

# Operations Manual

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## 2227. Quality Initiative

2227. Quality Initiative [admin](#) Wed, 05/08/2019 - 21:08

1. Executive Order 97-03 requires each agency to implement a quality improvement program. The continuous quality improvement approach has demonstrated improved performance in a wide range of public and private organizations. Successful quality efforts require effective leadership, strategic planning, customer focus, employee involvement, continuous improvement, and self-assessment of results.
2. Each agency is required to implement a program to improve the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of the public service it provides. Improvement in quality is to be accomplished through:
  1. Business process redesign, employee involvement (including involvement of recognized collective bargaining representatives), and other quality improvement techniques.
  2. Provision of training to employees to enable them to successfully implement and complete their efforts in quality improvement.
  3. Designation of a person in each agency to be responsible for improvement of the quality of the systems and work processes within the agency.
  4. Establishment of a Quality Steering Committee composed of appropriate senior management, mid-management, front line staff, and support staff organizations.
3. The CA Quality Improvement Manager provides statewide coordination and technical assistance to support the Quality Initiative. The position is responsible for:
  1. Planning, coordinating, and implementing activities to further the Quality Initiative.
  2. Preparing the CA's annual quality improvement plan and revising as needed.
  3. Providing training regarding continuous quality improvement (CQI) theory and practice for all organizational levels of CA.
  4. Assisting quality improvement teams to use the continuous improvement strategy, including statistical process control.
  5. Developing mechanisms to report on the status of implementation of the Quality Initiative and progress made by quality improvement teams.
  6. Facilitating identification of priority areas for process improvement.
  7. Designing, administering, and analyzing customer, client, and employee surveys.

## 3300. Advisory Committees

3300. Advisory Committees [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:43

## **3310. CA Advisory Committees**

3310. CA Advisory Committees [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:44

RCW 43.20A.360 and RCW 74.13.031 govern the creation and utilization of a statewide Children's Services Advisory Committee as well as Regional Oversight Committees.

## **3311. State Children's Services Advisory Committee**

3311. State Children's Services Advisory Committee [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:44

1. The task of the statewide committee is to assist the Secretary in the development of a partnership plan for utilizing resources of the public and private sectors and to advise on all matters pertaining to child welfare, adoption, and related services.
2. The statewide committee membership is a broad-based group of child and family advocates, at least one of whom is from the adoption community, who represent diverse geographic, cultural, political, service/treatment, and other professional constituencies.
3. The statewide committee consists of 18 members -- two from each region and six at-large. At least five members must be from Regions 1 and 2. One member of each regional committee shall represent the region as a member of the statewide committee.
4. Membership is by application to the Assistant Secretary, and members may serve a maximum of two three-year terms.
5. The statewide committee holds 10 regularly scheduled one-day meetings each year. Travel arrangements and reimbursement are handled through the state office for the committee.

## **4000. Non Discrimination - Minority Affairs**

4000. Non Discrimination - Minority Affairs [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:45

## **4100. DSHS Non-Discrimination Policy**

4100. DSHS Non-Discrimination Policy [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:46

Children's Administration (CA) staff must follow the Nondiscrimination in Direct Client Services Administrative Policy No. 18.81 when working with clients.

## **4200. Work Force Diversity**

4200. Work Force Diversity [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:47

1. CA is an equal opportunity employer and bases its employment practices on Affirmative Action requirements. The Administration's Affirmative Action Plan establishes hiring targets by job groups and protected group categories for all permanent classified positions.
2. The Administration's goal is to achieve a statewide workforce that reflects the ethnic and cultural composition of the client population in each service delivery area. In order to meet this goal, each region

and headquarters maintains a staff recruitment plan which identifies hiring targets that are based on the ethnic and cultural composition of the client population and includes persons of disabilities

## 4320. Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

4320. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:48

**Approval By:** Jennifer Strus, Asst. Secretary

**Effective Date:** June 1, 1989

**Revised Date:** May 1, 2014

**Sunset Review:** June 2018

### Purpose Statement

To provide Limited English Proficiency (LEP) clients access to CA programs and services in a timely manner and at no cost. LEP means persons are limited in their ability to read, write or speak English or have a limited ability to speak or read English well enough to understand and communicate effectively.

### Laws

[Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964](#)

[RCW 74.04.025](#)

[Chapter 49.60 RCW](#)

[Chapter 388-271 WAC](#)

### Policy

1. Provide each Limited English Proficient (LEP) client verbal and written information in his or her own language through certified or qualified interpreters and translators at every phase of service delivery, at no cost and without significant delay as outlined in DSHS Administrative Policy 7.21 Access to Services for LEP Clients.
2. Post [multilingual signs](#) in CA office reception areas, that explain LEP services are available at no cost to the client and without significant delay.
3. Obtain interpreter services for LEP clients whenever there is difficulty in communication, even if the client has not requested interpreter assistance.
4. Use only DSHS certified/qualified interpreters or certified/authorized bilingual staff for in-person communications when serving LEP families. Informal interpretation through family, friends, or office staff members who are not certified is not appropriate. Children, family members, family friends, neighbors, etc., should not serve as interpreters.
5. LEP clients have the right to secure, at their own expense, their own interpreter or have an adult family member or adult friend serve as their interpreter. This does not waive the CA worker's responsibility to arrange for a certified/qualified interpreter to assist CA staff in communicating in-person with the client.
6. Do not allow an interpreter unsupervised access to clients (i.e., do not leave an interpreter alone with clients).



7. Use only DSHS contracted translation companies or DSHS certified bilingual staff for translation work.

## Procedures

1. Establish with the client the primary language in which the client prefers to communicate.
2. Arrange interpreter and translation language services for LEP clients as needed. If the assigned CA worker is a certified/authorized bilingual employee, document in a case note.
3. Mark the client as LEP in FamLink (on the "Basic Person Management Page"). Record each client's primary language in FamLink and the case file, and mark "LEP" on the outside of each LEP client's file/binder.
4. Document the use of all LEP services (e.g., use of interpreters or when clients are given translated documents or publications) in FamLink or by documenting on [DCYF 15-245 LEP Client Service Record](#).
5. File copies of all translated client specific documents (e.g. Court Report) in the case file with the corresponding English document or upload translated document(s) into FamLink.

## Forms and Tools

[DCYF 15-245 LEP Client Service Record](#)

## Resources

The following resources are located on the CA Intranet.

### Interpreter Services

- How to get an in-person interpreter (not for court)
- On-Demand telephone Interpreter Services
- Court interpreters
- List of Interpreter Referral Agencies on the WA State Department of Enterprise Services Interpreter Contract
- Guidelines for hiring a non-certified/qualified interpreter
- Guidelines for working with spoken language interpreters
- Court interpreter payment guidelines

### Translation Services

- How to get documents translated
- DSHS Forms in other languages
- DSHS Publications in other languages

# 4330. Serving Persons with Disabilities

4330. Serving Persons with Disabilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:49

1. CA staff will provide equal access to its services and programs to persons who are deaf, deaf-blind, and hard of hearing in accordance with DSHS Administrative Policy 7.20.
2. CA provides equal access to its services and programs to persons with disabilities. The Administration will provide reasonable accommodations to all clients with disabilities and take steps to furnish

appropriate auxiliary aids and services whenever necessary to make services accessible to persons with disabilities.

3. Primary consideration will be given to the preferences of the individual with the disability in determining what type of auxiliary aid or service is necessary. These auxiliary aids or services include, but are not limited to:
  1. Telecommunications devices for the deaf (TDD). These devices are connected to telephone lines and enable persons who are deaf or hard of hearing to communicate through printed messages. Each local office must be equipped with a TDD or teletypewriter (TTY).
  2. Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service, a statewide 800 service, which relays messages from TDD users to telephones. Telebraille is also available through the relay service.
  3. American Sign Language (ASL), the native language of the deaf community in the United States. ASL is a visual-gestured language with vocabulary and grammar, which is different from English.
  4. Sign language interpreters. Whenever available, the services of an interpreter who is certified by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) and/or the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) is to be secured. If a certified interpreter is not available, a non-certified interpreter deemed qualified by the client may be used. A certified interpreter must be used for all medical and legal appointments.
  5. Lip-reading or note writing.
  6. Qualified readers who read standard print materials to visually impaired or blind persons.
  7. Extra large print versions of materials.
  8. ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) text files for voice synthesizers and computer screen magnification.
  9. Braille transcriptions.

## **5710. Blood Borne Pathogens Protection Plan**

5710. Blood Borne Pathogens Protection Plan [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:51

## **5711. Purpose and Scope**

5711. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:52

1. Employers must assess the risk to employees for a reasonably-anticipated potential for occupational exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials during the course of performing their assigned duties. Although the risk of occupational exposure to blood borne pathogens (BBP) has been determined to be quite low for Children's Administration personnel, CA has stipulated this Blood Borne Pathogens Protection Plan to further minimize the risk of exposure, to provide guidance addressing unexpected exposure to blood and/or bodily fluids, and to meet requirements set forth by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA).
2. The plan applies to and is accessible to all employees and will be reviewed and updated annually, or as required by statute.

## **5712. Definitions**

5712. Definitions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:52

Definition of terms applicable to the Plan is found in [Appendix A](#).

# 5713. Methods of Implementation

5713. Methods of Implementation [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:55

1. General-All employees will use Universal Precautions (see [Appendix A](#)) whenever there is reasonably anticipated contact with blood or other potentially infectious fluids.
2. Safe First-Aid Practices
  1. The Regional Administrator or appropriate Director shall ensure that each office provides and maintains first aid kits and equipment which minimally include several sets of gloves, CPR protective shields, germicidal hand wipes, and plastic disposal bags.
  2. First line supervisors in each office shall inform their employees of the location of, and ensure that they have immediate access to, first aid equipment and will encourage them to use it while rendering first aid.
  3. Staff designated by the Regional Administrator or the applicable Director shall determine the location of first aid kits, to include placement in state cars and in office reception areas, bathrooms, and kitchens. Designated staff shall develop local procedures which include local office information and methods for documenting notification to staff.
  4. The office procedures shall designate and identify staff responsible for stocking of the kit and include posting names of responsible staff.
  5. Whenever blood or other potentially infectious materials may be present, the employee rendering first-aid shall use appropriate personal protective equipment, such as gloves. The employee shall immediately wash his/her hands after gloves are removed.
  6. The person giving CPR shall use a one-way valve micro-shield and then appropriately discard it.
  7. If there is more than one victim, the person giving assistance shall use new protective equipment, such as gloves and CPR micro-shields, for each victim.
3. Disposal of Contaminated Items
  1. Staff shall handle all material exposed to and contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials with gloves. Staff shall place and transport contaminated material in a plastic bag that prevents soak-through and/or leakage to the exterior.
  2. The employee shall label the bag as to contents with label prominently displayed and dispose of contents in trash bins unless contents meet the definition of regulated waste (See [Appendix A](#)). In that case, the employee shall dispose of contents in accordance with state and local regulations; e.g., by taking the bag to a local hospital or medical clinic for disposal, by depositing with the fire department's emergency response team on the scene, or by calling the local solid waste utility for further information.
4. Laundry
  1. To prevent the spread of contamination, staff shall remove all clothing that has been contaminated with gloves and place it in a plastic bag that prevents soak-through and/or leakage. The bag shall be labeled as to contents with label prominently displayed.
  2. The employee shall change out of contaminated clothing. CA shall provide temporary clothing, such as surgical scrubs, for the person to wear.
  3. If the employee is in the field and not intending to return to the work site, he/she should remove contaminated clothing, place it in a plastic bag immediately on arriving home, and return it to the work site as soon as possible.
  4. Employees shall not take contaminated personal clothing home for home-laundering.
  5. The CA office, in accordance with local or regional procedures, shall arrange for professional cleaning, laundering, repair and/or disposal and replacement of the garment at no cost to the employee. Payment for the cleaning will be handled according to regional policy. Local procedures shall state to whom the contaminated laundry shall be given.
5. Cleaning

1. All CA property that may have been contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials shall be cleaned immediately or as soon as possible after the incident, in accordance with local procedures.
  2. Employees shall wear gloves during all cleaning procedures.
  3. Employees shall dispose of gloves used for cleaning procedures into a plastic bag. The employees shall wash their hands immediately after gloves are removed.
  4. Each CA office shall provide and make available appropriate cleaning supplies, such as bleach, Lysol, AseptiCare, or MegaSol.
  5. Employees shall use a household bleach solution in a mixture of one part bleach to 10 parts water made fresh for immediate use or an appropriate germicide, which may include Lysol Spray, AseptiCare, or MegaSol.
  6. Staff shall handle all broken glass or other "sharps" with broom, dust pan, tongs, or forceps in order to reduce the risk of exposure. If items are contaminated, staff shall pour bleach solution or germicide over the area, prior to removal.
  7. Staff shall dispose of broken glass and/or "sharps" into containers that are leak-, spill- and cut-proof.
6. Training
1. The Regional Administrator or Director, as applicable, shall arrange for all employees to be trained in order to become knowledgeable on the plan.
  2. Training shall be provided during work hours and free of charge to all employees.
  3. All new employees shall be trained during employee orientation.
  4. The training shall address, at a minimum, the following subjects:
    1. Blood borne pathogens.
    2. Universal precautions.
    3. Safe first-aid practices.
    4. Blood borne Pathogens Protection Plan.
  5. All employees who have received training shall sign a S. F. 141, Developmental Training Report.
7. Post-Exposure Prophylaxis, Evaluation, and Follow-up-Each Regional Administrator, Regional Manager, or Director, as appropriate, shall arrange for provision of post-exposure follow-up and prophylaxis to all employees who have an exposure to blood and/or other potentially infectious body fluids while on the job.
1. Employee Self-Care-Every employee shall be informed during training of the following necessary self-care process:
    1. Exposure to the eyes - Flush eyes with water and/or appropriate solution.
    2. Exposure to the nose - Blow nose and wipe inside of nostril.
    3. Exposure to the mouth - Spit and rinse mouth.
    4. Exposure to skin - If a hand washing facility is not available, wipe immediately with germicidal towelette and then, as soon as possible, wash in hand washing facility.
  2. Incident Reporting-After every incident involving blood or other potentially infectious material, the employee shall report the incident to a supervisor. If exposure has occurred, the supervisor shall assist the employee in filling out a Report of Employee Personal Injury, DSHS 3-133.
  3. Medical Follow-up
    1. The supervisor shall ask the employee to go to a licensed health care professional immediately or at least within 24 hours of the incident for a post-exposure evaluation and follow-up.
    2. The employee will take the following to the health provider:
      1. A copy of the Report of Employee Personal Injury, DSHS 3-133.
      2. A post-exposure evaluation form for the health care professional's written opinion.
      3. A copy of the portion of WAC 296-62-08001(6) noting requirements for evaluation & follow-up.

3. The supervisor shall complete the Report of Employee Personal Injury, DSHS 3-133, and route copies following the instructions on the form, including forwarding a copy of the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) report to the Office of Safety & Risk Management, once the completed copy is received from the health care provider.
4. Post-exposure evaluation and follow-up may consist of HIV counseling and testing, Hepatitis B immunoglobulin, and the offer of the full series of the Hepatitis B vaccine.
  1. CA shall make available all post-exposure evaluation and follow-up, including hepatitis B vaccination, at no cost to the employee.
  2. Employees who decline to receive recommended HBV vaccination must sign a declination form.
5. The designee of the Regional Administrator or Director, as applicable, shall request that the source individual have his/her blood tested as soon as possible, with the test results disclosed to the exposed employee. The source individual is not required by law to have the tests or to disclose test results.
6. The designee shall remind the exposed employee that the test results are not to be disclosed to anyone, except for the health care provider providing the employee's medical evaluation. When the source individual is already known to be infected with hepatitis B virus or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), blood testing for these viruses need not be requested.
4. Record-Keeping
  1. The health care provider will report back to CA that appropriate post-exposure evaluation, prophylaxis, and follow-up has been offered.
  2. All medical records of this exposure follow-up will be kept confidential by CA for the duration of the person's employment plus thirty years. Records will be maintained by the DSHS Office of Risk Management, Safety and Health Section, and will not be included in the employee's personnel file.
5. Payment
  1. The regional office, for field staff, and state office, for headquarters staff, shall make payment for supplies, laundering, shots, and other expenses related to first aid practices, BBP exposures, and exposure preparations.
  2. The Regional Administrator or Director, Division of Management Services, as appropriate, shall determine the method of payment and include funding in the appropriate budget.
  3. The Regional Administrator, the Regional Manager, and the applicable Director shall ensure the development of local procedures, including identification of person to whom payment questions and requests shall be directed.

## **5720. Blood Borne Infections**

5720. Blood Borne Infections [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:56

## **5721. Purpose and Scope**

5721. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:56

This section provides guidelines for the implementation of procedures pertaining to infections carried in the blood, such as Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), specifically Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis B Virus (HBV).

# 5723. Implementation Practices/Procedures

5723. Implementation Practices/Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 00:59

## 1. Non-Discrimination

1. CA shall not discriminate against persons with or perceived to have HIV infection. This policy includes discrimination against employees, clients, licensees, contractors, or volunteers. Procedures for persons who believe they have been subjected to discrimination because of HIV status are found in DSHS Administrative Policy 6.09.
2. Licensees are not required by law to share their HIV status with licensers. If this information is shared by the licensee or prospective licensee, licensers may request additional health information, as is the case with disclosure of any serious illness of a licensee. Decisions regarding continued licensing of an HIV infected person are made in the same manner as any serious illness.

## 2. Regional HIV/BBP Coordinator

1. Each Regional Administrator must designate an HIV/BBP Coordinator to oversee issues related to HIV, HBV, and other BBPs.
2. The social worker refers all HIV/HBV affected cases and issues related to BBP to the regional HIV/BBP Coordinator for consultation and staffing as appropriate.
3. The Coordinator:
  1. Provides information and consultation on CA policy.
  2. Provides consultation for case management.
  3. Serves as liaison with the health care community and AIDS service organizations.
  4. Convenes the HIV/BBP Advisory Team.

