

STATEWIDE RFA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CALLS
 MEETING MINUTES
 January 3, 2018
 Time: 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
 Location: Conference Call
 Call-In: 877-873-8017 Code: 5396369

County TA Questions	CDSS Response	Action Item
1) Is there an updated CalWORKs application?	Please see the CalWORKs website for the latest forms.	None.
2) We have CalWORKs questions. Who do we contact?	CalWORKs website has a list of assigned county analysts who can assist with policy questions.	None.
3) If a county denies our request for an out of county assessment of a relative and the relative lives far from the placing county, can the relative apply for RFA in that county?	Yes, the relative can apply in their county of residence.	None.
4) Question from county to other counties: Are any counties experiencing service providers requiring anyone with Hispanic background to go through the TB test instead of the screening?	One county responded that they have experienced a health professional refusing to complete the health screening form if the applicant does not get a TB test but it was not related to one specific ethnicity.	None.
5) The biological mother makes too much money so grandmother did not qualify for funding. What is the reason why the grandmother cannot be funded under foster care fund because they are an approved home?	<p>All homes must be approved in order to receive foster care funding. Funding eligibility is not based on the approval status of a home or the caregiver's income; it is based on a child's Title IV-E eligibility, which is determined by various criteria at the time of removal, including the parent's income. If a child is not federally eligible, ARC will supplement the CalWORKS for relatives once the home is approved. The CalWORKS benefit gets bundled up with state funds and is sent out as a single ARC payment. ARC is now mandatory for all counties.</p> <p>If it is a nonrelative caregiver, including a NFREM, the caregiver will qualify for state-only AFDC-FC. (Nonrelatives do not qualify for CalWORKS.)</p>	None.

6) The court ordered the child placed with birth father who resides in a motel room. Can the birth father be approved through RFA?	RFA is an assessment of individuals interested in providing foster care. A birth parent cannot provide foster care for their own dependent child. Please follow county policy and procedure for placing children with birth parents.	None.
7) Our local court requests us to complete non-related guardianship homestudies for probate court. Can we give the court the RFA Written Report or should we inform the court that the children are dependent children?	Other counties have given probate court a standalone report, which can include a summary of the Written Report, but will not give them the entire RFA Written Report.	None.
8) Is CCL tracking foster family homes that were approved by CCL whose licenses are now forfeited so that we know not to place in that home?	CCL is in the process of compiling a list and will send the list to the 20 counties that CCL licensed homes for to confirm their list is accurate. Those counties will then send the list back to CCL and CCL will notify the homes and close the homes in LIS. Please update CWS/CMS to reflect the accurate placement in 2017. Please keep in mind that respite care and approved adoption homestudies might be difficult to track in CWS/CMS.	None.
9) Can CCL share the letter notifying the home of closure?	CCL will share the letter notifying the closure home with the counties for consistency.	None.
10) We were informed by Culver City Children's Residential Regional Office that LIS would update CWS/CMS by automatically closing out the home in CWS/CMS when CCL closes the home. Is this true?	Manager Dora Hesia will follow-up with Culver City Children's Regional Office to confirm.	Dora Hesia will follow-up with Culver City Regional Office.

Updates:

- **Reminder: CalWORKs application must be given to applicants/relatives at the time of ER placement (Section 7-01(c)(4)). Best practice is to help relatives complete the form.**
- **Reminder: Homes that did not have a placement, provided respite care, or have an approved adoption home study by 12/31/2017, their license is forfeited by operation of law ([ACL 17-16](#)). Please review your roster to make sure you don't place in these homes.**
- **It is anticipated that Written Directives version 5 will be released at the end of March to be effective in April, however it may be delayed depending on feedback from people.**

- **TARFAs will begin in February and will be held quarterly. It is important to have RFA workers attend as the focus of the TARFAs is on how to process an RFA application and monitor the family. Tele-conference is available if workers are unable to make it in person.**

Next Meeting: February 7, 2018, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm