



CDSS

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

September 22, 2011

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-53-11

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
COUNTY CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS

SUBJECT: TITLE IV-E CHILD WELFARE WAIVER DEMONSTRATION CAPPED ALLOCATION PROJECT FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION PROPOSAL

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE (ACIN) I-30-06, ACIN I-47-06, ACIN I-47-06E, ACIN I-83-06; COUNTY FISCAL LETTER (CFL) No. 10/11-47

The purpose of this ACIN is to provide counties with updated information on extending the current Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Capped Allocation Project (CAP). The five-year project began on July 1, 2007, and will end on June 30, 2012. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) submitted an initial request for a five-year extension to the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on July 10, 2010, and received federal approval for an initial short-term ten-month waiver extension. The CDSS requested an additional two months and on February 28, 2011, received short-term extension approval to operate the CAP through June 30, 2013.

The CAP is in the fifth year and the CDSS is in the process of developing a full five-year extension proposal per requirements referenced in DHHS, Administration for Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) program instruction (ACYF-CB-IM-02-06), issued May 23, 2002, that outlines the extension criteria for current child welfare demonstration projects. Per program instructions this proposal would be due to be submitted to DHHS by January 2012. The waiver extension proposal is being developed in collaboration with the two CAP counties, Alameda and Los Angeles, any additional counties interested in participating in the CAP under an extension, and stakeholders.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

The CDSS will be holding an informational presentation on Thursday, October 20, 2011, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., for any additional counties that may have an interest in the waiver extension. This presentation will include both on-site and teleconference facilities and is scheduled to be held at the CDSS Department, located at 744 P Street, in Sacramento, California. The CDSS will be providing an update on the waiver extension, a panel presentation from the current CAP counties, and a question and answer forum.

The current federal Waiver Terms and Conditions allows up to 20 counties to participate in the waiver demonstration and requires that both County Child Welfare and Probation Departments be included in the CAP. Therefore, CDSS requests that for any interested county, representatives from both departments participate in the meeting.

If your county is interested in the waiver extension and would like to participate in the informational presentation, please register with Connie Hamilton at (916) 651-6600 or by e-mail at connie.hamilton@dss.ca.gov, as on-site space is limited and in order for participants to receive teleconference call-in information.

CURRENT FEDERAL WAIVER PROVISIONS

The DHHS specifically waived sections 472(a) and 474 (a)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act and 45 Code of Federal Regulations 1356.60(c)(3). This waiver allows participating counties to expend Title IV-E funds on both eligible and non-eligible children and families, and provide payments for direct services to children and families that are not allowed under the current Title IV-E regulations.

For any interested county evaluating the feasibility of participating in an extension, a preliminary analysis would need to be done and includes reviewing the current federal and state fiscal methodology, original fiscal and programmatic requirements, and other key factors as referenced in ACIN I-47-06 and ACIN I-83-06. Key issues are:

- A fiscal analysis of the Title IV-E funding capped allocation methodology using the County Funding Template.
- Determining how any proposed use of flexible federal funding would support improved safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children.
- Determining how a county project would support and/or expand practice, programs, and system improvements as identified in the County System Improvement Plan including how project strategies might impact specific targeted outcomes.

It should be noted that the final federal fiscal methodology for the five-year extension will be determined during negotiations with DHHS as part of the waiver extension approval process. As such, the CDSS recognizes that until the extension fiscal methodology and federal Waiver Terms and Conditions are finalized, counties cannot complete a full fiscal analysis and assess the impact of possible program efforts.

At this time, counties can refer to the previously issued ACINs and the most recent waiver allocation, CFL No. 10/11-47, issued December 29, 2010, to provide guidance on what costs are included under the waiver capped allocation.

The original County Funding Template is currently in the process of being updated to an excel spreadsheet. Interested counties may request to receive a copy when available by sending an e-mail to IV-EWaiver@dss.ca.gov. Other CAP documents are posted and available on the CDSS website at www.childsworld.ca.gov/PG1333.htm.

If you have questions regarding the waiver extension, please contact Mary Sheppard, Manager of the Integrated Services Unit, at (916) 651-6600 or by e-mail at Mary.Sheppard@dss.ca.gov. If you have fiscal questions, please identify your questions as "IV-E Waiver Extension" and send them to fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

LINNÉ STOUT, Chief
Child Protection and Family Support Branch