## 3. Regional HIV/BBP Advisory Team

1. Each Regional Coordinator must develop an HIV/BBP Advisory Team to advise on issues related to HIV, HBV, and other BBP.
2. The Regional HIV/BBP Advisory Team:
  1. Assists, as necessary, with development of regional guidelines on issues related to HIV/BBP.
  2. Provides case consultation, as needed.

## 4. Universal Precautions-All staff, out-of-home care providers, volunteers, licensees, and respite care providers must use universal precautions when dealing with children in care and treat all blood and body fluids containing blood as if known to be infectious. See section 5710, Blood Borne Pathogens Protection Plan.

## 5. HIV Testing

1. HIV testing of a child is a medical procedure and, therefore, must be done only in consultation with the Regional HIV/BBP Coordinator and on the recommendation of the local health department or a licensed health care provider knowledgeable about HIV infection.
  1. When HIV testing of a child under the age of 14 is being requested as a result of potential perinatal exposure, the social worker or HIV/BBP Coordinator shall inform the child's mother of the request and ask the mother to provide the results of her past HIV tests or to be tested in order to possibly eliminate the need for testing of the child. This testing is voluntary and will be confidential, consistent with this section.
  2. When parental rights have been terminated, the social worker of a child under the age of 14 may authorize HIV testing.
  3. The social worker shall obtain a court order for testing if the parent or legal guardian is unavailable or unwilling to provide consent for testing of a child under the age of 14 and if a medical reason for testing exists.

4. If a child under 14 years of age tests positive for any STD, including HIV, the HIV/BBP Coordinator shall ensure that the medical professional or the local health department notifies the parent or legal guardian of the test results.
2. HIV/STD testing of a youth age 14 or over requires the written consent of the youth or a court order. The youth may request testing on his/her own authority.
  1. The written consent or court order shall authorize test results for HIV or HBV to be released to the social worker and out-of-home care provider.
  2. When obtaining a court order or a consent for HIV testing, the social worker shall, if needed, also gain authority to share the results with others who have a compelling "need to know" and are not otherwise authorized to know under chapter 70.24 RCW. All such individuals shall be identified in the consent or court order. The consent or court order shall authorize treatment, as necessary.

#### 6. Confidentiality/Disclosure

1. Infection with HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases is a personal and private matter. Staff, care providers, and volunteers shall treat information related to these issues in a confidential and respectful manner and shall not disclose this information except in accordance with state law and as provided in this section and paragraphs G and H, below
2. Disclosure Practices and Criteria
  1. The social worker shall ensure that the child's current health care provider is aware of the child's exposure to HIV/HBV.
  2. Social workers shall not disclose information related to a parent or child's HIV or other STD status to other CA employees, except their immediate supervisor, manager, and HIV/BBP Coordinator.
  3. When the social worker or HIV/BBP coordinator provides written disclosure of HIV/BBP status information to someone outside of CA, the social worker or HIV/BBP Coordinator shall include the following statement on the Disclosure of Confidential HIV Information, DSHS 09-837:

*This information has been disclosed to you from records whose confidentiality is protected by state law. State law prohibits you from making any further disclosure of it without the specific written consent of the person to whom it pertains or as otherwise permitted by state law. A general authorization for the release of medical or other information is not sufficient for this purpose.*

4. When the social worker or HIV/BBP coordinator provides HIV/BBP information regarding a parent or child is disclosed orally to someone outside of CA, the social worker shall send the Disclosure of Confidential HIV Information, DSHS 09-837, to the person(s) receiving the information within 10 days of the disclosure.
5. Documentation that a parent or child has been tested for HIV or other BBP shall be recorded and stored electronically in FamLink.

Document HIV/BBP status in the "Medical Problems" pop-up. Copies of medical records regarding the testing results or HIV/BBP related information will be scanned and stored in the FamLink "Filing Cabinet". Access to this information is secured and limited to the assigned social worker and their supervisor.

Copies of documents and medical records regarding HIV/BBP status or related information may also be kept in a "privileged/confidential information" envelope used to safeguard sensitive case information. Access to this envelope is strictly limited to those authorized by law, with consent or as noted on a court order. Access to other parts of the child's record does not assume the right to access HIV/BBP information.

6. Social workers shall not disclose HIV/BBP information in written reports to the court without consultation with the assigned legal counsel.
7. When HIV/BBP information is discussed in court, the social worker, through legal counsel, shall make special arrangements with the court to protect the confidentiality of the parties.

#### 7. Placement

1. DCFS staff shall inform the residential care provider of the child's HIV/HBV status, if known. The social worker shall not inform the residential care provider of the HIV/HBV status of a child age 14 or older without the child's permission or a court order. However, the social worker shall inform the child that no placement will be made without disclosure of such status to the prospective residential care provider.
2. HIV exposed/infected children may be placed with other children unless otherwise advised by the health care provider. However, DCFS staff shall not place known HBV infected children or perinatally exposed infants in households with other unvaccinated persons.
3. The social worker shall strongly consider a child's and/or parent's wish not to disclose a child's positive HIV/HBV status to relatives when investigating a potential relative placement. However, if the child is actually placed, the social worker must disclose the child's HIV/HBV status. This revelation could negatively impact family relationships.
4. The social worker shall arrange for provision of medical attention for the HIV/STD infected/exposed child by a physician knowledgeable in this specialty area.
5. When placing a child known to be HIV/HBV exposed or infected, the social worker, in addition to providing the residential care provider with information regarding the child's current health status and names of all health care providers, shall inform the residential care provider of all resources involved and provide instruction in any special care needs of the child prior to placement.  
If exposure of infection is discovered after placement, the social worker shall immediately provide the above information to the residential care provider and ensure the provision of instruction in any special care needs.
6. When HBV infection is discovered in an individual living or working in a foster/receiving/group home, the social worker shall immediately notify the Regional HIV/BBP Coordinator and the local health department. Public health department recommendations for testing and immunization of household contacts shall be followed. DCFS staff shall place no additional unimmunized children in the home while the possibility of exposure exists.

#### 8. Adoption

1. The adoption worker or HIV/BBP Coordinator shall provide prospective adoptive parents with all available information on the STD/HIV/HBV status of children under 14 years of age.
2. For children age 14 or above, the social worker shall not disclose status without the child's permission but shall not place the child without such disclosure.
3. Staff shall share the STD/HIV/HBV status, if known, of the parents, if the possibility of infection of the child by that parent exists. In such cases, the identity of the parents may not be disclosed.
4. CA staff shall identify children with HIV infection in adoption exchange books and/or media as having "serious medical problems." HIV exposure of uninfected children does not need to be noted in exchange books. Only when a serious inquiry is received and the social worker has determined that the family is a potential candidate should the child's specific medical history be discussed. The social worker shall not disclose the child's name until the family is selected as the adoptive family.
5. The social worker shall provide prospective adoptive parent(s) with the Child's Medical and Family Background Report, DSHS 13-041(X). The social worker shall include on the document all available medical information related to the child and biological parent, including HIV/STD information if possibility of exposure exists. The identity of the parent is not disclosed on this form.



6. When HIV testing is recommended, the social worker shall consult with the HIV/BBP Coordinator and arrange for completion of the test prior to finalization of the adoption.
7. The social worker shall inform the prospective adoptive parent that HIV I infection may qualify a child for adoption support.
9. Training
  1. CA shall arrange for all employees to receive HIV/BBP training which covers prevention, transmission, infection control, treatment, testing, confidentiality CA-related policy and procedure, as it relates to adults and children.
  2. All individuals and agencies licensed by CA shall receive HIV/BBP training which covers prevention, transmission, infection control, treatment, testing, confidentiality and CA-related policy and procedure, as it relates to adults and children.

## 5800. Electronic Monitoring

5800. Electronic Monitoring [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:00

## 5810. Purpose and Scope

5810. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:00

1. This policy establishes guidelines for CA staff to ensure that the right of foster children to privacy in their homes is respected and that the use of electronic monitoring devices is limited to those situations where it is the least intrusive means of meeting the particular needs of the child whose behavior is being monitored.
2. This policy applies to all facilities licensed by the Division of Licensed Resources' (DLR) Office of Foster Care Licensing (OFCL).
3. This policy covers the use of video cameras and auditory listening devices.
4. This policy does not include restrictions for door monitors, window alarms, or other motion detectors.

## 5820. Policy

5820. Policy [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:00

1. Washington statutory (RCW 9.73.030) and constitutional law (U.S. Constitution Amendment 4; WA constitution, article 1, § 7) guarantee the right to privacy.
2. The statute (RCW 9.73.030) governing the use of electronic eavesdropping devices prohibits any person from intercepting or recording any private conversation by electronic or other device, unless all persons engaged in the conversation consent to the interception or recording. Violation of this statute may result in criminal and civil sanctions.
  1. The Washington Constitution protects a person from government intrusion into the individual's private affairs or home without authority of law.
  2. The constitutional right to privacy may be invaded only if:
    1. There is a necessary governmental purpose that justifies the intrusion; and
    2. There is no less restrictive means available to accomplish that purpose.
3. CA prohibits the use of video and auditory monitoring of a foster child in the child's foster/group homes unless (1) the Division of Licensed Resources (DLR) Director grants approval for the use of an electronic monitoring device in the specific foster home, and (2) the court approves implementation of the monitoring as part of the child's case plan.

## 5830. Definition

5830. Definition [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:01

1. "Electronic monitoring" means video monitoring or recording and auditory listening or recording used to either watch or listen to children as a way to monitor their behavior. "Electronic monitoring" does not include the use of listening devices to monitor:
  1. Infants and toddlers;
  2. Medically fragile or sick children;
  3. Video recording equipment to document actions of a child as directed in writing by the child's physician;
  4. Video recording for special events such as birthday parties or vacations; or
  5. The use of door or window alarms or motion detectors.

## 5840. Procedures

5840. Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:03

1. In any case in which video or audio monitoring of a foster child is proposed, an exception to the Department's prohibition against electronic monitoring may be requested by the child's social worker.
2. The social worker must assess the need for electronic monitoring for a specific child in a specific home by using the following steps:
  1. If the child does not have a therapist the social worker will:
    1. Consult with supervisor to determine if there is sufficient evidence to justify obtaining the services of a therapist.
    2. The supervisor may convene a staffing meeting of key personnel to discuss the proposal and need for electronic monitoring in the foster home. Specifically the staffing:
      1. Evaluates the consequences of acquiring the services of a therapist; and
      2. Determines if the child's circumstances require the need for electronic monitoring.
    3. If the supervisor and/or the staffing determine a therapist is justified, a therapist is obtained to assess the child.
    4. If it is determined the child's circumstances do not require the need for a therapist no further action is required.
  2. The social worker will contact the child's therapist and convene a staffing of key personnel, including the therapist, to discuss the proposal and need for electronic monitoring in the foster home;
    1. The therapist will determine the best method to meet the needs of the child and if there is a need for electronic monitoring. The therapist will provide a written recommendation for the child.
    2. If the therapist determines electronic monitoring is unnecessary, no further action will be required.
    3. The social worker sends a notice to the guardian ad litem, appropriate service providers, and the child's parents when electronic monitoring is recommended.
3. Following receipt of the therapist's written recommendation of electronic monitoring of the child, the social worker, the recommending therapist, and the foster parents/group home staff must meet to consider and to document:
  1. The reason(s) and need for the electronic monitoring of the child in the foster home;
  2. Whether less restrictive means of meeting the needs of the child are available;
  3. The least intrusive method and means of using electronic monitoring equipment to monitor the child, addressing:

1. A description of the equipment proposed to be used;
2. The location in the home where the equipment will be placed;
3. Who will monitor the child and how will the monitoring be accomplished.
4. The impact of the electronic monitoring on any other children in the foster home.
4. If the final recommendation is for approval of electronic monitoring, the social worker must forward written documentation to the licensor of the foster/group home designated for the child. The documents will explain the decision-making factors described in paragraph (c), above.
  1. The licensor must reply in writing to the child's social worker designating whether the home is appropriate for the plan established in the proposed policy waiver.
  2. The licensor will clarify any concerns the licensor has about implementing the proposal in the designated foster/group home.
5. The request for approval of an exception to this policy will be forwarded to the Division Director for final approval. The approval for the use of electronic monitoring equipment applies to a specific child in a specific foster home or facility.
4. If the DLR Director approves electronic monitoring, the case plan for the child must include:
  1. The reasons for the electronic monitoring;
  2. The therapist's goals;
  3. The timeframe for review or removal of the electronic monitoring equipment; and
  4. A description of the type of equipment to be used, and the manner in which it will be used.
5. A court must make final approval of the use of electronic monitoring in a child's case plan.
6. Following DLR Director approval and following court approval of the case plan, the social worker and the out-of-home care provider may implement the electronic monitoring of the child as set forth in the case plan.
7. If a child moves to another foster/group home, the approval ends and the social worker must request another approval at the next home.

## 6130. Quality Assurance and Continuous Quality Improvement

6130. Quality Assurance and Continuous Quality Improvement [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:06  
**Created on:** May 08 2015

### Approval

**By:** Jennifer Strus, Asst. Secretary

**Effective Date:** February 15, 1998

**Revised Date:** May 1, 2014

**Sunset Review:** June 2018

### Purpose Statement

Children's Administration (CA) seeks to continuously improve the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of culturally competent services provided to children and families. CA accomplishes this through quality assurance and continuous quality improvement efforts that include:

1. Providing tools, expertise, resources, and training to support the pursuit of innovative improvement initiatives.
2. Recognizing and respecting diversity.
3. Focusing on improved client outcomes while fostering innovation.

## **Laws**

[RCW 43.88.090](#)

[Executive Order 97-03](#)

[Executive Order 13-04](#)

## **Policy**

1. The HQ Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/CQI) manager has primary responsibility for quality assurance, including reviews that measure compliance with performance standards and oversight of continuous quality improvement efforts.
2. Program Managers, Supervisors, Area Administrators, Regional Administrators, the Division of Licensed Resources (DLR) Administrator and the CA Headquarters Management Team use data to inform practice improvements through information driven decision making.
3. Performance benchmarks are established in the areas of child safety, permanency, and child and family well-being.
4. Quality Assurance (QA) and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) efforts engage staff (internal stakeholders) from all program areas and levels of authority as well as community and tribal advisory groups (external stakeholders).
5. Training on the use of performance measure data and continuous quality improvement methods is available to all staff.

## **Procedures**

1. Gather data to inform practice improvements from multiple sources, including but not limited to:
  1. FamLink
  2. Case reviews (central and targeted case reviews)
  3. External sources (e.g., Office of the Family and Children's Ombuds, federal child welfare reports, Administrative Office of the Courts)
  4. Surveys (staff, caregivers, etc.)
2. Establish performance benchmarks and report agency performance regarding those benchmarks. Benchmarks support CA and DSHS strategic goals.
3. Convene
  1. A statewide CQI Advisory Committee to meet regularly to provide oversight and consultation for QA/CQI activities. The HQ QA/CQI manager will convene and facilitate these meetings.
  2. Local office QA/CQI committees to regularly identify and set goals for areas needing improvement. Goals may support CA and DSHS strategic goals or practice improvements identified by local offices QA/CQI committees. Regional and DLR Administrators will convene the local office QA/CQI committees and assign responsibility for those committees.
4. CA Headquarters and regional QA/CQI staff will
  1. Provide training on the use of performance measure data and continuous quality improvement methods.
  2. Monitor achievement towards CA goals and strategies through tracking benchmarks, program expectations and performance measures.

3. Support staff in quality data collection and reporting.
4. Provide technical assistance for QA/CQI processes.

## **Forms and Tools**

DSHS 10-495 Case Review Feedback Summary

DSHS 10-497 CQI Action Plan

## **Resources**

Lean In Washington

# **7100. Acquisition and Inventory Management**

7100. Acquisition and Inventory Management [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:16

## **7110. Purpose and Scope**

7110. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:16

1. This section establishes a system for compliance with state procurement guidelines and inventory accountability. It is intended to ensure that Children's Administration (CA) organizational units effectively manage CA's resources and maintain an audit trail for the ordering, receiving, returning, partial ordering, making full payment, inventory, and surplus of equipment and supplies.
2. See section 7400, below, for additional requirements for control of fixed assets.

## **7120. Standards**

7120. Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:17

## **7121. Approval to Purchase**

7121. Approval to Purchase [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:17

1. All equipment purchases must comply with the requirements and limitations of DSHS Administrative Policy 14.13, Equipment Purchases.
2. All other purchases require the approval of the Regional Administrator, Regional Manager, or Director or their respective designee, as applicable.

## **7122. Responsibility for Purchasing and Inventory**

7122. Responsibility for Purchasing and Inventory [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:18

1. The Regional Administrator, Regional Manager, or Director, as applicable, shall implement procedures indicating staff responsibility for purchase of office supplies, equipment, and services in compliance

with state guidelines, for maintenance of proper inventory controls, and for surplus of state-owned property.

2. In exercising these responsibilities, the designated staff must:
  1. Adhere to the separation of duties guidelines in Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) when ordering, receiving, inventorying, and surplussing equipment and supplies.
  2. Maintain a level of inventory consistent with use and reorder items as necessary to avoid depletion of supplies.
  3. Maintain a desk manual detailing all the necessary procedures for purchasing, inventorying, and surplussing equipment and supplies.
  4. Retain a copy of all purchasing documents; e.g., request notes, purchase order copies, invoices, and packing lists.
  5. Update information on the Agency Inventory System (AIS) computer program.

## **7123. Responsibility for Managing/Using Inventory**

7123. Responsibility for Managing/Using Inventory [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:18

1. Children's Administration staff must:
  1. Use property assigned to the staff only for official state purposes.
  2. Take precautions necessary to protect state property from theft and damage.
  3. Report lost or stolen property immediately to staff designated in regional or state office procedures.

