



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott
Governor

David E. Wilkins
Secretary

DATE: August 3, 2012
TO: Regional Directors
THROUGH: Pete D'Agro, Deputy Secretary
FROM: Patricia Armstrong, LCSW, Director, Office of Child Welfare
SUBJECT: New Requirements for Obtaining Credit Histories for Foster Teens Age 16-17
DUE DATE: Effective Upon Receipt

PURPOSE: The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information regarding required amendments to Florida's Title IV-E State Plan for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance resulting from statutory provisions contained in the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act (Public Law 112-34).

BACKGROUND: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children, Youth, and Families has recently issued additional guidance on the implementation of annual credit report requirements and the submission, or resubmission of section 2.D.6 of the Title IV-E plan amendment.

These new requirements clearly state that foster care youth who have attained 16 years of age must receive, without cost, a copy of any consumer report (as defined in section 603(d) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act. Therefore, to be in compliance with this requirement, the Title IV-B/IV-E agency must have a copy of the credit report, if one exists, from **each of the three** main Credit Reporting Agencies (Transunion, Equifax, and Experian).

ACTION NEEDED: Please ensure that each of your community-based care lead agencies is immediately made aware of these updated credit history check requirements and takes immediate steps to begin complying, if necessary, with these new federal requirements.

See the link below for associated Administration for Children and Families documentation (Log No: ACYF-CB-PI-12-07) which provides additional guidance and information on how to request credit history information from each of the major three credit reporting agencies and properly clear any identified discrepancies.

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws_policies/policy/pi/2012/pi1207.pdf

CONTACT INFORMATION: Should you have questions, please contact Hans Soder, Office of Child Welfare, at 850-717-4632.

cc: CBC CEOs
CBC Contract Managers

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