

May 8, 2024

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 23-62E**

The purpose of this erratum is to include additional information to All County Letter 23-62 regarding how juvenile probation agencies can be reimbursed for their participation in the Child Welfare Services-California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES) design and development.



KIM JOHNSON  
DIRECTOR

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • [www.cdss.ca.gov](http://www.cdss.ca.gov)



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

May 8, 2024

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 23-62E

TO: ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
COUNTY WELFARE FISCAL OFFICERS  
ALL TITLE IV-E TRIBES

SUBJECT: ERRATUM TO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES-CALIFORNIA  
AUTOMATED RESPONSE AND ENGAGEMENT SYSTEM  
PROJECT FOR CORE CONSTITUENT PARTICIPATION

REFERENCE: [ALL COUNTY LETTER \(ACL\) 23-62, ACL 14-36, AND COUNTY FISCAL LETTER \(CFL\) 14/15-29](#)

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this erratum is to provide information on how juvenile probation agencies can be reimbursed for their participation in Child Welfare Services-California Automated Response Engagement System (CWS-CARES) design and development.

Core constituents are County, State, or Tribal representatives who collaborate with Child Welfare Digital Services in research, design, testing, and support of activities for the implementation or improvement of a Digital Service. This includes County Probation Departments (CPD), who perform activities on behalf of candidates for foster care and are current users of CWS/CMS. Since CPDs will be entering pertinent case information into CWS-CARES, their input and feedback are invaluable to its design and development. As such, CPDs are qualified to seek Title IV-E reimbursement for eligible costs related to CWS-CARES CCP activities. The mechanism to do so is through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with their respective County Welfare Department (CWD). Because Title IV-E federal funds are distributed at the local level, to the CWDs, a current MOU is fundamental to the transmission of funds between departments.

As both departments have access to Title IV-E funding, each are responsible for establishing the MOU and independently fostering a partnership to maximize the reach of these available reimbursement funds.

The [ACL 14-36](#) and [CFL 14/15-29](#) serve as the most up-to-date source on claiming, examples of reimbursable activities, and establishing reasonable candidacy for foster care. Additionally, the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC) has considerable resources on their website ([www.cpoc.org](http://www.cpoc.org)), including but not limited to, a sample MOU template between Probation and Child Welfare departments.

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in these errata, contact the Child Welfare System Branch at [CWSB-Fiscal@otsi.ca.gov](mailto:CWSB-Fiscal@otsi.ca.gov). With questions concerning fiscal claiming, contact [fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov](mailto:fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By***

DIANNA WAGNER  
Assistant Deputy Director  
Children and Family Services Division