## **7130. Procedures**

7130. Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:19

## **7131. Requesting a Purchase**

7131. Requesting a Purchase [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:19

1. Staff shall request purchase of an item through their immediate supervisor, except that those positions reporting directly to the Assistant Secretary shall receive sign-off from the Director, Division of Management Services.
2. The supervisor or Director, Division of Management Services, shall confirm the need for the purchase and transmit the approved request to the staff person designated in regional or state office procedure.

## **7132. Ordering**

7132. Ordering [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:19

Staff designated by the Regional Administrator, Regional Manager, or Director shall prepare the purchase order and route it for required approvals according to regional or state office procedures.

## **7133. Receiving, Paying, Inventorying, and Surplussing**

7133. Receiving, Paying, Inventorying, and Surplussing [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:20

Staff designated by regional or state office procedures shall:

1. Record items received, as required, in the automated inventory system, noting the item(s) location and assignee, if appropriate.
2. Tag items according to requirements in the AIS Manual.
3. Process the order for payment through regional or headquarters accounting staff, as applicable.
4. When surplussing items, complete a Property Disposal Request, SF 267A, in accordance with the AIS Manual and submit it through the regional business office or headquarters property control to the Office of Staff Services for processing.
5. Conduct biennial property inventories as required by the AIS Manual using computer print-outs from the AIS system.

## **7200. Facilities**

7200. Facilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:20

### **7210. Purpose and Scope**

7210. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:21

Field facility management and planning are responsibilities of the regional business manager. This section outlines those responsibilities.

### **7220. Standards**

7220. Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:21

### **7221. Management of Facilities**

7221. Management of Facilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:21

1. Requests for changes affecting the physical structure or layout of a facility are to follow DSHS facility guidelines and CA regional office protocol. Changes include repairs, additions, and/or improvements to the building or equipment; moving or rearranging panels, shelves, modular equipment, computers, copy machines; and requesting telephone services, such as the addition of a new line or switching existing numbers.
2. Each CA office will have a representative to the local office safety committee. This person is responsible to ensure that changes to existing facilities follow regional office protocol and do not place staff or equipment safety at risk.

### **7222. Planning for New Facilities**

7222. Planning for New Facilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:22

1. CA shall co-locate with other DSHS and/or other state agencies whenever feasible.
2. Regional business managers are responsible for coordinating and/or projecting office-staffing levels based on staffing history and anticipated growth.
3. All space requests are generated by the regional office with input from the local offices, the Regional Manager, and area manager, as applicable, and forwarded to the CA headquarters facility coordinator.
4. Space requests must be approved by the Director of Management Services before submittal to the DSHS Capital Facilities Section.
5. The CA management team will prioritize requests for new facilities.

## 7300. Use of Resources

7300. Use of Resources [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:22

## 7310. Electronic Files

7310. Electronic Files [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:23

1. Following the procedures outlined in this section and in the DSHS Information Technology Security Manual does not guarantee that staff's messages and files will be protected. If a user fails to maintain their password security or leaves their terminal unattended while logged into the system, their messages and files are vulnerable. Also, staff need to be aware that messages that are sent can be forwarded to others, printed where others may read them, or sent to the wrong user.
2. Electronic message systems, including voice mail, FAX, e-mail, the FamLink bulletin board, and the CA Intranet server, may be used only for state business purposes. Use of state resources for private gain or benefit is specifically prohibited by RCW 42.52.160. Records created through these systems are legally the property of the state. In the use of computer technology, staff are to comply with the provisions of DSHS Administrative Policy 15.10; chapter 15000, section 15205, of this manual; and the DSHS Information Technology Security Manual, a copy of which is available in each region through its Computer Information Consultant (CIC). However, WAC 292-110-010 provides for the occasional use of state resources when:
  1. There is no actual cost to the state; or
  2. The cost to the state is de minimis; i. e., so small as to be insignificant or negligible.
3. The following points apply to CA staff:
  1. A manager, in the supervisory line of the employee, with reasonable justification, has access to data within CA's systems to carry out required business functions.
  2. State-provided electronic message systems may not be used to transmit or store information that promotes:
    1. Discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, gender, creed, marital status, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation;
    2. Harassment;
    3. Copyright infringement;
    4. An employee's personal political beliefs or personal business interests; or
    5. Any activity prohibited by federal, state, or local law or regulation.
  3. Transmission of e-mail messages containing confidential or privacy-protected data (e. g., confidential client or employee data) shall:
    1. Be marked private;
    2. Not be proxied or forwarded, except in "need to know" situations.
  4. Supervisors shall not disclose to third parties the contents of electronic files under an employee's control, except under unusual circumstances; for example:
    1. Compliance with applicable public disclosure laws, discovery rules, or pertinent law; or



2. When disclosed as part of an official department, state, or external investigation.
5. Staff shall not disclose confidential passwords used to gain access to local, wide area, and FamLink. If the password is compromised, staff shall change it immediately.
6. In order to assure confidentiality of client information, staff will use CA network equipment to print or transfer client information or photos.

## 7320. Computer Hardware, Software, and Related Equipment

7320. Computer Hardware, Software, and Related Equipment [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:23

## 7321. Purpose and Scope

7321. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:24

This section establishes policies and procedures for the security, use, and maintenance of computer hardware/software and printers.

## 7322. Standards

7322. Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:24

1. Protection-Staff to whom computers and printers are permanently or temporarily assigned shall:
  1. Ensure protection of data processing equipment from theft or damage.
  2. Protect division software from theft or unauthorized, accidental, or malicious use, modification, or destruction.
  3. Protect division confidential documents from theft or unauthorized disclosure.
  4. If an employee, through personal negligence, causes damage to state equipment, CA may require the employee to pay for repair or replacement of the damaged equipment.
2. Appropriate Use-Staff shall use department computers, peripheral equipment, and software only for official state purposes.

## 7323. Procedure

7323. Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:32

1. General Protection
  1. Regional Administrators, Regional Managers, and Directors shall ensure that portable fire extinguishers -- preferably a Halon type -- suitable for treating electrical fires are located near data processing equipment in their areas of responsibility.
  2. Users of computers shall:
    1. Protect diskettes from excess cold, heat, direct sunlight, electromagnetic sources such as telephones and static electricity, and from ball point pens and pencils.
    2. Remove all diskettes from the computer when they are no longer in use.
  3. Computer users shall utilize surge control devices to protect all computer and peripheral equipment.

4. Staff shall not plug coffee pots, hot plates, or other high current devices into a surge protector serving computer equipment.
  5. Staff shall secure computer hardware and software when not in use. See chapter 15000, section 15212.
  6. User staff shall secure lap-top computers in file cabinets or closets at the end of each work day.
  7. When in travel status, staff shall not ship computers or printers as general luggage through the airlines.
2. Security of Data
    1. Staff shall store confidential documents or data in accordance with chapter 15000, section 15203.
    2. Staff shall not leave documents or diskettes containing confidential information unattended in areas readily accessible to persons without authorization to see such documentation.
    3. Computer users shall save important documents and those for which there may future need in FamLink or on their F Directory, as applicable, to assure automatic back-up of files.
    4. When an employee ends employment in a location, supervisory personnel shall review all files on hard drive, main frame, and floppy diskettes controlled by the employee to determine which files to delete or retain.
3. Software Use
    1. Computer users shall not use programs obtained through shareware or from a bulletin board until they have been certified as free of computer virus by the user's Computer Information Consultant (CIC) or other authorized staff.
    2. Staff shall install and/or use only software purchased, distributed, or approved by the department.
4. Prohibited Activities-Staff are prohibited from the following activities:
    1. Unauthorized copying or use of software.
    2. Unauthorized entry into restricted data bases.
    3. Use of state computer resources for private business purposes.
    4. Loan of computer hardware or software to unauthorized individuals.
    5. Use of recreational computer games during work periods for other than supervisor-approved training purposes.
    6. Use of privately owned personal computer hardware during business hours except as part of a pre-approved telecommuting project.
5. Accountability and Tracking of Laptop Computers: CA Directors and Regional Administrators are responsible for the accountability and tracking procedures. To assure accurate tracking and accounting for laptop computers, laptop computers must either be assigned to specific staff or signed out to staff following the procedures below.
    1. For managing laptop inventory:
      1. Each CA office will designate one specific employee, plus one backup employee, to be responsible for tracking laptop computers.
      2. Any lost, stolen, or missing equipment must be reported immediately to the designated staff, who will immediately report to the Regional Business Manager or headquarters property manager for reporting in the Tracks inventory system.
      3. Designated staff for the office must send a lost, stolen, or missing equipment report to the Regional Administrator or applicable Director on a monthly basis.
    2. Laptop Computers Signed Out by Staff
      1. All laptop computers will be kept in a locked cabinet or area unless checked out by staff.
      2. The designated staff responsible for tracking will ensure that each laptop has a sign-out log, which will be kept with the laptop in the locked area. When the equipment is signed out, the log sheet will remain in the locked area.
      3. Staff checking out the laptop will do so only through the designated staff. The designated staff will completely fill out the log sheet immediately upon a staff person checking out or returning the equipment.
      4. The staff person who signed out the equipment is responsible for the computer until it is returned to the designated staff and properly logged in and returned to the locked area.

3. Laptop Computers Permanently Assigned to Specific Staff
  1. The designated staff person will maintain a current list recording the name of the staff person assigned the equipment, the date assigned, and the equipment's make, model, and State Tag Number.
  2. The staff person assigned to the equipment is responsible for it.
  3. If staff assigned to the equipment allows other staff to use it, the staff person assigned remains responsible for the equipment.

## 7330. Vehicles

7330. Vehicles [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:33

## 7331. Purpose and Scope

7331. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:33

This section requires accountability for state-owned vehicles, including correct inventory, tracking of location and sub-assignment, and replacement of vehicles.

## 7332. Standards/Procedures

7332. Standards/Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:34

Created on:

Aug 19 2014

1. Staff shall use state vehicles in accordance with state vehicle regulations and the department travel manual. Responsible staff shall ensure that each vehicle receives sufficient use each month to justify retention of the vehicle.
2. All operators of state-owned vehicles, or private owned vehicles used for state business, shall:
  1. Have a valid driver's license in their possession.
  2. Maintain sufficient property damage and personal liability insurance to protect the employee and the state.
  3. Use state vehicles for official state business only. Travel between official work station and official residence is prohibited unless approved by the Secretary or designee for one of the reasons cited in Office of Financial Management (OFM) Policies, Regulations, and Procedures, 4.2.5.2.2.
  4. Lock vehicle doors when not in use.
  5. Adhere to careful driving practices and observe traffic laws and regulations, including mandatory use of seat belts.
  6. Maintain state vehicle in a clean and presentable condition, interior and exterior, in accordance with Motor Pool regulations.
  7. Report all accidents in state vehicles on State Vehicle Accident Report (SF 137) within 24 hours and State Motor Vehicle Collision Report (WSP 161) if damage exceeds \$500.
  8. Prohibit smoking in state vehicles.

9. In accordance with office procedures, obtain supervisory approval prior to checking out a vehicle from a State Motor Pool, and return the yellow copy of the Trip Ticket to the designated accounting staff person.
10. Refer to State Motor Pool Rules and Regulations and DSHS Travel Manual for additional guidelines for the use of state-owned vehicles.
11. For state vehicles assigned to a CA office, staff must follow local procedures for check-out of the vehicles.
3. When sub-assigning a vehicle (e.g., regional offices to local offices), the business manager must notify the Agency Transportation Officer, MS 45813.
4. No CA staff may have a permanently assigned vehicle. Individual staff may be designated for priority use of state vehicles in accordance with regional procedures.

## 7340. Telephones

7340. Telephones [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:34

## 7341. Standards

7341. Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:34

1. Telephones provided to employees are state property, with usage paid by the state. Therefore, employees must use them only for official department business.
2. Each Regional Administrator, Regional Manager, or Director, as applicable, must ensure that a different SCAN authorization number is assigned to each individual staff member who may place long distance telephone calls.
3. CA staff conducting state business must place long distance telephone calls using the SCAN or SCAN-PLUS system. They must not place personal or private business long distance calls through the system. The sole exception would be when an employee is detained on state business beyond normal work hours and is expected elsewhere.
4. To use the SCAN or SCAN-PLUS system, volunteers must receive authorization in advance from the DCFS Regional Administrator or designee or DLR Regional Manager and use their own individual access code.

## 7362. Procedures

7362. Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:35

1. Each Regional Administrator and DLR Regional Manager must ensure that each of their respective local and regional offices develops and implements written procedures for use and maintenance of its FAX machines.
2. Staff must not use FAX machines for the transmission of Criminal History Record Inquiry (CHRI) and other sensitive information unless both sending and receiving machine are protected from access by unauthorized personnel.

## 7400. Control of Fixed Assets

7400. Control of Fixed Assets [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:36

# 7410. Purpose and Scope

7410. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:36

1. The purpose of this section is to establish guidelines and internal controls necessary to promote efficiency and accountability of fixed assets within the Children's Administration (CA) and to protect fixed assets against loss. This section applies to all organizational units within Children's Administration.
2. Assets covered in this policy include:
  1. All items with a total initial cost of \$5,000 or more;
  2. Software costing \$5,000 or more;
  3. All cellular telephones regardless of cost;
  4. "Small and attractive" (e.g. Pocket PCs, Cameras, and recording devices) items costing \$300 or more; and
  5. All computer equipment considered vulnerable to loss according to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) Manual, Chapter 1, Part 3.1.2.2.8, and the Asset Management (AM) Manual, Appendix 1.
3. Purchase cost includes transportation charges, sales tax, installation costs, maintenance contracts, and costs required to place the asset in its intended state of operation.

# 7420. Policy

7420. Policy [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:37

1. The Director, Management Services Division, for CA headquarters, or the applicable Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Regional Administrator or Division of Licensed Resources (DLR) Regional Manager must:
  1. Appoint an Asset Inventory Coordinator (AIC) to be responsible for the inventory control activities listed in the DSHS Asset Management Manual and TRACKS, the DSHS inventory system;
  2. Appoint an Asset Inventory Representative (AIR) to be responsible for the oversight of inventory at the regional and local levels;
  3. Ensure annual completion of a physical fixed asset inventory and reconciliation and that each inventory is documented by a signed "Certificate(s) of completion";
  4. Ensure that staff with no direct responsibility for assets subject to the inventory count performs physical inventories;
  5. Ensure the AIC is informed of any changes in the physical locations of the division or region's organizational units or their mailing addresses; and
  6. Attest to the completion of all biennial inventories by co-signing a "Certification of Completion" with the AIC.
2. The AIC must:
  1. Facilitate exchange of information between CA and the DSHS Asset Management Section;
  2. Return the quarterly TRACKS confirmation packet of location code information and other inventory data updates to Asset Management within 15 working days of issue;
  3. Provide guidance to the AIR's on implementing division or regional and TRACKS procedures;
  4. Conduct inventory training necessitated by staff turnover;
  5. Coordinate the annual and biennial physical inventories with the AIR's and Asset Management;
  6. Compile the CA Physical Inventories and attach a "Certificate of Completion," co-signed with the division director or regional administrator and send to Asset Management.

7. Notify Asset Management in writing of any changes in the AIR's, locations, phone numbers, organization, and security levels for access to TRACKS; and
  8. Perform inventory control tasks, including timely computer input and reconciliation, according to the guidelines in the Asset Management Manual.
3. The AIR must:
1. Account for the receipt, tagging, maintenance, and disposition of inventory according to the guidelines in the Asset Management Manual;
  2. Notify the AIC immediately of any changes in fixed assets, inventory staff, or the organization that might affect TRACKS; and
  3. Confirm the completion and reconciliation of the annual inventory by the signature of the regional administrator.
4. The Headquarters Local Area Network (LAN) Administrator and the regional Information Technology Application Specialist/Information Technology System Specialist (ITAS /ITSS) or designee must:
1. Share with regional staff the responsibility of inventory control functions associated with the coordination of new equipment, transfers, equipment loans, surplussing and the disposal of computers and related equipment;
  2. Send the updated information to the AIC/AIR/RBM and update TRACKS; and
  3. Assist in the annual physical inventories of all IT equipment.

## 7430. Procedures

7430. Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:37

## 7431. Purchasing Items Meeting Definition

7431. Purchasing Items Meeting Definition [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:38

1. CA staff must complete all purchases in compliance with the DSHS purchasing guidelines published annually by Purchased Service Contracts.
2. In addition to following other applicable DSHS guidelines, CA staff must request all IT purchases with the assistance of IT staff as follows:
  1. IT staff provide technical consultation during the entire purchasing processes for office automation hardware and software. This would include the following:
    1. Research products prior to the completion of an Information Technology Purchase Request (ITPR) to ensure compatibility with current systems and future upgrades.
    2. Provide recommendations to regional staff regarding products that would help resolve automation issues.
    3. Assist the Fiscal staff in locating vendors that will provide the right product at a competitive price with adequate post-purchase service.
    4. Ensure existing resources are exhausted prior to purchasing additional ones.
  2. Assigned staff must forward the completed Purchase Request with appropriate signatures to the CA Office Chief with proper justification and include the inventory location on the Purchase request to ensure accurate issuance of state tags on applicable equipment.
  3. The CA IT Office Chief will approve or disapprove the purchase. If disapproved, the IT Office Chief will send the ITPR back to the originator. If approved, the IT Office Chief will forward the ITPR to Purchase Services Contracts, where staff will complete the purchasing process and forward to the originator of the ITPR, a copy of the Field Order/Purchase Order (FO/PO). The Purchase Services Contracts staff will return the FO/PO with state tags, if applicable, for the item being

## 7432. Receipt and Payment

7432. Receipt and Payment [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:38

1. Upon receipt of the equipment and signing by the appropriate staff, the receiving copy of the PO will go to the staff responsible for payment.
2. Staff responsible for payment will send a copy of the received PO and invoice to the AIC/AIR.

