

OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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OCFS-4616EL (Rev. 11/98)

Transmittal No: 99 OCFS LCM-24

Date: September 01, 1999

Division: Administration

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Transportation Funds for Juvenile Delinquents (JD)
for Meeting Federal Adoption and Safe Families Act
Requirements for Permanency Hearings

ATTACHMENTS: Juvenile Delinquent ASFA Transportation
Allocations
(Available on-line)

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise Local District Commissioners of additional State funding being allocated to local social services districts to offset the costs of transporting Juvenile Delinquents to permanency planning hearings before the Family Court as required by the Federal Adoption and Safe Families Act and the State implementing legislation, Chapter 7 of the Laws of 1999 (Chapter 7). These funds are being allocated in accordance with Chapter 7, and are in addition to funds allocated for the Family and Children's Services Block Grant. These funds represent 50 percent State reimbursement, net of applicable Federal funding.

Guidelines for Transportation Funds for Juvenile Delinquents
Requiring Permanency Planning Hearings

Consistent with the Federal Adoption and Safe Families Act, Chapter 7 requires that a permanency planning hearing must be held within the initial 12 months of the child's placement in foster care determined as starting the sooner of 60 days after removal from the home or a finding of abuse or neglect. Failure to comply with this and other provisions of these statutes could jeopardize Federal funding. Eligible costs include expenditures occurring on or after February 11, 1999 for transporting Juvenile Delinquents to and from permanency planning hearings. Such costs include staff accompanying youth to hearings, fuel, tolls, vehicle maintenance and repairs, food and lodging associated with trips to permanency planning hearings and public transportation. IRS-approved mileage rates may be used in lieu of actual expenses. Reimbursement is available for transportation provided and/or arranged by local social services district staff, voluntary agency staff and foster parents. These funds are available only for permanency planning hearings that occur separately from extension of placement hearings.

Distribution of Funds to Local Social Services Districts

Each local social services district will receive an allocation from the appropriation made available by Chapter 7. This allocation is based upon each local social services district's proportionate share of the total number of Juvenile Delinquents residing in authorized agencies as of December 31, 1998. This includes Juvenile Delinquents both in the custody of the State Office of Children and Family Services' Commissioner and in the custody of local social services district Commissioners. The attachment to this memorandum shows the allocation being made to each district. To enable timely distribution of these funds, these allocations are being made as an advance in order to comply with State Finance Law requirements. Local social services district claims will be accepted for expenditures occurring through December 31, 1999. Claims for these expenditures must be submitted by January 31, 2000, after which date accounts will be reconciled. Advance amounts that are not spent will be recouped.

Local social services districts are also advised that an additional LCM governing use of funds appropriated in the 1999-2000 state budget, Chapter 53, Laws of 1999, for Adoption and Safe Families Act-related JD transport costs, will be forthcoming. Consistent with the language in Chapter 53, Laws of 1999, that LCM will provide an option for the Office of Children and Family Services to directly reimburse voluntary agencies for these transportation costs.

Local Social Services District Expenditure Report

The local social services districts will report their administrative costs associated with transporting Juvenile Delinquents to permanency planning hearings as F17 function code expenditures. These administrative costs will be identified to the Title IV-E, EAF, and Non-Title IV-E programs based on the category of the children transported. If more than one child is being transported at the same time, then the costs for that trip should be allocated by the number of children in each category.

These allocated costs should be claimed on separate columns of the Schedule D17 "Distribution of Allocated Costs to Other Reimbursable Programs" (LDSS-3274). The costs from each column of the Schedule D17 are to be brought forward to a separate LDSS-3922 form entitled, "Financial Summary for Special Projects" and reported on the appropriate lines.

Each LDSS-3922 should be labeled as "JD-Trans-IV-E", or "JD-Trans-EAF" or "JD-Trans-Non-IV-E." Costs reported on the "JD-Trans-IV-E" and "JD-Trans-EAF" are reported at 50 percent Federal share, 25 percent State share and 25 percent local share.

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Costs reported on the "JD-Trans-Non-IV-E" are 50 percent State share and 50 percent local share. All costs are reimbursed up to the limit of the allocation.

All claims for reimbursement are to be submitted to the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Bureau of Financial Services - OTDA Claims Unit, 40 N. Pearl Street, 14th Floor, Albany, New York 12243.

Information/Questions

Questions pertaining to the allocations may be directed to Deborah J. Hanor, Director, Office of Budget Management, (518) 474-1361.

Questions pertaining to the claiming instructions may be directed to Mr. Roland Levie (Regions I-IV) at 1-800-343-5589, extension 4-7549 (User ID # FMS001) or in Region V Mr. Marvin Gold at 212-383-1733 (User ID # OFM270).

Melvin I. Rosenblat
Deputy Commissioner
of Administration

Juvenile Delinquent ASFA Transportation
Allocations

| County Name | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Albany | \$ 26,836 |
| Allegany | \$ 516 |
| Broome | \$ 9,289 |
| Cattaraugus | \$ 4,129 |
| Cayuga | \$ 13,418 |
| Chautauqua | \$ 7,225 |
| Chemung | \$ 10,838 |
| Chenango | \$ 2,064 |
| Clinton | \$ 516 |
| Columbia | \$ 1,548 |
| Cortland | \$ - |
| Delaware | \$ 1,032 |
| Dutchess | \$ 9,806 |
| Erie | \$ 20,643 |
| Essex | \$ 1,548 |
| Franklin | \$ 7,741 |
| Fulton | \$ 516 |
| Genesee | \$ 7,225 |
| Greene | \$ 3,613 |
| Hamilton | \$ - |
| Herkimer | \$ 2,580 |
| Jefferson | \$ 11,354 |
| Lewis | \$ - |
| Livingston | \$ 4,129 |
| Madison | \$ 3,096 |
| Monroe | \$ 53,672 |
| Montgomery | \$ 2,064 |
| Nassau | \$ 34,061 |
| Niagara | \$ 5,677 |
| Oneida | \$ 10,322 |
| Onondaga | \$ 24,256 |
| Ontario | \$ 8,257 |
| Orange | \$ 8,257 |
| Orleans | \$ 4,129 |
| Oswego | \$ 11,870 |
| Otsego | \$ 5,677 |
| Putnam | \$ - |
| Rensselaer | \$ 5,677 |
| Rockland | \$ 3,096 |
| St. Lawrence | \$ 3,613 |
| Saratoga | \$ 8,773 |
| Schenectady | \$ 4,645 |
| Schoharie | \$ 516 |
| Schuyler | \$ 516 |
| Seneca | \$ 2,580 |
| Steuben | \$ 6,193 |
| Suffolk | \$ 18,579 |
| Sullivan | \$ 2,580 |

Juvenile Delinquent ASFA Transportation
Allocations

County Name

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Tioga | \$ 2,580 |
| Tompkins | \$ 1,032 |
| Ulster | \$ 2,580 |
| Warren | \$ 2,064 |
| Washington | \$ 1,548 |
| Wayne | \$ 6,709 |
| Westchester | \$ 11,354 |
| Wyoming | \$ 1,032 |
| Yates | \$ 2,064 |
| New York City | \$284,365 |