

Title IV-E FCM Preliminary Review & Upcoming Federal Eligibility Review

- We will begin promptly at 1:30 p.m.
- Please type in any questions.
- We will answer questions at points throughout the presentation.

INTRODUCTIONS

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PRELIMINARY REVIEW

- Policy Staff reviewed 100 Foster Care Maintenance (FCM) cases that were randomly selected from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).
- To be selected, the child had to be determined eligible and reimbursable during the period under review (PUR) October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018 and receive at least one payment.
- Cases pulled were from 42 different counties.
- Policy staff used the Federal Review Instrument dated July 2015.

COMPONENTS OF THE REVIEW

- Legal Responsibility
- Required Judicial Determinations
- Age
- Deprivation
- Need
- Specified Relative
- Safety Requirements/BCII
- Reasonable Efforts to finalize the child's permanency plan
- Licensed Setting

FINDINGS FROM THE PRELIMINARY REVIEW

ERROR CASES

- (2) cases - No reasonable efforts within 60 days of removal
- (1) case - ADC relatedness (deprivation) not met
- (1) case - Safety checks on foster parent not provided

INELIGIBLE PAYMENTS OUTSIDE THE PUR

- (1) case - Untimely annual reasonable efforts to finalize the permanency plan

PRIMARY FEDERAL FCM ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

- The Children's Bureau (CB) has confirmed the week of November 4 – 8, 2019 for the next review.
- 80 cases will be reviewed + 20 cases in the oversample.
(Waiver county cases will not be reviewed)
- The period under review is October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.
- OFC expects to receive the case sample by September 2019.

PRIMARY FEDERAL FCM ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

- The review will be held in Columbus, OH at the OFC Central Office.
- Staff will be in contact with agencies that have cases pulled in order to arrange a time to pick up the case(s) and bring them back to the Central Office.
- All cases will need to be brought to the Central Office prior to November.
- Once the cases are at Central Office, the cases will be reviewed to ensure that all the necessary documentation is available for the review.

PRIMARY FEDERAL FCM ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

- Each agency will need a contact person who will be the person responsible for gathering the case(s) documentation for the review.
- This person will be contacted by OFC staff regarding the case(s) pulled for the review.
- The agency contact will need to be available during the month of September and October for communication with OFC staff regarding the case(s).
- The agency contact will need to be available the week of November 4 – 8, 2019 for any questions or additional information needed for the case(s).

PRIMARY FEDERAL FCM ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

- Cases will remain at the Central Office until the results of the review are known.
- Let OFC staff know if your agency records are copies and can be shredded.
- Any cases that cannot be shredded will be returned to your agency by the end of year.

PRIMARY FEDERAL FCM ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

- OFC staff will notify each agency of any error findings or improper payments outside the period under review (PUR).
- Cases with a disallowance of FFP will need repaid via paper check within 30 days of being notified by the Children's Bureau.
- Ohio can have no more than 4 error cases statewide to pass the review.
- If Ohio is found in non-compliance with the IV-E eligibility requirements, a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) will be necessary.

REVIEW INSTRUMENT

- (F) Relevant dates on pages 2 and 3.

Question 10. On what date was the child removed from the home? Enter Removal date: _____.

Question 11. On what date did the child enter foster care?
Entry date _____.

This is the date of the adjudication or within 60 days of the removal date, whichever occurs earlier.

REVIEW INSTRUMENT

- (J) Ongoing judicial Activity Reasonable efforts to finalize the permanency plan on pages 12 and 13.

Questions 19, 19(a), 19(b), 19(c) and 19 (d).

- The “Entry date” on page 3, sets the timeframe for the annual reasonable efforts finding.
- The due date is 12 months from the “Entry date” unless it is a subsequent finding and then it is due 12 months from the date of the last annual finding.

REVIEW INSTRUMENT

- (N) Placement in licensed foster care settings on pages 24 through 31.

Questions 28 through 37

- The type of setting the child was placed in during the PUR
- The safety checks completed on the provider(s).

Foster care:

- If the provider was licensed prior to Oct. 1, 2008, then the first BCI and FBI check that was completed after Oct. 1, 2008 is required.
- If the provider was licensed on or after Oct. 1, 2008, then the BCI and FBI check that was completed at their initial licensure is required.

REVIEW INSTRUMENT

- Each agency will be responsible for providing every license and required background (safety) checks for all foster care placements during the PUR.
- Each agency will be responsible for providing the license for all residential centers or group homes for every placement during the PUR.
- OFC staff will obtain the background checks completed on the staff in the residential centers and group home for all placements during the PUR.

ONGOING MONITORING

- The Office of Fiscal and Monitoring Services (OFMS) conducts on-going reviews of FCM cases for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) as part of the requirement for self-monitoring.
- OFMS uses the same process for obtaining their random sample. The size of the agency determines the number of cases pulled.
- OFMS staff uses the July 2015 Eligibility Review Instrument.

ONGOING MONITORING

- OFMS staff need to see verification of all requirements
 - SACWIS Inquiry with CRIS-e, OIES or Ohio Benefits
 - Questionnaires signed by parents
 - Check stubs, bank information or taxes
 - Activity logs
 - Information gathered during the assessment by the caseworker
 - Complaints and all Court orders

- If OFMS finds an error case(s), the agency is contacted by sending a JFS 04194. The agency responds to the finding by sending back the JFS 04195 to OFMS. All error findings are shared with OFC IV-E policy staff for corrective action.

- OFMS staff will be assisting OFC staff with the actual review in November.

UPCOMING TRAINING

- A new FCM worker training has been scheduled for April 9th or April 24th. This is a one day training. Staff need to only attend one. Registration information will be out soon.
- A one hour webinar regarding court orders and IV-E will be held on May 1st at 10:00 a.m.
- A one hour webinar regarding ADC relatedness will be held on May 29th at 10:00 a.m.

WRAP UP

Questions??????????