## 7433. Issuance and Placement of State Tag

7433. Issuance and Placement of State Tag [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:39

The AIC/AIR will:

1. Verify the number of state tags issued;
2. Return excess tags to Asset Management for removal from inventory using the TRACKS disposal function;
3. Refer to the Asset Management Manual for recommended placement location of inventory tags.
4. Activate the state tag(s) in TRACKS. IT staff will update the state tag(s) in TRACKS for IT equipment.

## 7434. Equipment Returned to Vendor

7434. Equipment Returned to Vendor [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:39  
**Created on:** Aug 19 2014

The AIC/AIR must request disposal of state tags and new state tags upon receipt of the replacement product or prior to the return of equipment if not being replaced. The AIC/AIR may do both requests on the TRACKS disposal function. IT staff may submit a disposal request in TRACKS for IT equipment only. The department will maintain a history record electronically for six years. State Tags are not to be removed without the prior approval of DSHS Asset Management.

## 7435. Equipment Transfers

7435. Equipment Transfers [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:39

1. Transfer outside of CA Cost Center: Upon notification, the AIC or ITSS staff will initiate the request to transfer on TRACKS from present location to the new location across cost centers. IT staff may only initiate a transfer following notification of the RBM.
2. Transfer within CA Cost Center: Depending on the AIR's level of access, the AIR or ITSS staff for IT equipment only may have transfer authority to and from all locations and sub-locations in a given region.
3. Assigned staff must process and complete transfers as soon as possible. For CA IT equipment to be properly insured, the state tag's location must match the physical address of the location code where the equipment resides.

## 7436. Loaned Equipment

7436. Loaned Equipment [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:40

1. CA may loan an inventory item to another cost center location or state agency for a period not to exceed 90 working days by completing the Equipment Loan Agreement, DSHS 17-058(X), subject to Asset Management approval.
2. The loaning location will notify Asset Management within 14 working days of the loan expiration date, if the borrowing location has not returned the inventory on time.
3. The borrowing location must certify that the borrowed inventory item will be returned in the same condition as received less normal wear and tear.

## 7437. Equipment Disposal

7437. Equipment Disposal [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 01:40

All equipment, whether or not it has a state tag, must be disposed of using the TRACKS disposal function. IT Staff must and will provide a list of surplus items to the RBM prior to disposal.

## 8323. Staff Training

8323. Staff Training [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:16

**Approval:** Jennifer Strus, Assistant Secretary

**Effective Date:** February 15, 1998

**Revised Date:** October 31, 2014

**Sunset Review:** October 31, 2018

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### Purpose

As a critical element in the delivery of quality culturally competent child welfare services, CA is committed to Children's Administration (CA) staff receive the training necessary to be successful in their current job, and throughout their professional career.

### Laws

[RCW 74.14B.010](#)

[WAC 357-34-055](#)

### Policy

1. **Mandatory Training**
  1. **All New Staff must:** Successfully complete the DSHS New Employee Orientation required by DSHS Administrative Policy No. 18-34 located on the DSHS Intranet. Training topics include:
    1. Domestic Violence & the Workplace



2. Blood Borne Pathogens & HIV/AIDS
  3. Diversity
  4. Harassment Prevention
  5. HIPAA
  6. Ethics Test
  7. IT Security Awareness
2. **New/Present Social Service Specialists must:**
    1. Successfully complete Regional Core Training (RCT) during the first two months of beginning employment with CA.
    2. Be assigned no more than 10 total cases or no more than 6 intakes as primary or secondary worker until proficient in the RCT competencies and curriculum.
    3. Attend all RCT sessions (some exceptions may be made if the staff can demonstrate their knowledge **and** skills in the specific area as determined by the Supervisor, Area Administrator (AA) in consultation with the Alliance) and approved by the Deputy or Regional Administrator.
    4. Successfully complete In-Service trainings in prospective program areas or related topics, e.g., domestic violence, child mental health, etc., within the first year of CA employment or within one year of position transfer.
    5. Participate in specialized training which meets [RCW 74.14B.010](#) requirements when responsible for interviewing and assessing child sexual abuse.
    6. Attend additional statewide and regional training when required.
  3. **Non Social Service Specialists** are not required to attend RCT but will be required to participate in training relevant to their current area of practice.
  4. **New/Present Supervisors must:**
    1. Successfully complete entry-level supervisory or managerial trainings as required by DSHS Administrative Policy No. 18-34 and [WAC 357-34-055](#).
    2. Successfully complete Supervisor Core Training within the first six months of becoming a new supervisor or when requested by the Regional Administrator.
    3. Successfully complete In-Service training within the first two years of becoming a new supervisor, transferring to a new supervisory position or earlier if requested by the Regional Administrator.
  5. **Foster Parents** - Please see Foster Parent Training Information on the CA Intranet.
2. **Voluntary Training**
    1. CA staff will be provided continuing education training opportunities annually to advance their knowledge and skill mastery.
    2. Child Welfare Training and Advancement Program (CWTAP) (IV-E) graduate students (not currently employed by CA) may register for RCT within six months of completion of MSW degree requirements. Exceptions may be made for students within nine months of graduation, if they are unable to attend RCT. CWTAP students are responsible for their travel, per diem, and lodging costs while attending RCT.
    3. Tribal social workers are eligible to participate in RCT and other CA trainings.
  3. **Documentation**
    1. Training requirements will be recorded by the current Human Resources tracking system.
    2. Each region will coordinate with the Alliance to update employee training information. A list of completed trainings is available to CA staff in the tracking system and whether or not a worker did or did not complete training may be used in the personnel evaluation process.

## Procedures

### 1. Mandatory Training

1. New CA (non Social Service Specialists) Staff must:  
Contact your supervisor or Human Resources Division to register for the DSHS New Employee Orientation.
2. New/Present Social Service Specialists must:
  1. Complete DSHS New Employee Orientation which is included in RCT.
  2. Begin RCT on the first day of employment and complete RCT by demonstrating proficiency in the knowledge and skills contained in the competencies and curriculum. (CA Supervisors will register new hires with the Alliance when staff is first hired). To demonstrate previous child welfare experience, existing knowledge and skills in a specific RCT session you may:
    1. Submit a completed Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) to your supervisor. If the supervisor agrees, he/she will:
    2. Consult with the Alliance and send the request to the Area Administrator. If the AA agrees, the AA will:
    3. Send the request to his/her Deputy or Regional Administrator for approval. If there is disagreement regarding the approval, the RA will make the final decision.
  3. Complete the following In-Service training within the first year of hire:
    1. Program Specific Training; Intake, CPS Investigations or Family Assessment Response (FAR), Division of Licensed Resources (DLR)/CPS, Family Voluntary Services (FVS), Family Reconciliation Services (FRS), Child and Family Welfare Services (CFWS), Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC), Adoption, and Licensing and Unified Home Study.
    2. Indian Child Welfare
    3. Basics of Substance Abuse
    4. Permanency Planning
    5. Engagement and Partnership with Caregivers
    6. Child Development Well-Being; Education, Health, and Adolescence.
    7. Risk and Safety Assessment
    8. Worker Safety
    9. Racial Disproportionality and Disparities
  4. Complete the following In-Service training within the second year of hire:
    1. Mental Health and Child Abuse and Neglect
    2. Domestic Violence and Child Abuse and Neglect [RCW 74.14B.010](#)
    3. Diversity - Building Bridges
    4. Indian Child Welfare Cross Cultural Skills
    5. Advanced Substance Abuse and Child Abuse and Neglect
    6. Collaboration/Customer Service
    7. Supervisors
    8. Contact your Supervisor or Human Resources Division to complete the following trainings as required by DSHS Administrative Policy 18-34 and [WAC 357-34-055](#)
    9. Contact the Alliance to complete the In-Service training at [Alliance@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Alliance@dshs.wa.gov).

## 2. Voluntary Training

1. Social Service Specialists contact the Alliance Learning Development Coordinator to register for Focused Continuing Education trainings when approved by his/her supervisor.
2. CWTAP and Tribal staff contact the Alliance Learning Development Coordinator to register for RCT, In-Service and Focused Continuing Education Trainings.

## Forms and Tools

## Resources

Prior Learning Assessment

[Alliance For Child Welfare Excellence](#)

# 8510. Identification Cards

8510. Identification Cards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:18

1. Each CA employee who may be in travel status at any time, who makes home visits, who makes visits to facilities, or who may have access to confidential records, either internal or external, shall obtain an official department identification card with the employee's photograph.
2. The identification card, DSHS 03-046 DOL (X)(8/50), shall be completed by administrative support staff, shall be signed by the Appointing Authority, and the employee will make an appointment with the local licensing center of the Department of Licensing to have their photograph taken and attached to the card or follow regional procedures.

# 8600. Employee Safety

8600. Employee Safety [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:19

Preventing causes of accidents and reducing the impact of on-the-job injuries is a combined responsibility of managers (administrators, managers), supervisors and staff (employees and volunteers). Working together, managers, supervisors and staff will make efforts to maintain a safe working environment.

# 8610. Safety Committees

8610. Safety Committees [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:19

Each office will establish a safety program consistent with the requirements of the department's Safety Program Manual and tailored to the office's unique environment and needs.

1. The manager of each office is required to establish and operate a safety committee for that office which is to meet regularly. The membership is to include equal representation of employer-selected and employee-selected representatives in accordance with the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA) <http://www.lni.wa.gov/safety/topics/atoz/about/default.asp>. The manager will make clear to the employees and their supervisors the expectations for participation. Sufficient time off from regular duties will be authorized to facilitate employee participation. The agenda for these meetings will include, but not be limited to, the following:
  1. Monitoring and discussing safety inspections and investigations of job sites, materials, and equipment alleged to be unsafe.
  2. Discussing appropriate operating procedures relative to maintaining a safe work environment including, but not limited to, fire, earthquake, bomb threat and client threat.
  3. Monitoring of formal training to ensure safety awareness and skill improvement, as well as on-the-job instructions prior to the assignment of duties in areas of higher accident risk.

4. Reviewing all reports of accidents and illnesses that occurred since the previous meeting.
5. Safety committee meeting minutes will be posted on the office safety bulletin board.
2. The manager may obtain a waiver from authorizing regular safety committee meetings if justified by office size and/or safety record. Waivers may be obtained from Safety and Health Claims Management, Loss Prevention and Risk Management, P. O. Box 45882, Olympia, WA 98504 or Mail Stop: 45882.

## 8611. Agency Responsibility

8611. Agency Responsibility [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:19

In a threatening situation, staff safety and well-being are primary. The agency will provide:

1. Awareness of job-related safety precautions and the importance of attitude and professionalism as it relates to personal safety.
2. Annual training on work-related and personal self-protection skills.
3. Guidelines for worker safety posted on the Intranet.
4. Cell phones for workers to check out when going into the field.
5. A check in/out procedure for staff when conducting field visits.
6. Tracking and reporting in the aggregate the number and nature of incidents using the Administrative Incident Reporting System (AIRS).
7. Debriefing and support for staff as follow-up to trauma suffered as a result of serious incidents when safety has been jeopardized, such as a personal threat or an assault.
8. Support for staff to request law enforcement assistance when using court orders to remove children from their families, regardless of known risk factors.

## 8612. Personal Safety During Client Contact

8612. Personal Safety During Client Contact [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:20

Within the scope of their job duties, CA employees and volunteers will take precautions to prevent or avoid dangerous situations and property damage.

1. Initial Personal Safety Risk Assessment
  1. Before making client contact, staff will make ongoing assessments of situations based on the nature of the allegation(s) or changing case characteristics and risk factors. The following are issues for social workers and supervisors to consider before making field visits:
    1. Are firearms or other weapons noted in the referral or record?
    2. Is there a previous history of domestic violence or other violent behavior towards others (this includes adults and youth)?
    3. Is there a history of criminal activity, mental illness, substance abuse, and ritualistic abuse or cult practices?
    4. Is the family's geographic location isolated or dangerous and is there cell phone coverage in that location?
    5. Is the contact scheduled after normal working hours?
    6. Are there aggressive animals on or near the premises?
    7. Is there a "danger to worker" notification screen on the referral?
    8. Is there lack of available information?
  2. If the initial assessment reveals possible risk to the staff person, the following could be considered as part of a safety plan:
    1. Call upon law enforcement and/or another staff person for accompaniment.

2. Carry a cell phone.
  3. Use a state car rather than personal vehicle (or visa versa).
  4. Carry personal safety equipment, such as a whistle or personal alarm.
  5. Conduct a criminal history check before making contact.
  6. Consult with other informal sources, such as local law enforcement, previous social workers, collateral contacts, coworkers or colleagues from other agencies.
2. Maintaining Safety
    1. Be aware of your surroundings and identify potential safety risks.
    2. Do not allow a client to get between you and the door.
    3. If you feel unsafe, end the visit and seek assistance. Leave immediately.
  3. After an Incident

In spite of precautions, threats and other incidents may occur. Staff will immediately notify his/her supervisor, another supervisor in the office, or other person in the chain of command following an incident, such as assault, a threat of serious harm to staff and/or family members or property damage. The manager and/or supervisor or designee will:

    1. Provide the opportunity to debrief and offer counseling for staff involved in incidents.
    2. When warranted, report to law enforcement and request restraining orders for individuals and/or offices.
    3. Report the incident to the chain of command and make a report in the Administrative Incident Reporting System (AIRS). Give the staff involved in the incident the opportunity to provide information so that all necessary details are included in the report. Provide a copy of the report to the Safety Committee representative.
    4. Note the circumstances in the SER and update the "danger to worker" person screen.
  4. Methamphetamine Labs
    1. Any staff who suspects he/she has entered an area where methamphetamine is manufactured will exit the residence and the property immediately and call 911 to request law enforcement response to address the safety of the children.
    2. Any staff person suspected of methamphetamine exposure should consult with his/her personal physician within two hours of exposure.

## 8700. Disaster Response

8700. Disaster Response [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:21

## 8710. Purpose and Scope

8710. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:21

1. Disaster response, preparedness, and recovery plans are the responsibility of all supervisors and management staff.
2. Each office identifies how the operations of the office will return to full service following a disaster and who in the organization is responsible for each of the steps.
3. Each office is responsible to train their staff in emergency and disaster recovery procedures.

## 8720. Standards

8720. Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:21

# 8721. Planning for Disaster Recovery

8721. Planning for Disaster Recovery [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:21

1. Expectations
  1. In the event of a disaster, CA will ensure that essential records are protected, stored, and retrievable in accordance with its Essential Records Plan.
  2. Offices will initiate procedures to ensure worker and client safety, minimize damage to equipment and files, and restore critical functions for service delivery within seven working days. Basic levels of services are to resume at the earliest possible time.
2. There are three levels of disaster:
  1. Water damage, contaminant damage (food, dust, etc.) to equipment or to a workstation or area that renders it unusable.
  2. HVAC system outages, computer, phone and power outages.
  3. Bombing, terrorism, violence, toxic fumes, and the like that render the facility unusable; fire, earthquake, flooding, and other natural disasters that leave the facility unusable; or death or severe injury that would incapacitate a work group.

# 8722. Operations

8722. Operations [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:22

1. Operations essential to CA are the work site, telecommunications, and social service programs. Within 24 hours basic services are to begin. The designated staff for the operational recovery will identify media sources, which can be used to keep the public, notified of CA operational recovery.
2. Director of Management Services, DCFS Regional Administrator, and DLR Regional Manager Responsibilities:
  1. Prepare an emergency mission statement with implementation procedures.
  2. Prepare regulations and announcements for immediate issuance in the event of an emergency to enable the office to carry out its operational mission.
  3. Designate an Operational Coordinator for each work site.
  4. Approve the Operational Coordinator's selection of necessary steps to resume normal operations following an emergency.
  5. Provide adequate resources to support the recovery of CA office operations in the most cost-effective manner.
3. Local Operational Coordinator's Responsibilities:
4. Identify and select work site, telecommunication methods, and the recovery of social services programs that are necessary to carry out:
  1. Emergency mission, and
  2. Resume normal operations following an emergency.
5. Submit a listing of selected work site, telecommunications, and social services program implementation to the Director, Regional Administrator, or Regional Manager, as applicable, for approval.
6. Yearly, review the Operational Recovery Schedule. If needed, update and get the required approval.

# 8723. Essential Records

8723. Essential Records [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:23

1. Records essential to CA are a combination of paper and electronic files. Client records and payments processed through FamLink are in electronic files with criminal history background checks, court reports, and other client reports from outside sources in paper form. The journal voucher, vendor payments, personnel attendance, and payroll, Agency Inventory System (AIS), numeric registers, contract, administrator's accounts, regional financial reports, and position action requests are recorded in electronic files with paper authorization forms/back-up.
2. Responsibilities of each Division Director, Regional Administrator, and Regional Manager include:
  1. Preparation of an emergency mission statement with implementation procedures.
  2. Preparation of regulations and announcements to issue immediately in the event of an emergency to enable the office to carry out its emergency mission.
  3. Approval of the Records Coordinator's selection of essential records necessary to carry out or resume normal operations following an emergency.
  4. Provision of adequate resources to support the protection of selected essential records in the most cost-effective manner.
3. Local Office Records Coordinator's responsibilities include:
  1. Identification and selection of essential records for the office that are necessary to carry out:
    1. Emergency mission, and
    2. Resume normal operations following an emergency.
  2. Submission of a listing of selected essential records to the Division Director, Regional Administrator, or Regional Manager for approval. When it is approved, forward the list to the DSHS Records Officer, Forms & Records Management, MS 45805.
  3. Yearly review of the Essential Records Schedule. If needed, update, obtain required approval, and forward as shown above in 3.B.

