



FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT (FFPSA)

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Applicable Child Change

Prevention/Candidacy

QRTP

What do you think of
when you hear FFPSA?

Background Check Changes

14 DAYS for CCI Placements

FFPSA

- ◇ The Act reforms the federal child welfare financing streams to provide services to families who are at risk of entering the child welfare system.
- ◇ Aims to prevent children from entering foster care by allowing federal reimbursement for evidence-based mental health services, substance use treatment, and in-home parenting skill training.
- ◇ Seeks to reduce the placement of children in congregate care (child-caring agencies) by specifying non-family foster home setting types eligible for IV-E reimbursement.

[02/09/2018]
**Family First
Prevention
Services Act was
signed into law
as part of the
Bipartisan
Budget Act**

[By 09/9/2018]
**Submit Plan
amendment for
Part VIII to
adjust
Applicable Child
age for
Adoptions**

[11/14/2018]
**ACF approval of
Florida's
election to delay
full
implementation**

**[Pending
Submission &
Approval]**
**ACF Approval of
Florida's IV-E
State Plan as to
FFPSA**

[10/01/2021]
**Florida FFPSA
implementation**

FFPSA = 8 PARTS

- I. **Prevention Activities Under Title IV-E**
- II. Enhanced Support Under Title IV-B
- III. Miscellaneous
- IV. **Ensuring The Necessity of a Placement That Is Not a Foster Family Home**
- V. Continuing Support for Child and Family Services
- VI. Continuing Incentives to States to Promote Adoption and Legal Guardianship
- VII. Technical Corrections
- VIII. Ensuring States Reinvest Savings Resulting from Increases in Adoption Assistance

PART I
IV-E PREVENTION PROGRAM

PREVENTION
IS BETTER THAN
CURE!



Part I

IV-E Prevention program

- ◇ Provides option for states to use title IV-E to provide up to 12 months of evidence-based mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and in-home parenting training to families at risk of entry of the child welfare system.
- ◇ Eligible candidates include children who can remain safely at home with receipt of services, youth in foster care who are parenting, or parents or caregivers where services are needed to prevent the child's entry into foster care.
- ◇ States must maintain a prevention plan for the child to remain safely at home that lists the services or programs to be provided.
- ◇ Services must be trauma-informed and pre-approved on the HHS Clearinghouse as promising, supported, well-supported evidence-based practices (at least 50% of total expenditures must be for well-supported practices).

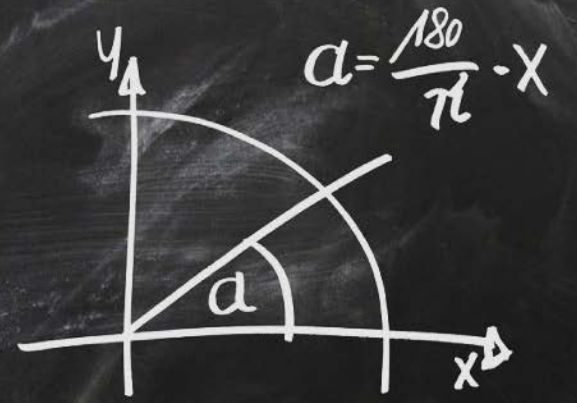
Part I

IV-E Prevention program

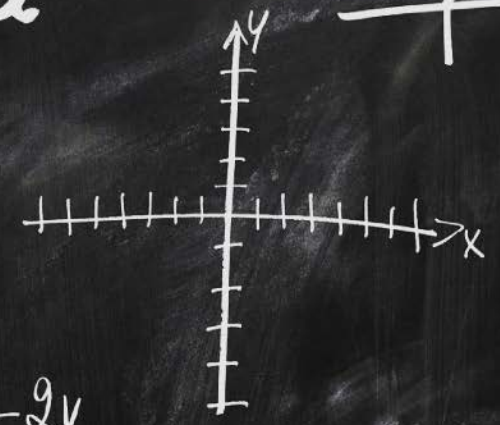
- ◇ Prevention claiming is not limited to Child Welfare clients only.
- ◇ Community partners offering eligible services to eligible families may submit through the Department for IV-E reimbursement.
- ◇ The FFPSA Technology Subcommittee is working toward a technology solution to meet the needs of all stakeholders.

