by ORC Sections 2151.354 and 2152.11

# Responsibilities of the Court (Subgrantee)



**Courts seeking reimbursement for actual Foster Care Maintenance Costs are responsible for making sure all of the following elements are present:**

The child has been:

- ✓ adjudicated by the court to be unruly or delinquent
- ✓ determined eligible for Federal Financial Participation (FFP) under Title IV-E
- ✓ placed in a foster care facility that is certified, licensed, or approved by ODJFS or another state agency recognized by ODJFS as a placement qualified for Title IV-E maintenance FFP

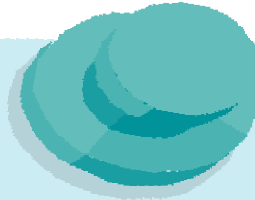


## Responsibilities of the Court (Subgrantee )

The court will not deliberately adjudicate a child unruly or delinquent for the sole purpose of receiving FFP under the Subgrant Agreement

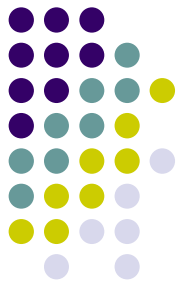
- “No Cherry picking”





Foster Care Maintenance cost claims have to be made solely from local and state funds and further will not be claimed to any other federal reimbursement source

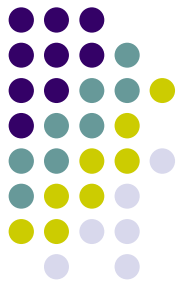
# ODJFS Monitoring



- The court agrees to allow ODJFS to assess and monitor their adherence to the requirements of the Subgrant Agreement



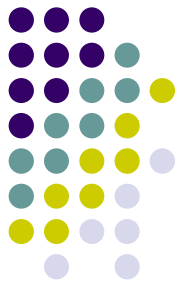
# Collaboration with County Department of Job and Family Services



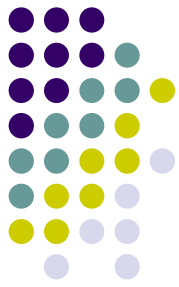
Some of the technical support you can receive:

- Eligibility Determinations
- Entering cases into the statewide automated information system (SACWIS)
- Referring Title IV-E eligible children to the local Child Support Enforcement Agency
- Procedures for transfer of earned federal Title IV-E reimbursements from the PCSA to the court
- Written interagency procedures with the CDJFS to access HealthChek

# Responsibilities of the County Commissioners



- Provide **at least** 75% of all payments received from ODJFS
- **Not to** retain unspent funds at the close of the fiscal year
- **Not to** reduce the court's overall appropriation on account of any funds received



## Why become a Title IV-E Court?

- **Improve** children and youth services in the county
- Special **emphasis on developing** community and neighborhood-based foster care resources in the county
- **Increase** the Federal Funding to support local budgets