## 8724. LAN/WAN Recovery

8724. LAN/WAN Recovery [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:24

1. Identify essential Local Area Network (LAN)/Wide Area Network (WAN) operations for operation of program and administration. The designated staff for the LAN/WAN recovery will identify software and alternate system access.
2. Office of Information Services Manager responsibilities include:
  1. Preparation of a technology emergency mission statement with implementation procedures.
  2. Preparation of regulations and announcements to issue immediately in the event of an emergency to enable the Administration and each office to carry out its mission.
  3. Approval of the LAN/WAN Coordinator's selection of system recovery necessary to carry out or resume normal operations following an emergency.
  4. Provision of adequate resources to support the recovery of CA office system technology in the most cost-effective manner.
3. Local LAN/WAN Coordinator's responsibilities include:
  1. Identification and selection of facility based and alternative computer systems to carry out:
    1. Emergency mission, and
    2. Resume normal operations following an emergency.
  2. Submission of a listing of selected LAN/WAN software/system(s) essential to recovery operations to the Regional Administrator or the Regional Manager, as applicable, for approval. Submission of the final approved LAN/WAN software/system(s) recovery to the Office of Information Services Manager, MS: 45710
  3. Yearly review of the LAN/WAN Recovery plan. If needed, update, obtain required approval, and forward as shown above in 3.B.

# 8900. Opposing Testimony

8900. Opposing Testimony [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:24

# 8910. Purpose and Scope

8910. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:25

1. This standard and procedure establishes guidelines for Children's Administration (CA) staff who may be called upon or wish to provide testimony or documentation opposing the department's official position in an administrative hearing or court action, usually as a result of an adverse action against a child care license or as part of a child or family case specific action.
2. This standard does not apply to cases brought by or against a department employee. The standard does not apply to nor limit employee participation in any role in other, non-licensing or non-case specific, actions, including employee disciplinary, Personnel Appeals Board, and court hearings or related actions.

# 8920. Standard and Procedure

8920. Standard and Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:25

1. Division of Licensed Resources (DLR) adverse licensing action constitutes a decision by the department that the licensee is not suitable to care for children.
2. CA staff, including Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) social workers, shall not knowingly take action that directly subverts or undermines the department's position in a licensing or other family or child case specific action.
3. If CA staff has information that is relevant to the licensing or other case specific determination in question, including contacts from opposing counsel, that staff will provide that information to the DLR licenser or other responsible CA employee, as applicable. When contacted by opposing counsel, the CA employee will also notify the assigned Assistant Attorney General (AAG).
4. CA staff will not knowingly share department documents related to the dispute with any licensee or other party who is the subject of the licensing or other department case specific action or with the licensee/party's attorney/agent/ advocate except as currently provided in public disclosure statutes and regulations. If CA staff receives a request for documents from the licensee/party or his/her attorney/ agent/advocate, the staff will immediately refer the request to his/her supervisor, the DLR licenser for licensing issues, and the AAG assigned to the licensing or other family or child specific case.
5. CA staff will not knowingly share confidential information with the licensee who is the subject of licensing action. CA staff will also not knowingly share confidential information with the opposing party to any other child or family case specific action. In addition, CA staff will not knowingly share confidential information with the licensee/party's attorney/agency/advocate.
  1. "Confidential information" includes, but is not necessarily limited to, attorney/client communications; information pertaining to the department's strategy or decision-making in the licensing case or other matter under litigation; agency memoranda, e-mail, or other communication related to the case; and client (child or child's family) information.
6. If CA staff are contacted by a licensee who is the subject of licensing action or other party to a department-related child or family case-specific litigation, the licensee/party's attorney/ agent/advocate or by any person who has information regarding the licensing or other child or family specific case in dispute, that staff will immediately notify his/her supervisor, the DLR licenser or other involved CA staff, as applicable, and the AAG assigned to the case.



7. CA staff will not testify in support of a licensee who is the subject of licensing action or other party in opposition to the department unless subpoenaed to do so. CA staff will not provide any written letters of support for the opposing party on DSHS letterhead. The CA staff will specifically state that his/her testimony, whether by subpoena or not, or letter sets forth his/her personal opinion and is not the position of the department.
8. The department, in consultation with the assigned AAG, determines the department's position in any action. The assigned AAG represents the department and not any particular CA staff. If CA staff testifies in support of a licensee who is the subject of a licensing action or other party to a child or family specific action in opposition to the department's position, he/she may be cross-examined as a hostile witness by the AAG, who may attempt to discredit the employee's testimony.

## **9300. Vendor Warrant Replacement**

9300. Vendor Warrant Replacement [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:37

## **9310. Children's Administration Staff Tasks**

9310. Children's Administration Staff Tasks [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:37

When a vendor makes a request for a replacement warrant, the responsible staff:

1. Sends/gives the vendor a copy of Vendor Affidavit of Lost, Stolen, or Destroyed Warrant, DSHS 9-013(X), with instructions to complete the top half of the form, sign, notarize, and return the original affidavit and one copy to the local CA office.
2. Mails the original affidavit to DSHS, Disbursements Section, MS 45843, Olympia, WA 98504.
3. Attaches a copy of the affidavit to a copy of the original payment authorization document (DSHS 14-154A/159) and places it in the social service record or payment batch file.
4. Under no circumstances initiates another voucher. CA workers are to ensure only the proper affidavit is completed and submitted to Disbursements.

## **9320. Disbursements Staff Tasks**

9320. Disbursements Staff Tasks [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:37

DSHS Disbursements staff checks with the State Treasurer's Office to determine if the warrant is outstanding. If staff finds that the warrant has been cashed, an investigation is undertaken before reissuing a warrant.

## **9400. Social Service Payment System**

9400. Social Service Payment System [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:38

## **9410. Regional Office Responsibilities**

9410. Regional Office Responsibilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:38

1. The DCFS Regional Administrator and the Division of Licensed Resources (DLR) Regional Manager establish controls to ensure that only properly designated personnel input to the Social Service Payment System (SSPS) via the Case and Management Information System (CAMIS).
2. The Regional Administrator and Regional Manager, through written procedures, designate staff to maintain security for CAMIS and for SSPS in their respective areas of responsibility.
3. The Regional Administrator and the Regional Manager see that the following are done:
  1. Current written SSPS procedures are available to staff, and staff are aware of their location.
  2. Appropriate staff have a copy at their desk.
  3. Each office has at least one current copy of the SSPS Manual.
  4. Staff are appropriately trained in using SSPS.
  5. SSPS payments are adequately monitored.
4. The Regional Administrator and Area Manager are responsible to see that no SSPS payments are made to vendors without a valid contract in place, unless otherwise allowed by the specific SSPS service and payment code.
5. The Regional Administrator and the Regional Managers establish procedures to retain the following reports in the regional and local offices:

<b>Report</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Retention</b>
Purged But Not Paid Report	SSPS22N26 microfiche	6 years
Client Payment Detail	SSPS40N40 microfiche	6 years
Provider Services Summary	SSPS142	1 year
All Services Summary	SSPS182	1 year
Client Payment Detail Listing	SSPS40N40	1 year or 5 years*
Client Payment by Service Code	SSPS40N20	1 year
Service Code by Reporting Unit	SSPS40N21	1 year
Adoption Family Services	SSPS180-A SSPS180-B SSPS180-C	1 year
FRS Services	SSPS181-A-D	1 year
Payee by Reporting Unit	SSPS40N31	1 year

\*This report must be retained for five years if the office does not have a microfiche machine.

The Regional Administrator and the Regional Manager provide for all of their respective employees to have access to terminal alerts broadcast through CAMIS.

## 9411. Regional SSPS Coordinator

9411. Regional SSPS Coordinator [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:39

The Regional Administrator designates a regional SSPS Coordinator whose responsibilities include:

1. Monitor a sample of SSPS output reports on a quarterly basis.
2. Act as the primary contact person with SSPS Control in the Management Services Administration.
3. Clarify SSPS information coming into CA from Management Services Administration.

4. Act as a resource to local SSPS coordinators and supervisors for training and/or payment problems.
5. Assist in developing SSPS procedures, providing SSPS training, and completing corrective action in response to paragraph 1, above.

## 9420. Area Manager Responsibilities

9420. Area Manager Responsibilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/07/2018 - 20:40

1. The Area Manager is responsible to assign a staff person in each office to maintain the following lists:

LISTS	FORM	RETENTION
Duplicate Invoice List	DSHS 07-056(X)	4 months
Paper Batch Transmittal List	DSHS 01-137(X)	2 years
SSPS Transaction Input List	SSPS0017	2 years

1. The use of each form is described in SSPS Manual, Section 99.
2. Area Manager Reports
  1. The Area Manager uses the following reports to monitor local office and unit activity on a monthly basis:

REPORTS	NUMBER	RETENTION
Administrative Report	SSPS015-1	5 months
Worker/Supervisor Activity Reports	SSPS014-1 SSPS014-2	6 months
Authorization in Error Weeks Elapsed without Correction	SSPS057-A SSPS057-B	1 month

3. Area Managers assign a gatekeeper in each office to control the creation of provider numbers and to see that the following steps are taken:
  1. The assigned staff always conducts a provider file clearance before creating a new provider number, using the first three letters of the provider's name. This will pick up alternate spellings and minimize the creation of duplicate provider files.
  2. To change information on an existing provider file, the appropriate individual (i.e., Local SSPS Coordinator, Regional SSPS Coordinator, Regional Contracts Coordinator, or assigned licenser) must give authorization.
4. Operator Numbers
  1. Operator numbers allow administrative support and social work staff to complete SSPS authorization and provider file input through FamLink. Each employee with an operator number is required to keep his/her password secret. Only selected terminals have entry to these transactions by use of operator numbers and passwords. Area Managers determine which employees are to be assigned operator numbers and access to selected terminals. The unit supervisor sees that SSPS Control, MS 45812, is notified within five working days after an employee leaves or changes job functions.
  2. The Area Manager designates security staff to document changes, additions, or deletions to operator numbers and terminal access, with documentation available for review by federal, state, and internal auditors. Designated security staff retain this documentation for at least two years.

# 9430. Local Office Responsibilities

9430. Local Office Responsibilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:35

# 9431. Expectations and Procedures

9431. Expectations and Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:36

1. Local offices (reporting units) will establish and maintain auditable controls of SSPS and have written procedures for staff functions relating to SSPS. Local office procedures are to contain all information required herein. Local offices will add to these requirements the specific information that pertains to their office procedures.
2. Local offices are to have procedures for approval by management of exception payments prior to authorization, including signatures as required.

# 9432. Social Worker/Designated Staff Responsibilities

9432. Social Worker/Designated Staff Responsibilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:36

1. For contracted services, the supervisor shall be responsible to see that the social worker or other designated staff verifies, through the FamLink contracts module, that the proposed vendor is a contractor in good standing with the department before processing SSPS payment or service authorizations.
2. Designated staff perform the following in authorization preparation:
  1. Authorize payment of appropriate services for clients to whom they are assigned.
  2. When asked to authorize emergency services for a social worker who is unavailable, the designated staff uses that other worker's SSPS worker identification (ID). The authorizing worker must sign the authorizations prior to data input. The designated staff give copies of all authorizations to the clerical staff responsible for reconciling the transactions.
  3. Correct errors on authorizations.
  4. For one-time service authorizations, verify that goods or services were delivered prior to authorizing payment. Appropriate receipts must be present before payment and closure of the DSHS 14-159.
  5. For those services requiring supervisory approval, as identified in the SSPS Manual, Appendix C, obtain such approval prior to input. Appropriate authorizing documents may be attached to the Social Service Authorization (SSA), DSHS 14-154(X), or the FamLink "Print Screen."
  6. Should complete authorizations for input on a daily basis but shall complete them for input no less often than every fifth work day.
3. Social Worker Reports-Social workers or other designated staff shall use the following reports to monitor services and to track status:

REPORTS	NUMBER	RETENTION
Worker Service Report	SSPS032	1 month
Expired & Expiring Service Tickler	SSPS013	1 month
Birthday Tickler	SSPS039	1 month

4. Social workers initiate and maintain FamLink placement information.
5. Each social worker or other designated staff reviews the Worker Service Report (SSPS032) and:
  1. Identifies any services, providers, or clients they did not authorize.
  2. Identifies any unusual authorizations, unusual payments, or authorizations in the wrong amount.
  3. Resolves discrepancies or reports discrepancies to the immediate supervisor when resolution is not possible.
6. Each social worker or other designated staff reviews the Expired and Expiring Service Report (SSPS013) and the Birthday Tickler (SSPS039) to identify services which need to be terminated, extended, or changed.
7. Social workers and other designated staff participate in offered training.

## 9433. Input Staff Responsibilities

9433. Input Staff Responsibilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:38

1. Input should be done on a daily basis but shall be done no less than every fifth work day.
  1. The input clerk or other authorized personnel initials, dates, and records the authorization number on the DSHS 14-154A or prints the FamLink screen and initials and dates it. Assigned staff distribute copies as required. Assigned staff prioritize input with attention to the following deadlines: ACES, monthly invoice, expired services, and supplemental invoice.
  2. Social workers doing their own input print the FamLink screen and sign and date the printed copy. The workers file one copy in the case file and give one copy to clerical support to use in checking the Transaction Listing. The social workers distribute other copies as required by regional or local procedures.
2. Staff doing input must verify current enrollment for medical coverage before inputting medical authorizations.
3. When staff doing input are entering a paid service via FamLink for which a license is required and the license expiration date is prior to the service end date, the input staff may change the service end date to reflect the license expiration date without sending the authorization back to the social worker for correction.
4. When input staff is entering a placement-related service via FamLink for which the placement module has not been updated to reflect current status, the input staff returns the authorization to the authorizing worker. It is the social worker's responsibility to ensure that placement information is entered.
5. Assigned staff other than the one doing input checks input documents against the Transaction Listing (SSPS 017) and signs and dates the document upon completion of the review. Assigned staff bring discrepancies to the attention of the appropriate supervisor. Offices are to retain the Transaction Listing for 24 months after the daily work has been checked off by clerical and appropriate supervisor. Assigned staff destroy all clerical copies of authorizations not needing further review.

## 9434. Support Staff Responsibilities

9434. Support Staff Responsibilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:38

1. Support staff, within one work day of receipt, forward SSPS output reports to unit supervisors. If two sets of reports are received, support staff will distribute one set to the supervisor for review and forward the other set to the social worker.
2. A designated staff is responsible for distribution of SSPS reports and for storing reports and microfiches in accordance with established retention requirements. The assigned staff maintains billing reports, including microfiche, in a location accessible to staff.

3. A designated staff is responsible for ordering and distributing all SSPS manuals and policies required to support program operations.
4. Staff are to be aware of procedures for batching SSPS authorizations which are outlined in the SSPS Basics Manual, Section 10.10.

## 9435. Supervisor Responsibilities

9435. Supervisor Responsibilities [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:39

1. SPSS Worker ID
  1. The six (6) digit SSPS Worker Identification allows social work staff to authorize services for eligible clients in designated reporting units. Supervisors are to notify designated security staff within five working days of the need for any additions, deletions, or changes to the SSPS Worker ID in their unit. The required data includes:
    1. Employee's name;
    2. SSPS Worker ID (old and new if being changed);
    3. Position number;
    4. Worker telephone number; and
    5. Reporting unit number.
  2. The supervisor oversees security staff input of changes, additions, and deletions via FamLink. Retention of all changes, additions, and deletions are maintained in the FamLink data base.
2. The unit supervisor or other employee designated by the Area Manager and knowledgeable of documentation requirements and payment policies randomly checks, co-signs, and dates at least 25 percent of the services that meet the following criteria:
  1. Services opened and closed at the time of initial input.
  2. One time payments that are terminated with a termination code that will cause a payment to be made (1A, 1B, 2A, 3B).
  3. Service which is authorized as an exception to the normal payment amount, including any service code beginning with a "9."
3. The staff reviewing the sample of services retains all DSHS 14-154A/159s randomly checked and attaches them to the signed and dated Transaction Listing. The office retains these DSHS 14-154A/159s with the Transaction Listing for two years.
4. The supervisor of each unit reviews monthly each social worker's Worker Service Report (SSPS032) and Expired Services Report (SSPS013) to monitor authorizations and expenditures.
5. The supervisor reviews SSPS reports received from support staff within five working days, then immediately distributes to social workers.
6. Reports for Supervisory Use in Monitoring-Supervisors use the following reports as part of their monitoring of social workers' activities:

REPORTS	NUMBER	RETENTION
Expired & Expiring Service Tickler	SSPS013	1 year
Local Office Client listing by Service	SSPS041	1 year
Provider Listing by Paid Service	SSPS031	1 year
Worker Service Report	SSPS032	1 month
Birthday Tickler	SSPS039	1 month

7. Each supervisor:
  1. Has transactions checked promptly and discrepancies resolved.

2. Discerns and resolves discrepancies reported by social workers or clerical staff.
3. Reviews the Worker Service Report (SSPS032) monthly for accuracy and appropriateness of services.
4. Discusses with each social worker on a monthly basis the expectation to review the following SSPS reports for accuracy and to take appropriate action as needed to prevent late payments and other errors:
  1. Expired and Expiring Service Report (SSPS013);
  2. Worker Service Report (SSPS032);
  3. Birthday Tickler Report (SSPS039); and
  4. Arranges for staff participation in training.

## **9436. Local SSPS Coordinator**

9436. Local SSPS Coordinator [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:40

The local SSPS coordinator, designated by the Area Manager:

1. Provides technical assistance to social services and support staff in their local office.
2. Acts as back-up support for the regional SSPS coordinator.
3. Assists in developing and coordinating SSPS policies and procedures.