PART IV
ENSURING THE
NECESSITY OF A
PLACEMENT
THAT IS NOT A
FOSTER FAMILY
HOME

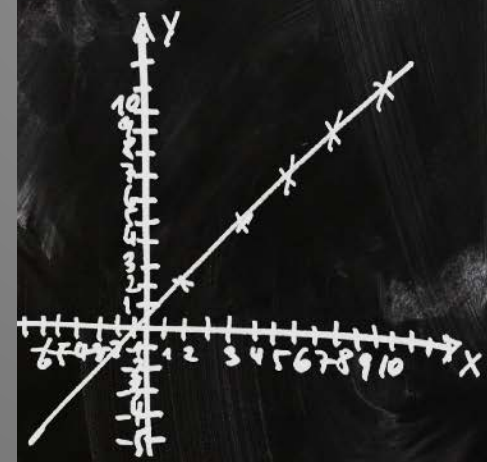
$$X_{1/2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$



$$X^2 + px + q = 0$$



$$X_{1/2} = -\frac{p}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 - q}$$



$$X = 6 - 2y$$

$$X + a = b$$

$$f(x) = \tan x$$

$$f(x) = \sin x$$

DEFINITIONS

Foster family home means, for the purpose of title IV-E eligibility, the home of an individual or family:

- a. that is licensed or approved by the State that meets the standards established for the licensing or approval; and
- b. in which a child in foster care has been **placed in the care of an individual, who resides with the child** and who has been licensed or approved by the State agency to be a foster parent that the agency deems capable of adhering to the reasonable and prudent parent standard; that provides 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or other caretakers; and that **provides the care for not more than six children in foster care.**
- c. in which the number of foster children that may be cared for in a foster family home may not exceed six, **except at the option of the State agency,** for any of the following reasons:
 - (i) To allow a parenting youth in foster care to remain with the child of the parenting youth.
 - (ii) To allow siblings to remain together.
 - (iii) To allow a child with an established meaningful relationship with the family to remain with the family.
 - (iv) To allow a family with special training or skills to provide care to a child who has a severe disability.

DEFINITIONS

Child care institution means a private child care institution, or a public child care institution which accommodates no more than 25 children, and is licensed by the State in which it is situated, in the case of a child who has attained 18 years of age, the term includes a supervised setting in which the individual is living independently.

This definition must not include detention facilities, forestry camps, training schools, or any other facility operated primarily for the detention of children who are determined to be delinquent.

NEW: Licensed residential family-based treatment facility for substance abuse means a treatment facility provides, as part of the treatment for substance abuse, parenting skills training, parent education, and individual and family counseling; under an organizational structure and treatment framework that involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma and in accordance with recognized principles of a trauma-informed approach and trauma-specific interventions to address the consequences of trauma and facilitate healing.

NOTE: This program is not defined as a CCI.

DEFINITIONS

NEW: Qualified residential treatment program (QRTP) means a program that has trauma-informed treatment model that is designed to address the needs, including clinical needs as appropriate, of children with serious emotional or behavioral disorders or disturbances and, with respect to a child, is able to implement the treatment identified for the child by the assessment of the child required under section 475A(c).

In addition to these requirements, a **QRTP** must be accredited by any of the independent, not-for-profit organizations listed at 472(k)(4)(G) of the Act or any other independent, not-for-profit accrediting organization of a similar type and kind as those already identified in the Act approved by the Secretary.

DEFINITIONS

Foster care maintenance payment (FCMP) means as defined in section 475(4) of the Social Security Act as: "...payments to cover the cost of (and the cost of providing) food, clothing, shelter, daily supervision, school supplies, a child's personal incidentals, liability insurance with respect to a child and reasonable travel to the child's home for visitation and reasonable travel for the child to remain in the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement. In the case of institutional care, such term shall include the reasonable costs of administration and operation of such institution as are necessarily required to provide the items described in the preceding sentence."

The cost items listed in the first sentence apply equally to family foster care and institutional foster care. The costs of providing the items may include costs such as local transportation necessary for either a foster parent or institution to provide the items. However, allowable costs do not include reimbursement in the nature of salary for the exercise by the foster family of ordinary parental duties.

The second sentence applies only to institutional foster care. The reasonable costs of administration and operation necessary to provide the items only for children served under title IV-E foster care are allowable elements in payments to CCI. Since these costs are limited types of activities and apply only to title IV-E children, the costs of foster care in institutions will have to be allocated along two lines: (1) the allocation of costs, for purposes of Federal financial participation (FFP), based on allowable cost items and activities; and (2) the allocation of costs based on the proportion of children in the institution receiving foster care under title IV-E for those allowable elements compared to children whose care is paid under other programs.