## **9437. Problem Resolution**

9437. Problem Resolution [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:40

1. Assigned staff review the Morning Report and resolve any errors using Correction procedures in the SSPS Manual, Appendix T. Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) staff review the Morning Report and will correct any errors regarding eligibility or information for medical assistance.
2. Social workers and clerical staff have the capability to verify payments made, invoices sent, and check for possible errors on returned invoices. Designated staff request duplicate invoices from SSPS Data Control, MS 45812, Olympia. Only local and regional SSPS coordinators may request expedited payments.
3. Payment problems that cannot be resolved at the local level must be referred to the regional SSPS coordinator.

## **9500. Social Service Payments**

9500. Social Service Payments [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:41

## **9510. Definition of Overpayment**

9510. Definition of Overpayment [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:41

"Overpayment" means any money paid by the department for services or goods not rendered, delivered, or authorized or where the department paid too much for services or goods or services rendered, delivered, or authorized.

# 9520. Overpayment and Underpayment Identification and Recovery

9520. Overpayment and Underpayment Identification and Recovery [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:45

## 1. Purpose and Scope

1. These procedures establish guidelines for CA staff in the resolution of vendor or foster parent disputes regarding payments through an administrative hearing and pre-hearing process. It provides direction when staff determines that an overpayment to a vendor or foster parent exists, for staff participation in steps to recover the overpayment, and for staff participation in the settlement of any overpayment disputes. The procedures also provide direction for pre-hearing efforts to mediate and resolve payment disputes prior to proceeding to hearing.
2. Contracted and non-contracted service providers, including foster parents, may seek dispute resolution through these procedures, under the Administrative Procedure Act and RCW 43.20B.675, with respect to overpayments. However, the following limitations apply:
  1. The right of vendors or foster parents to seek an administrative hearing to contest alleged overpayments applies only to overpayments for goods or services provided on or after July 1, 1998.
  2. These procedures do not create a right to a hearing where no dispute right previously existed except as provided in RCW 43.20B.675. These procedures and department policy limit disputes for foster family and child day care providers to:
    1. Alleged overpayments;
    2. Perceived failure of the department to pay for services actually provided under an agency service authorization; and
    3. Licensing actions taken under WAC 388-73-036 or WAC 388-155-090, as applicable.
  3. Adoptive parents who receive assistance through the Adoption Support Program are not vendors within the meaning of the law. They have hearing rights under other provisions of law and WAC. Accordingly, payment disputes involving the Adoption Support Program do not fall within the scope of these procedures.
3. Discovery or recovery of overpayments has no time limit. The department may identify and initiate recovery of overpayments without regard to the length of time that may have elapsed since the overpayment actually occurred or was discovered.
4. CA employees do not have authority to forgive or waive overpayments, nor to offset overpayments from future payments. All such authority rests with the Office of Financial Recovery (OFR). Designated CA staff may mediate a disputed payment with the vendor, but final approval for any negotiated proposed settlement rests with OFR.
5. Governmental entities, including Indian Tribes, with an Inter-local Agreement with the department do not have the right to an adjudicative hearing through the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). The dispute process described in the agreement between the entity and the department governs the resolution process.

## 2. Policy

1. RCW 43.20B.675 and DSHS Administrative Policy 10.02 provide that all vendors have the right to request an adjudicative proceeding if they have a bona fide dispute. Disputes involving rates set in rule or Washington Administrative Code (WAC) are not subject to resolution through an adjudicative hearing held by OAH. The responsible CA organizational unit must routinely offer a pre-hearing conference to all clients and vendors that request an administrative hearing.
2. The department and CA must, when undertaking activities relating to overpayment identification and recovery as well as adjudicative proceedings, comply with:



1. DSHS Administrative Policy 7.02, Equal Access to Services for Individuals with Disabilities;
2. DSHS Administrative Policy 7.20, Communication Access for Persons Who Are Deaf, Deaf/Blind, and Hard of Hearing; and
3. DSHS Administrative Policy 7.21, Provision of Services to Limited English Proficient (LEP) Clients

### 3. Procedures

#### 1. Regional and Headquarters Procedures:

1. Each DCFS Regional Administrator, DLR Regional Manager, or division Director, as applicable, must establish procedures to provide for consistency in the handling of vendor/contractor disputes in accordance with the Children's Administration Pre-hearing Procedures. Procedures must include:
  1. Methods to informally notify vendors of their right to request a formal adjudicative proceeding if they have a bona fide contract dispute and to provide all appellants with a copy of the CA written pre-hearing process. (OFR provides formal notification of overpayments.) The department limits adjudicative disputes for foster parents to those issues identified in paragraph 1.B., above;
  2. Pre-hearing/alternative dispute resolution that incorporates routine offers of a pre-hearing conference to all clients or vendors who have requested an administrative hearing;
  3. Identification of overpayments and steps to initiate recovery of amounts due to the department as a result of overpayments;
  4. Designation of staff to represent CA in behalf of the department in pre-hearing/alternative dispute resolution and administrative hearings for disputes resulting from activities or actions of the applicable organizational unit;
  5. Identification of staff to mediate overpayment and other disputes prior to a formal administrative hearing;
  6. A system to identify overpayments in a timely manner;
  7. A method to document that an overpayment has occurred;
  8. A method to notify the vendor/provider that an overpayment has occurred and to determine the vendor's agreement or disagreement with that determination; and
  9. Identification of staff assigned to review overpayments and to refer them to OFR for collection.
2. CA expects disputes to be resolved at the lowest possible level in the organization. Therefore, CA staff will handle disputes at the following organizational levels:
  1. The DCFS Regional Administrator is responsible for the dispute resolution process for all payments authorized by local office social workers and all payments authorized under regionally managed contracts and service agreements. Regional DCFS staff will coordinate pre-hearing conferences, mediation activities, and administrative hearings for regionally-managed contracts.
  2. Assigned CA Division of Program and Policy Development or Office of Foster Care Licensing (OFCL) headquarters staff, as applicable, will handle pre-hearing conferences, mediation activities, and administrative hearings arising from headquarters-managed contracts and service agreements.
2. Determination of Existence of an Overpayment and Documentation of Referral
  1. If any CA employee has reason to believe that the department has overpaid a contractor or vendor, that employee must contact the employee who authorized the payment and the authorizing employee's supervisor by written memo or e-mail.
    1. The CA employee identifying the overpayment must inform the authorizing employee and that employee's supervisor that the employee has reason to believe an overpayment has occurred and must provide the information that led the employee to that conclusion.

2. If the authorizing employee identifies an overpayment, that employee must inform and provide supporting information to the supervisor.
  2. The authorizing employee, or other employee designated in DCFS or DLR regional procedures or CA headquarters procedures must contact the vendor/provider directly to inform the vendor/provider of the identified overpayment and the reason the payment constitutes an overpayment.
    1. This contact provides the CA employee and the vendor/provider an opportunity to identify any errors in the conclusion that an overpayment occurred and to enable the CA employee to discontinue overpayment procedures if CA incorrectly identified an overpayment.
      1. This contact serves as an opportunity for CA to educate the vendor/provider in correct methods to complete invoices in order to prevent overpayments from recurring.
      2. In addition, the CA employee can support the vendor/provider in continuing to offer services to CA and its clients.
    2. If the vendor/provider is a foster parent who disagrees with CA determination of an overpayment, the CA employee informs the foster parent of the foster parent liaison program and provides the contact telephone number for the CA office's liaison.
    3. If the CA employee, after contact with the vendor/ provider, continues to believe that an overpayment occurred, the authorizing worker or other employee designated by regional procedures informs the vendor/ provider that the employee will notify OFR of the overpayment. OFR will send an official notice of overpayment to the provider/vendor. This notice will include instructions for the vendor/provider to return the overpaid funds to the department and information on steps to dispute the overpayment.
  3. The employee who originally authorized the payment gathers written documentation of the overpayment. This may include gathering payment records through the SPAYMENT procedure in FamLink.
  4. The authorizing employee refers to the regional designee any overpayments, with supporting documentation. This information will include documentation of the vendor/provider's agreement or disagreement with the determination of overpayment. The regional designee reviews the referral information to ensure that supporting documentation adequately supports the conclusion that an overpayment in the amount stated did occur.
3. Referral to the Office of Financial Recovery
    1. The applicable CA designee sends the completed SSPS Overpayment Notice, DSHS 18-398A, (dated 7/1998) along with the documentation of the overpayment, to OFR.
    2. OFR then issues formal notice of the overpayment by certified mail to, and tracks responses from, the vendor/provider. If the vendor/provider wants to formally dispute the overpayment, the vendor/provider must respond to OFR within 28 days of the notice of overpayment.
    3. If the vendor/provider does not dispute the overpayment, OFR establishes a schedule for repayment with the vendor/provider. In accordance with RCW 43.20B.695, interest will not accrue when the overpayment results from department error.
  4. Disputed Department Actions
    1. OAH schedules a hearing when a vendor/provider requests a hearing. After a vendor/provider requests a hearing, the CA authorized staff person offers a pre-hearing conference. The pre-hearing conference may be a telephone call, a meeting, or a mediation session with a third party mediator.
    2. The responsible CA organizational unit must identify individuals authorized to mediate a disagreement between the department and the vendor/provider. Those persons designated

to refer overpayments to OFR for collection may not serve in the role of mediator for overpayment disputes.

3. If the CA authorized staff and the vendor/provider reach a settlement, the CA representative and the vendor/provider may execute a stipulated agreement in writing, signed by the parties. If the parties do not resolve the dispute, the formal hearing with OAH takes place as scheduled.
4. For overpayments:
  1. If the vendor/contractor and the CA representative reach an agreement, before signing the agreement, the CA representative must contact OFR at (360) 664-5557 to obtain verbal approval for the stipulated agreement if it forgives an identified overpayment.
  2. If the OFR representative approves the agreement, the CA representative and the vendor/contractor representative sign the agreement, and the CA representative mails it to the OFR representative for signature. Once the OFR representative signs the agreement, it takes effect.
  3. If the administrative hearing occurs, the CA employee who authorized the payment must participate in the administrative hearing. Regional or headquarters procedures, as applicable, determine if additional individuals will participate in the administrative hearing to represent the department.

## 9530. Repayment

9530. Repayment [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:46

1. The vendor or client must send the repayment directly to OFR. If a CA office receives money that is to be applied to a vendor overpayment, assigned accounting staff in the office transmits the money to OFR on a Daily Funds Transmittal, DSHS 18-320(X).
2. Accounting staff indicates the nature of the overpayment in the comment section of the Daily Funds Transmittal.

## 9540. Unsolicited Payments

9540. Unsolicited Payments [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:47

1. When OFR receives payments from vendors for whom it has not received an overpayment packet, OFR staff will send notification to the appropriate CA office.
2. If CA determines that the payment or any portion was submitted in error or that OFR applied funds incorrectly, responsible staff transmits this information to OFR in writing within 30 days. OFR will then initiate appropriate action.
3. If CA staff determines that the payment or any portion was a program donation, designated staff transmits this information to OFR, including the identity of the program to which the donation was made to enable OFR to credit the proper account.

## 9550. Interest on Vendor Debt

9550. Interest on Vendor Debt [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:48

Interest on vendor debt is administered in accordance with DSHS Administrative Policy 10.02, Vendor or Provider Overpayment and Debt Policy.

## 9600. Accounts Receivable

9600. Accounts Receivable [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:48

## 9610. Office of Financial Recovery Responsibility

9610. Office of Financial Recovery Responsibility [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:49

1. Under DSHS Administrative Policy 4.02, OFR is delegated responsibility and authority for managing the department's Accounts Receivable in a manner outlined in Administrative Policy 12.04.
2. Each Regional Administrator/designee will determine the region's own policy on receipt of cash.

## 9800. Administrator's Accounts

9800. Administrator's Accounts [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:50

## 9810. Purpose and Scope

9810. Purpose and Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:50

1. RCW 43.88.195 allows agencies to establish new accounts with the permission of the Office of Financial Management (OFM). Administrator's Accounts are expendable trusts that are local fund accounts available to provide instant assistance to eligible clients. Their sources of funds are usually donations and fund raisers.
2. Please Note: If funds are given for a specific purpose, moneys can only be dispensed for that specific purpose. Accounting records must be maintained so that moneys donated and spent for a specific purpose may be audited.

## 9820. Establishment of an Administrator's Account

9820. Establishment of an Administrator's Account [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:52

1. CA local offices are to:
  1. Develop a statement of purpose for the account; for example, "The sole purpose of this account is to provide direct needs and opportunities for children and their families when no other resource is available."
  2. Stipulate the criteria for use, the amount available per request, and the process that will be developed to allow access to Administrator Account funds.
  3. Write a memo to the Regional Administrator requesting the establishment of an Administrator's Account. In the request, include the fund's purpose, criteria for use, and process for accessing funds. The Regional Administrator or designee will send a written request to the Chief, DSHS Office of Accounting Services, with a copy to the CA Director of Management Services. The written request must include the name of the bank, name and classification of individuals authorized to sign account checks, and the name and classification of the individual responsible for reconciling monthly bank statements with the office records.
2. Once the DSHS Office of Accounting Services has granted authority to establish the account, the local office identifies staff to be the:

1. Accounts Receivable Coordinator;
2. Committee or Person(s) to review/approve requests for funds;
3. Disposition Person;
4. Fund Trustee;
5. Mail Person;
6. Recording Person, and
7. Reconciliation Person

## 9830. Separation of Duties

9830. Separation of Duties [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:17

1. To the extent possible, the duties listed in section 9920(B) are to be separated.
2. If the duties cannot be separated due to a lack of staffing, a "Separation of Duties" waiver which includes compensating controls to show safeguard of the account must be on file in the regional office.
3. The waiver must be signed by the Fund Trustee, the trustee's supervisor, the second line supervisor, and the Regional Administrator.
4. Please note: Any cash or negotiable items received are to be deposited within 24 hours.

## 9840. Operation of Administrator's Account

9840. Operation of Administrator's Account [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:53

The Regional Administrator, usually through the Regional Business Manager and/or the Clerical Supervisor, designates staff to carry out the duties outlined below.

## 9841. Mail Person

9841. Mail Person [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:53

The Mail Person logs any cash or negotiable items in the Cash Items Mail Log, DSHS 19-48, and gives it to the Accounts Receivable Coordinator.

## 9842. Accounts Receivable Coordinator

9842. Accounts Receivable Coordinator [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:54

The Accounts Receivable Coordinator:

1. Receives the Cash Items Mail Log and the cash/negotiable items from the mail person.
2. Verifies that the cash/negotiable items are shown on the Cash Items Mail Log and, after verification, dates and signs the mail log, retaining the pink copy.
3. Issues a pre-numbered and sequential receipt for all cash/negotiable items requiring a receipt. If the cash/negotiable items received are for a specific purpose, they are to be referred to as a restricted donation, with a note of the restriction on the receipt issued to the donor.

4. Prepares the disposition documents required for the disposal of cash and negotiable items. The disposition documents will include the bank deposit slip, the Cash Items Mail Log, and a copy of the receipt issued to the donor.
5. Secures all cash and negotiable items until transferred to the Disposition Clerk along with the disposition documents.

## 9843. Disposition Person

9843. Disposition Person [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:55

The Disposition Person:

1. Verifies that the cash and/or negotiable received from the Accounts Receivable Coordinator equals the amount shown on the disposition documents. Completes the disposition entries on the various receipt and disposition documents. Signs and dates the disposition documents.
2. Secures the deposit until it can be taken to the bank. Gives bank- validated deposit slips along with the copies of the receipt and disposition documents to the recording person on the same day the deposit is made.
3. Receives approved disbursement authorizations from committee or person(s) responsible for reviewing and approving requests for funds.
4. Prepares check (in ink) and writes the check number on the Disbursement Authorization. Has the check signed by at least two people who are authorized on the bank account signature card.
5. Gives the completed Disbursement Authorizations to the Recording Person.

## 9844. Recording Person

9844. Recording Person [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:55

The Recording Person:

1. Reconciles the daily cash receipts and bank validated deposit slips.
2. Records all deposits in the Cash Receipts Journal and Ledger Sheet.
3. Verifies the amounts of checks to disbursement authorizations and completes entries to the check register, Cash Disbursements Journal, and the Ledger Sheet. Secures signed checks until they are mailed or given to the appropriate person.

## 9845. Reconciliation Person

9845. Reconciliation Person [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:56

The Reconciliation Person:

1. Upon receiving the Administrator's Account monthly bank statement, reconciles the statement to the Ledger Sheet and other journals. Completes the reconciliation on the back of the bank statement.
2. Prepares the Administrator's Account Monthly Activity Report and the Bank/Reconciliation Report. Gives them and the appropriate ledgers and journals, along with the bank statement, to the Fund Trustee for review.

# 9846. Review and Approval of Authorizations

9846. Review and Approval of Authorizations [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:56

The committee or person(s) responsible for review and approval of Disbursement Authorizations approves, modifies, or denies the completed Disbursement Authorization based on the local office use-of-funds criteria and any restrictions that may have been placed on the funds by the donor.

# 9847. Fund Trustee

9847. Fund Trustee [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:57

The Fund Trustee:

1. Oversees the management and accountability of the Administrator's Account.
2. Reconciles the accounting records to the trustee's records on a quarterly basis. If there are variances, the trustee researches and documents, corrects, or takes appropriate action. He/she prepares the Trustee's Reconciliation Report, DSHS 19-207, and signs and dates it.

# 9850. Accessing Administrator's Account Funds

9850. Accessing Administrator's Account Funds [sarah.sanchez](#) Mon, 08/13/2018 - 23:58

1. A CA staff person submits a completed Request for Disbursement Authorization form to the committee or person(s) assigned by the Regional Administrator the duties of approving these requests.
2. The completed form includes the amount, case name, case number, and purpose of the requested funds. The form is signed and dated by the worker.