The establishment of a cost allocation system for institutions, as well as for the title IV-E agency itself, is a title IV-E agency-responsibility and is a necessary precursor to the title IV-E agency's ability to claim FFP for allowable institutional foster care costs.

FFPSA REIMBURSABLE PLACEMENT SETTINGS

Title IV-E foster care maintenance payments (FCMP) are made only on behalf of an eligible child who is:

- a. in the foster family home of an individual or family; or
- b. **in a child care institution (CCI) for up to two weeks**. Title IV-E agencies may continue to claim administrative costs for the duration of the period in the CCI regardless of whether the CCI meets the restrictions in section 472(k) of the Act; or
- c. **placed with a parent residing in a licensed residential family-based treatment facility for substance abuse up to 12 months (subject to additional requirements per section 472(j) of the Act).**

After two weeks, title IV-E FCMP claiming for a child placed in a CCI is **only allowable** if that CCI is

1. a **"qualified residential treatment program" (QRTP); or**
2. a **setting specializing in providing prenatal, post-partum, or parenting supports for youth; or**
3. **in the case of a youth who has attained 18 years of age, a supervised setting in which the youth is living independently;**
4. a **setting providing high-quality residential care and supportive services (*defined by IV-E agency*) to children and youth who have been found to be, or are at risk of becoming, sex trafficking victims.**

NOTE: The placement setting claiming limitations apply to new placements made on or after our FFPSA implementation date.



PLACEMENT W/ PARENT RESIDING IN A LICENSED RESIDENTIAL FAMILY-BASED SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITY

Florida is reviewing the statutory changes that would need to occur in order to implement these placement settings.

IV-E eligible without regard to AFDC requirements in 472(a)(3) of the Act.

FCMP may not include costs of administration and operation of facility since not a CCI.

QRTP PLACEMENT ASSESSMENTS – SUMMARY

30-day assessment by a qualified individual. If not completed within 30 days of start of placement, cannot claim FCMP after the initial 14 days but can claim administrative costs during the entire placement.

Qualified individual. The term “qualified individual” means a trained professional or licensed clinician who is not an employee of the title agency and who is not connected to, or affiliated with, any placement setting in which children are placed by the title IV-E agency. For example, a qualified individual may be a licensed social worker or a trained child welfare worker.

60-day court review. Within 60 days of the start of each QRTP placement, the court must consider the assessment, determination, and documentation made by the qualified individual in approving the placement. If the court does not approve the placement timely, i.e., within the 60-day timeframe, the title IV-E agency may only claim title IV-E FCMPs for the first 60 days of the placement in the QRTP.

Long-term placements. For each QRTP placement a child age 13 and older is placed for more than 12 consecutive months or 18 non-consecutive months, the child’s case plan must maintain documentation of the most recent version of evidence/documentation supporting the placement and signed approval of the head of the state agency for the continued placement. For a child under age 13, the same applies for placements more than six consecutive or nonconsecutive months.

Administrative costs. Administrative costs for the duration of the placement in the QRTP regardless of whether the requirements (assessment, documentation and judicial determination requirements for placement in a QRTP) are met.

Exiting QRTP. FCMP may continue to be claiming for 30 days after: the assessment determines that the QRTP is not appropriate; a court disapproves placement; or a determination is made that a child in an QRTP is going to return home or be placed with a relative, a legal guardian, an adoptive parent, or in a foster family home.

FSFN FFPSA Enhancements

April/May/June 2020 Releases

- ◆ Organizational Provider Updates
- ◆ Added Child Caring Agency subtypes including QRTP, At-Risk Home
- ◆ Licensing Improvements

October 2020 Release

- ◆ Provider updates
- ◆ Streamlined UHS
- ◆ Licensing Improvements
- ◆ Provider Background Screening Safety Requirement Compliance page
- ◆ BOE Universe Updates

January 2021 Release

- ◆ Expanded Mental Health Evaluation Documentation
- ◆ New Comprehensive Placement Assessment
- ◆ Living Arrangement-Family Made Arrangement
- ◆ BOE Universe Updates

FSFN FFPSA Enhancements

Upcoming 2021 Releases

- ◇ Provider Licensing Report
- ◇ IV-E Eligibility Automation for Provider Background Screening Safety Requirement Compliance
- ◇ Documenting Child Factors when Recommending Group Care
- ◇ Documenting Pregnancy and Parenting Information
- ◇ IV-E Eligibility claiming for FFPSA placement settings

ANY
QUESTIONS?