# 11000. Federal Funding

11000. Federal Funding [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:41

# 11100. Federal Matching Funds/Other Benefits

11100. Federal Matching Funds/Other Benefits [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:42

# 11110. Introduction

11110. Introduction [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:42

The Children's Administration (CA) Federal Funding staff shall review the circumstances of every child placed in out-of-home care to determine the child's eligibility for federal matching funds and/or other benefits.

# 11120. Referral

11120. Referral [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:43

1. The social worker initiates referrals to the Federal Funding Unit (or Specialist) by entering the required child/family demographics, placement, and legal action data into the appropriate CAMIS modules.
2. Paper referrals are required only in the absence of automated data.

## 11130. Determinations

11130. Determinations [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:43

1. The Federal Funding Specialist (FFS) analyzes data, makes eligibility determinations, assists in the application for other financial benefits, and notifies appropriate parties of the results of these actions. Following the initial determination, the FFS provides ongoing coordination of the various funding sources that may be used in combination with one another. The FFS performs required redetermination specific to each funding source.
2. The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Facilitator (SSIF) reviews referrals made electronically or by the FFS or child's social worker to analyze funding sources already available. SSIFs review the child's case file and speak with the social worker, foster parent, or others to screen for potential impairments to warrant an SSI application. The SSIF completes applications for Title XVI/SSI and Title II Social Security benefits and requests payee changes for children already receiving benefits.

## 11200. Federal Funding Programs

11200. Federal Funding Programs [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:43

1. A number of federal programs provide opportunities for claiming federal financial participation matching funds to reimburse state expenditures for eligible services. Each program has individual criteria and guidelines.
2. Below is a listing of the federal programs currently providing reimbursement (matching) funds, their individual eligibility criteria, the referral procedures, and the required follow-up by the FFS and SSIF.

## 11210. Title IV-E

11210. Title IV-E [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:44

## 11211. Categorical Title IV-E Eligibility Factors

11211. Categorical Title IV-E Eligibility Factors [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:44

Title IV-E is a federal entitlement program designed to reimburse States for the maintenance and administrative costs of eligible children who are placed in department-paid substitute care. There are three categorical criteria which must be met to establish the IV-E claim: judicial protections for the child and family; linkage of the child to Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) in the eligibility month; and reimbursability criteria. (This is only a general overview of the IV-E eligibility criteria. The IV-E Eligibility Specialist assigned to each area has detailed information on claiming IV-E funds for children placed in department-paid substitute care.)

1. Judicial Protections



## 1. Court Ordered Placements

1. For a child to be eligible for IV-E foster care or adoption support funds, the court must enter a judicial determination (finding) in the first order authorizing removal of the child from the home must state that, remaining in the home would be "contrary to the welfare" of the child. If this determination is not made in the first order of removal, the child will be ineligible for IV-E funds for the entire placement episode and perhaps for federally subsidized adoption support.
2. Prior to CA making a claim for IV-E reimbursement funds, the court must have entered a finding that DCFS made "reasonable efforts" to prevent the removal of the child from his/her home or to reunify the child with his/her family or that "reasonable efforts" are not required due to aggravated circumstances in accordance with USC 471(a)(15), Practices and Procedures Manual 4304. The fact that the placement was emergent in nature does not negate this judicial determination requirement.
3. Additionally, the child must be placed under the sole responsibility of Children's Administration for care and supervision..

## 2. Voluntary Placements

1. The voluntary placement agreement must be signed by the parent(s) and a representative of DCFS.
2. If the child meets the AFDC-linkage requirements, the child is eligible for IV-E matching funds during the first 180 days of placement. If beyond 180 days of placement see (3.a.ii. below).

## 2. AFDC linkage

The child must be linked to the AFDC program under the rules in existence as of July 16, 1996. This linkage must be established during the eligibility month. The eligibility month is the month during which a court petition for removal of the child was filed that led directly to removal of the child, or during which a voluntary placement agreement was signed. The date the child enters care does not necessarily define the eligibility month. Further discussion of IVE eligibility and AFDC linkage occurs in the IV-E Desk Guide.

## 3. Reimbursability

1. Once IV-E eligibility is established, a child is IV-E reimbursable if, in any particular month the child is in care, he/she meets a number of ongoing criteria. Meeting all the following criteria qualifies the child for Title IV-E funds:
  1. The court has entered a judicial determination that DSHS/DCFS made "reasonable efforts" to prevent the placement of the child; or
  2. If the child was placed on a voluntary placement agreement, and the child has been in placement more than 180 days, the court must have entered an order by the 180th day of placement that continuation in care is in the child's "best interest"; and
  3. The child is placed in the sole care and supervision of DSHS/DCFS; and
  4. The child is under age 18, or under age 19 and in school full time and reasonably be expected to graduate before their 19th birthday; and
  5. The child continues to be deprived of parental care and support in AFDC terms; and
  6. The child continues to be in financial need; and
  7. The child is placed in a licensed child care facility or in the home of a relative "certified" as meeting minimum licensing requirements.

# 11212. Other Eligibility Factors

11212. Other Eligibility Factors [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:46

## 1. Repeat Removals

1. Whenever the child is returned to the home of any biological or adoptive parent or to the removal home of a specified relative other than the parent, with the intent that the parent assumes the on-going daily supervision and control of the child, the placement episode is terminated, even if court supervision continues. If the child is re-placed into out-of-home care, all the judicial protections and AFDC-relatedness criteria must be met in order for the child to again be eligible for IV-E reimbursement funds.
2. See [Appendix A](#) for the definition of "Original Placement Date."
2. Guardianship
  1. The entry of a guardianship order on any child in out-of-home care completes the permanent plan for the child; the Placement Episode must be closed effective the date of the guardianship order. If foster care maintenance payments will continue, the Placement Event remains open, and the source of funds is State Only.
  2. In the event the child is re-placed into out-of-home care from the guardian's home, a new Placement Episode is noted in CAMIS. New "contrary to the welfare" and "reasonable efforts" judicial determinations must be obtained, even though the underlying dependency is still in effect. If the child is re-placed into care via a VPA, a court order (i.e., at a dependency review hearing) must be obtained by the 180th day of placement with the finding that it is in the child's best interest to remain in care. See [Appendix A](#) for the definition of "Original Placement Date."
3. Teen parent and child residing together in same facility or foster home:
  1. Nondependent child of a teen parent. When a teen parent and the teen parent's child reside in the same facility or foster home AND there are no safety, health, or welfare needs for the teen parent's child, the department considers the child's "home" to be the child's teen parent, not the foster home or other out-of-home care facility. As long as the teen parent and his/her child reside together, and the child of the teen parent has no safety, health, or welfare needs warranting a custody order, the social worker SHALL NOT obtain a legal authorization to place.
    1. An amount sufficient for the child's maintenance is included in the maintenance payment made for the teen parent. See section 11250 for instructions regarding medical coupon issuance for the teen parent's child.
    2. Placement codes for the child of the teen parent are NOT opened in CAMIS since the child continues under the teen parent's care and control. Payment for the child is included in the payment code authorized for the teen parent, with the amount authorized to be the amount for the teen parent plus the amount for the child.
  2. When the child of the teen parent and his/her child reside in the same facility or foster home AND the child is with the teen parent under an in-home dependency, the department considers the child's "home" to be the child's teen parent, not the foster home or other out-of-home care facility. An amount sufficient for the child's maintenance is included in the maintenance payment made for the teen parent. See section 11250 for instructions regarding medical coupon issuance for the teen parent's child
  3. When the child of the teen parent and the teen parent reside in the same facility or foster home AND the facility provider is responsible for the day to day care of both parties under separate dependencies, the department considers the home of the teen parent's child to be the facility. Payments are made to the facility separately for the child and the teen parent.
  4. In all situations the child of a teen parent counts in the licensed capacity of the facility. The social worker must notify DLR and the Placement Coordinators if an infant is placed in the same home as the parent or is removed from the home to another placement. See WAC 388-148-0525, General Capacity of Foster Homes.
4. SSI Eligibility and IV-E eligible-Any child for whom a Title XVI/SSI application is in process or for whom SSI eligibility has been established and benefits are "in pay" must have his/her source of funds coded to "state only." Exception: If maintenance payments are high cost, IV-E funding may be substituted. Please refer to IV-E and SSI desk manuals for detailed information.

# 11213. Referral Procedures for Social Workers

11213. Referral Procedures for Social Workers [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:47

1. The social worker takes the following actions, or causes such actions to be taken, within 10 working days of a child's Original Placement Date (OPD).
  1. Enter the appropriate child/family demographic profile information onto the child's "PERSONCARD" in FamLink; and
  2. Enter all required information in the FamLink Legal History (ACTNLA) and Placement (PLACECR) modules. (NOTE: FamLink will not process any SSPS payments until the required information in 1 and 2 has been entered into the system); and
  3. For voluntary placement cases see [4307 Voluntary Placement Agreement \(VPA\) policy](#).
  4. Transmit copies of the following items, on all children placed into department-paid substitute care, including licensed or non-licensed relative care, within 10 working days of the OPD to the FFS and/or Unit:
    1. Copies of the legal authorizations to place. Include the VPA and/or the petition and signed court order that initially authorized the out-of-home placement.
    2. If the child is re-entering foster care from an in-home dependency or from a dependency guardianship status, forward a copy of the legal document that authorizes re-entry into out-of-home care.
  5. Referrals for Title IV-E eligibility determinations are not required for placement episodes that are 72 hours or less (excluding weekends and holidays) from the OPD.
2. Referrals initiated by a private Child Placing Agency in which the CPA retains responsibility for placement and care.
  1. CPA referrals for maintenance payments shall be submitted within 10 working days to the DCFS local office nearest the residence of the child's legal caretaker. The referral from the CPA shall consist of:
    1. The DSHS 14-024(x) Family Face Sheet;
    2. The Source of Funds Application for Child in Placement, DSHS 14-281; and
    3. Legal authorization for placement.
  2. The source of funds code for all children for whom the CPA retains sole or joint responsibility for placement and care is State Only.

# 11214. Procedures for Federal Funding Specialists

11214. Procedures for Federal Funding Specialists [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:48

1. The Eligibility Specialist must take the following actions upon notification of each new Placement Episode:
  1. Review and evaluate all the available child demographic, placement, legal action and SSI information;
  2. Utilize the above information to determine the correct funding source;
  3. Enter the correct funding source in the IVEUP module, and change all outstanding SSPS authorizations to coincide with the correct funding source;
  4. Send an electronic referral for child support enforcement to the Division of Child Support (DCS);
  5. Document eligibility information in the child's Financial Revenue File using the Title IV-E Initial Eligibility AFDC & Legal Relatedness Summary, DSHS 14-297, and the Title IV-E Initial Eligibility Income Calculation Worksheet, DSHS 14-293, where appropriate, and record the eligibility information in CAMIS;

6. Maintain the Financial Revenue File in accordance with the IV-E Eligibility Desk Manual;
  7. If the child was removed from a TANF household, send a Coordinated Benefits Referral form, DSHS 14-226, to the appropriate CSO.
2. Re-determinations of IV-E Eligibility
    1. Children who are eligible for Title IV-E funding shall have their eligibility redetermined semi-annually. The procedure replicates the procedure for new eligibility determinations, except that a new referral to DCS is not required if the Placement Episode has continued uninterrupted.
    2. The information is recorded on the Title IV-E Reimbursability Summary, DSHS 14-298; that form, along with other supporting documents, is filed in accordance with the procedures outlined in the IV-E Eligibility Desk Manual.
  3. Title XIX-Children who are eligible for Title IV-E funding are deemed eligible for Title XIX medical coverage.

## 11215. Other Eligibility Processes

11215. Other Eligibility Processes [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:48

1. Adoption Support -- See section 11420.
2. Guardianships -- See section 11320.
3. COBRA Medical -- See section 11450.

## 11220. Title II/Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance

11220. Title II/Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:49

1. Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) is a federal entitlement program for adults who have worked and become disabled, retired, or died.
2. A child of an eligible parent may be a beneficiary for auxiliary benefits based on the parent's earnings record.

## 11221. Eligibility Factors

11221. Eligibility Factors [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:49

1. Title II/RSDI benefits are paid before Title XVI/Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
2. If a child's Title II/RSDI benefit is less than the current Title XVI/SSI payment and the child is also disabled, an SSI application should be made.
3. There are no income or resource limits for Title II/RSDI benefits.
4. Parental relationship(s) must be established prior to Title II/RSDI application.
5. Title II/RSDI benefits remain with the child regardless of the adoption or termination of parental rights, provided that application for the child's benefits was made prior to finalization of adoption, pursuant to Washington state inheritance law.
6. If Title II/RSDI has been established prior to a child coming into DSHS care, the SSIF will request that DSHS be made the Representative Payee, if placement will exceed 90 days.
7. If a Title II/RSDI application is needed, the SSIF will call the Olympia Branch Office to make an appointment for a teleclaim application with the local Social Security Administration (SSA) office.

# 11222. Referral Procedures for Social Workers

11222. Referral Procedures for Social Workers [sarah.sanchez](#) Wed, 08/15/2018 - 18:49

1. Social workers refer to the SSIF/Federal Funding Unit (FFU) all children in placement who are known or suspected to be receiving Title II/RSDI, Title XVI/SSI, or VA benefits, so that a change in representative payee can be made to "DSSH - Trust Fund Unit."
2. To screen for potential Title II/RSDI or VA benefits, social workers refer to the SSIF/FFU all children whose parents, step-parents, or adoptive parents are deceased, over 65, or disabled.
3. Social workers inform SSIFs by e-mail, in writing, or verbally, of changes in the child's placement, resources, or income or when the child emancipates, returns home, transfers to another division, or is adopted.

# 11230. Title XVI/Supplemental Security Income

11230. Title XVI/Supplemental Security Income [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:47

1. SSI is a SSA federal entitlement program for persons with medically determinable physical or mental impairments, which have or are expected to last at least 12 months. As it applies to DCFS, SSI is used to reimburse the cost for paid out-of-home care for a child with a qualifying disability.
2. Federal regulations require that SSI benefits are used for food, clothing, shelter, or other personal or medical needs.
3. In order to be eligible for Title XVI/SSI, a child must meet criteria identified in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 20 CFR 400-499.

# 11231. Referral Procedures for Social Workers

11231. Referral Procedures for Social Workers [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:47

1. The social worker shall refer all potentially eligible service only and placement cases to the SSIF in the Federal Funding Unit by e-mail or brief memo for assessment and application. Eligibility may include, but is not limited to, the following criteria:
  1. Positive toxicology screen/drug affected;
  2. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome/Fetal Alcohol Effect;
  3. Mental Retardation;
  4. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder;
  5. Behaviorally disturbed/Emotionally disturbed;
  6. Cerebral Palsy;
  7. Exceptional cost foster care/Group care;
  8. Medically fragile child'
  9. Blind or Deaf;
  10. Failure to Thrive;
  11. Low birth weight;
  12. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder;
  13. Special Education student;
  14. Use of crutches or wheelchair;
  15. Downs Syndrome.
2. This is only a general overview of Title II/Title XVI Programs. Please refer to the SSI Facilitator for more detailed information.

# 11232. Procedures for SSI Facilitators

11232. Procedures for SSI Facilitators [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:48

SSIFs shall meet the following requirements:

1. See that children served/placed have a Social Security identification number, or an application is filed to obtain one, and that it is entered in FamLink (personcard).
2. Periodically, review all placement cases in FamLink for potential application for SSI or other SSA benefits.
3. Apply for Title XVI/SSI for all referred or "screened-in" clients.
4. Facilitate the claim throughout the application process:
  1. Provide required Medical Evidence Records (MER) that DCFS may possess;
  2. Seek to have scheduled Consultative Examination (CE) appointments kept; and
  3. Respond in a timely manner to all SSA and DDDS requests for information, placement data, and re-determination on clients for whom DSHS is payee or custodian.
5. Make requests to change the representative payee to "DSHS - Trust Fund Unit" for all clients already entitled or receiving Title XVI/SSI and/or Title II/RSDI benefits.
6. Initiate the conveyance of information regarding placement, resource, or income changes to the payer: SSA, VA, etc.
7. Coordinate all relevant financial and social information with DSHS Trust Funds accountant.

# 11234. Appeals Cases

11234. Appeals Cases [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:48

1. If the initial disability determination is denied, the Headquarters SSI Program Manager or designated SSIF will review the SSA decision and provide consultation to regional field staff for further appeals.
2. Personal representation for all hearings and appeals will be the responsibility of the Headquarters SSI Program Manager.
3. When an Interim Assistance Reimbursement Agreement (IAR) is in place, personal representation may be extended to clients who are no longer in DSHS custody, where the SSI lump sum proceeds will benefit DSHS cost-of-care recoveries in excess of \$1000.

# 11240. Client Aged 18 through 20

11240. Client Aged 18 through 20 [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:49

The following conditions apply for Title II/RSDI and Title XVI/SSI.

1. Clients who are over age 18 must sign their own SSI applications (form SSA-8001) and authorizations to release information (SSA 827).
2. When young adults age 18 through 20 voluntarily place themselves into foster care, a copy of their voluntary placement agreement must be submitted with the Application for SSI (SSA 8001).
3. 18 - 20 Year Olds for Whom DSHS is Payee for SSA/SSI Benefits
  1. Title XVI/SSI
    1. The SSIF will provide capability development (form letter) to the local/Olympia SSA District Office.

2. If the client is determined to be incapable of managing his/her own resources, DSHS will continue to be the Representative Payee.
3. If the client is determined to be capable and receives his/her own SSI, it must be made available toward the cost of care.
2. Title II/RSDI-The SSA will automatically make the client his/her own payee unless incapacity has been determined. If the client is incapable, DSHS can be made the Representative Payee. If capable, the client must make the funds available for cost of care.
4. Title II beneficiaries may continue to receive benefits if they are still in high school. SSIFs will be asked to provide documentation of school attendance to the SSA.
5. For Title II beneficiaries who are 17½ years old and are disabled, but for whom no SSI application has been made, a Childhood Disability Benefits (CDB) claim needs to be filed. If the client is found to be disabled, the Title II benefits will continue into adulthood. The disability must be established prior to the attainment of age 22.

## 11250. Title XIX/Medicaid

11250. Title XIX/Medicaid [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:49

1. Title XIX is an entitlement program that provides medical and remedial services for certain individuals and families with low income and resources. There are some mandatory Medicaid eligibility groups. As it applies to CA, recipients of adoption assistance and foster care are included in the mandatory Medicaid eligible group.
2. Title XIX/Medicaid may be used to fund other services to children beyond the traditional medical services. This has been due, in part, to changes in the state Medicaid plan. Among the DCFS programs that have benefited are Behavior Rehabilitation Services/Group Care (BRS/GC), Therapeutic Child Development (TCD), and Medicaid Personal Care Services.
3. Infants of Teen Parents in Licensed Placements
  1. Infants born to teen parents in foster care, where there are no protection issues and where the child resides with the mother in the same facility, are eligible for Medicaid. However, because there is no DSHS custody, the child will not appear in FamLink. Assigned CA staff must notify the Foster Care Medical Unit (FCMU) by telephone or e-mail as soon as possible when the child begins residing with his/her teen parent. The CA staff will provide the FCMU with the child's name, birth date, address, identity of the child's mother, the mother's case number, and any other available, pertinent information.
  2. If the dependent child of a dependent teen parent has been returned to the teen parent's care, the FCMU must be notified so medical coupons can continue.
  3. Because the child's eligibility requires enrollment in a Healthy Options plan, CA staff will advise the minor mother and the foster parent of the need to make the selection of a plan as soon as the packet is received in the mail. The teen parent needs to , base the selection on the availability of the teen parent's preferred providers and on the interface of that plan with the teen parent's fee for service providers.

## 11254. Procedures for Federal Funding Specialists

11254. Procedures for Federal Funding Specialists [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:50

1. The FFS determines eligibility for DCFS Title XIX programs.
  1. The FFS must verify Title XIX Medicaid eligibility for in-home services, using ACES, print the screen, enter the information onto the XIXELIG screen in FamLink, and file the printout,

including the date, in the child's revenue file. If a child is in a DCFS-paid placement, the child is automatically Medicaid eligible.

2. The FFS must receive a Statement of Medical Necessity form, signed by a licensed medical practitioner, for TCD and BRS Title XIX services.
  1. Statement of Medical Necessity forms indicate that the information is valid on the service begin date (SBD) for TCD and BRS/GC.
  2. The FFS enters the information onto the XIXELIG screen in FamLink and files the signed Statement of Medical Necessity (SMN) in the child's revenue record.
  3. SMN forms must be received annually for as long as the child receives uninterrupted TCD or BRS/GC services.
2. The FFS reviews and/or re-determines eligibility every 90 days. If TCD or BRS/GC services continue without interruption, then a new Statement of Medical Necessity (SMN) is required annually. See the Title XIX Desk Manual for exceptions.
3. The FFS maintains the FamLink record and the child's Revenue File. See Chapter 13000, section 13410. FamLink Title XIX information is entered onto the XIXELIG screen.
4. For TCD, the FFS updates authorizations to correct source of funds as needed. If the child is not categorically needy Medicaid eligible, then source of funds (SOF) code 5, state funds, is used. NOTE: For TCD, if the family is required to make a co-payment but does not pay it, the SOF code must be 5.
5. For TCD and BRS/GC, the FFS reviews/redetermines Medicaid eligibility every 90 days.
  1. The FFS completes an ACES search for evidence of Medicaid eligibility, makes screen print, and files it in the child's revenue record.
  2. The FFS files the Statement of Medical Necessity forms received from service providers for TCD and the Nurse Care Consultant for BRS/GC in the child's Revenue File.
  3. The FFS must update TCD authorizations to correct SOF codes if eligibility ends. A signed and dated copy of the screen print must be filed in the child's Financial Revenue file and another copy forwarded to clerical staff if the SOF code changed.

## 11300. Guardianships

11300. Guardianships [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:51

## 11310. Title IV-E

11310. Title IV-E [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:51

1. On Title IV-E eligible and/or reimbursable children for whom dependency guardianship orders have been entered, pursuant to RCW 13.34.231, the Placement Episode shall be closed effective the date of the court order. The Placement Event, however, remains open if foster care maintenance payments continue.
2. In every instance, the child loses Title IV-E eligibility upon establishment of a guardianship. The guardianship code and the date of the legal action that established the guardianship are entered into FamLink. (NOTE: The child may still qualify for SSI or Title XIX funding; consult the Regional FFU for the correct funding source).
3. A child removed from a guardianship and placed again into other department-paid substitute care always begins a new Original Placement Date (OPD).
  1. Upon removal from the guardian's home, the initial removal order must contain a "contrary to the welfare" judicial determination. In addition, prior to reestablishing IV-E eligibility, the court must make a judicial determination that DCFS made reasonable efforts to prevent the placement.
  2. Refer the case to the FFS for a new determination of Title IV-E eligibility, per section 11210.



## **11320. Title II/RSDI AND Title XVI/SSI**

11320. Title II/RSDI AND Title XVI/SSI [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:52

1. Title II/RSDI and Title XVI/SSI applications are made for DSHS-paid foster parent/guardianship placements.
2. Guardians must sign the Authorization to Release Information, SSA-827.
3. DSHS is to be the representative payee for all children in DSHS-paid foster care/guardianships.

## **11330. Title XIX**

11330. Title XIX [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:52

Eligibility for Title XIX is not affected by guardianship status.

## **11400. Adoption Support**

11400. Adoption Support [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:52

1. All children for whom application for adoption support payments has been made shall have an adoption support specific funding source determination completed. (Note: The foster care funding source may or may not be applicable for adoption support payments.)
2. Upon request of the social worker who applies for an adoption subsidy for a legally free child, the FFS will determine eligibility for possible funding sources.

## **11410. Title IV-E Adoption Support Eligibility Criteria**

11410. Title IV-E Adoption Support Eligibility Criteria [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:53

1. On all children for whom an adoption support application is being completed, the child's social worker shall refer the case to the appropriate eligibility specialist for determination of the child's eligibility for title IV-E adoption support benefits.
2. The eligibility specialist will return an Adoption Support Monitoring Schedule, DSHS 14-319, to the child's social worker noting the child's eligibility for IV-E funding. The adoption support program manager must not process the application unless this form is included with the application. The FSS will review positive determinations of Title IV-E Adoption Support eligibility every six months until the child is adopted or until the FSS has verified the month that the adoption petition was filed. At each review, the specialist will forward a copy of the form to the Adoption Support program manager. The Adoption Support program manager or the social worker may request a review of any child's previously denied Adoption Support eligibility determination.
3. Eligible for adoption support through a previous adoption: When a child is adopted and receives Title IV-E adoption assistance, and the adoption later dissolves or the adoptive parent(s) dies, a child may continue to be eligible for Title IV-E adoption assistance in a subsequent adoption. The only determination that must be made by the state prior to the finalization of the subsequent adoption is whether the child meets the definition of special needs.

4. SSI Eligible Children A child is eligible for adoption assistance if, at the time the adoption petition is filed, the child meets the requirements for Title XVI SSI benefits and, prior to the finalization of the adoption, is determined by the state to be a child with special needs.
  1. The requirement that the child be determined SSI eligible in the same month that the adoption petition is filed is met by the protective filing date. Protective filing date refers to the date the application was made. The filing date is used as the SSI eligibility date and not the date the determination is made because benefits are awarded retroactively to the filing date, if the child is determined eligible.
  2. Written verification of SSI eligibility or of the protective filing date must be contained in the child's file.
5. In placement with minor parent: A child is eligible for Title IV-E adoption assistance if the child's minor parent is in foster care and receiving IV-E foster care maintenance payments that cover both the minor parent and the child at the time the adoption petition is initiated and, prior to the finalization of the adoption and the child of the minor parent is determined by the state to meet the definition of special needs.
6. AFDC eligible
  1. If the child was legally removed from the home pursuant to a judicial determination, that determination must indicate that it was contrary to the child's welfare to remain in the home. Children who are voluntarily relinquished to a public or private nonprofit agency may also be considered to have been judicially removed if:
    1. A petition to remove the child from home is filed within six months of the time the child lived with a specified relative; and
    2. There is a subsequent judicial determination to the effect that remaining in the home would be contrary to the child's welfare.
  2. If the initial change in custody for the placement episode is via a voluntary placement agreement, the child must also have received at least one Title IV-E maintenance payment in order to be eligible for Title IV-E adoption assistance in addition to the AFDC eligibility and special needs criteria.
  3. Adoption support eligibility that is based on the child's AFDC eligibility is predicated on a child meeting that criterion at the change in legal custody and in the month the adoption petition is initiated. The child must, of course, also meet the definition of special needs prior to the finalization of the adoption.

## 11420. Title XVI

11420. Title XVI [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:53

1. Adoption support standards require SSIF screening and potential application for SSI benefits prior to adoption support decision-making. SSIFs must coordinate application information with the adoption social worker and the adoption support staff.
2. SSI with an application date prior to the date of Petition for Adoption will ensure IV-E eligibility for adoption support payments.
3. Adoption finalization shall not be delayed because an SSI application is pending. However, if an application is pending adjudication or appeal, the social service and financial files are not archived pending outcome by SSA.

## 11430. Title XIX

11430. Title XIX [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:54

Children receiving Adoption Support subsidies are categorically needy Medicaid eligible and thus may be eligible for DCFS Title XIX services, such as TCD.

## 11440. COBRA Medical

11440. COBRA Medical [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:54

1. The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) of 1985 permits Title IV-E eligible children receiving adoption support benefits to receive Medicaid in their state of residence. COBRA guarantees a uniform level of medical services for Title IV-E eligible children nationwide.
2. Adoptive parents of Title IV-E eligible children from other states who move into Washington need to apply for COBRA medical from:

Adoption Support Program  
DSHS - Mail Stop 45710  
P. O. Box 45710  
Olympia, WA 98504-5710  
Phone: Toll free 1-800-562-5682 (3)

3. Children placed by Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) in another state may be reciprocally eligible for COBRA in that state. The social worker consults with the FFS to determine and document IV-E eligibility/reimbursability to be sent with the ICPC documents to the receiving state. See also the CA Practices and Procedures Guide, chapter 5000, section 5600.
4. Adoptive parents of Title IV-E eligible children who move from this state to another state of residence must apply for COBRA medical in their new state of residence. The adoption support program manager in the region the child resides will send a letter to the new state verifying Title IV-E eligibility and reimbursability.
5. Adoption support children not Title IV-E eligible from Washington are deemed Title XIX Categorically Needy medically eligible. Their medical coupons may be issued by the state of Washington or, by their resident state, IF their resident state is a state that is a member of Interstate Compact for Adoption and Medical Assistance (ICAMA) and has agreed to reciprocate medical coverage for non-Title IV-E children.
6. Children moving into Washington state who are not certified by their state of origin as Title IV-E eligible shall receive medical coverage from their state of origin, except that, if the state of origin is an ICAMA member state, Washington will also provide medical coverage for that non-IV-E eligible child.

## 11600. Correction of Funding Source

11600. Correction of Funding Source [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:56

1. Every department-paid substitute care payment charged to an incorrect funding source must be changed to reflect the correct source, both in the authorization and accounting systems.
  1. Changes are made at the point of discovery of the incorrect charge.
  2. Corrections of payment are made by using the FamLink COPCR procedure.

## 11700. Income/Resources of Child in DSHS Paid Substitute Care

1. A child in department-paid substitute care may have:
  1. Earned income (wages);
  2. Unearned income (Social Security, SSI, VA benefits); and/or
  3. Resources (bank accounts, bonds, stocks, automobiles, personal property).
2. Each of the above three categories is additionally classified as either:
  1. Exempt income - not included when considering if a child is eligible for a particular federal funding source or when determining a child's possible participation in the cost of care.
  2. Non-exempt income -
    1. Unearned income - If the non-exempt income is unearned income, it shall be used to cover the child's cost of care, except for resources held in trust for an American Indian child.
    2. Earned income - If the non-exempt income is earned income or resources, it may be used to cover the cost of care. The exempt earned income/resources standards which applied to AFDC also apply to children in department-paid substitute care.
3. Title IV-E
  1. The exempt plus non-exempt income must be totaled to determine the child's total gross income per month. The total must be below 185 percent of the child's cost of care for Title IV-E reimbursability to continue. AND
  2. The child's non-exempt resources (including trust fund balances) cannot exceed \$10,000 for any given month. AND
  3. The non-exempt earned income plus the non-exempt unearned income (total non-exempt income) must total less than the child's cost of care, defined as the payment standard: Room and board, clothing, personal and incidental allowance, and specialized rates. Additional rates through the Exceptional Cost Plan (ECP) or Exception to Policy (ETP) processes are not included.
  4. The FFS determines if the child receives Title XVI/SSI funds. A child is not eligible to receive both SSI and Title IV-E simultaneously. The FFS terminates one or the other based on the best interest of the child and/or the greater benefit to the state.
  5. If the child is employed full time and not in school, the source of funds is state only. See also paragraph "vii" below.
  6. Excluded student earned income. The following types of earned income are not counted for Title IV-E purposes:
    1. The earnings of a child 19 years old or younger who is a full time student in grade 12 or below, or the equivalent level of vocational training; or
    2. The earnings of a child under the age of 18 who is attending school part time in grade 12 or below and is not employed full time.
  7. Child's participation in the cost of care. The state must take into account the earnings of every foster child not considered a student (see above). The earned income disregards are applied to the earnings before determining what portion of the child's cost of care will be recovered from the child's earnings.
4. Title II/RSDI-There are no income or resource considerations in determining eligibility for RSDI.
5. Title XVI/SSI
  1. Income and resource limitations are strictly enforced by the SSA.
  2. All earned and unearned income must be reported to the SSA. Social workers report all income and known resources to their SSIF for forwarding to the SSA. Reports of income and resources are entered by SSIF into SSI tracking module in CAMIS.
  3. Earned and unearned income are calculated according to various SSA formulas. All or some of the income may be considered to reduce the SSI benefit.

4. The cash resource limitation for SSI is \$2000. The client is ineligible for SSI in any month where total savings (including what is held in Trust Funds Accounting and whatever may be held in the child's name by a parent or foster parent) exceed \$2000.00.
6. Title XIX
  1. Children with a Social Security number and in paid out-of-home placement are Medicaid eligible categorically needy. Social workers authorize SSPS code 4810 for medical coupons, unless the child is enrolled in a Healthy Options plan.
  2. In non-placement cases (e.g. TCD), Medicaid eligibility is determined in the CSO. The FFS documents Medicaid eligibility in the Revenue File.

## 11800. Trust Funds Accounting

11800. Trust Funds Accounting [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:58

1. Trust funds accounting is the exclusive mechanism in the DSHS Office of Accounting Services (OAS) to receive, disburse, and reimburse costs of care from any income, benefits, or resources of a child in out-of-home placement or resident in a Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA) facility. The Children's Trust Fund was established by RCW 74.13.060 designating the Secretary of DSHS as custodian of funds for persons placed with the department. The delegation of this responsibility is assigned as follows:
  1. Trust Fund Unit - accounting and disbursement of all funds;
  2. Headquarters Division Staff - interpreting program policies; and
  3. Social Service Staff and Regional Trust Funds Coordinators - case management.

## 11810. Regional Coordination of Trust Funds Account

11810. Regional Coordination of Trust Funds Account [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:58

1. In each region, Regional Administrators have delegated the authority for Trust Funds Coordination to a Federal Funding Coordinator. Coordinators work, according to local procedures, with social work staff, SSI Facilitators, and, in some instances, with the Regional Business Managers to authorize expenditures or plans for conserving a child's trust fund resources.
2. Whenever a client is also receiving or is eligible for any federal entitlement program benefits (Medicaid, SSI, IV-E, etc.), the presence of additional resources must be analyzed to determine how that resource will affect eligibility for continued benefit payments.
3. Examples of potential assets include: SSI lump sum settlements due to the Zebley Supreme Court decision, gifts from relatives, inheritances, casualty or life insurance settlements, tort claim settlements, Social Security Survivor's benefits, and victims of crimes compensation, VA benefits, Railroad Retirement, and L & I benefits.
4. Generally these assets are used to reimburse for the cost of care, especially if the reason the child is in care is due to the same reason the benefits are being paid. However, there may be times when a decision is made to conserve resources for future needs of the child. These decisions can be made at the regional level following local procedures as to whether the available money is used for reimbursing the cost of care or is placed in a protective status. Often these resources will be in a protected account in the child's name and are not readily available to the child or current care-giver. Their protected status, however, may not be specific enough to prevent disqualification from federal entitlement and may need to be placed in a "special needs or Medicaid qualifying trust."

## 11820. Special Needs Trusts

11820. Special Needs Trusts [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:59

1. A CA Headquarters SSI program manager has responsibility for assisting Regional Coordinators and social workers in obtaining Special Needs Trusts for some clients with large monetary assets, where appropriate and cost efficient. Regional coordinators may contact the Program Manager for further assistance as soon as a need for a special needs trust is identified.
2. Cooperative work with the Office of the Attorney General and private attorneys may result in trusts being established to protect the client's resources, ensure continued eligibility for federal entitlement programs, and provide a mechanism for disbursements for special needs.
3. The completed trust document must be court approved, preferably submitted by the assigned DCFS social worker.

## 11830. Establishing a Trust Fund Account

11830. Establishing a Trust Fund Account [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:59

1. When a child enters DCFS care, the client's social worker, in cooperation with the FFS or SSIF, determines if the client is entitled to any benefits or has available resources. Any available benefits or resources must be sent to the Trust Fund Unit.
2. Most trust fund clients receive either Title II/RSDI or Title XVI/SSI benefits. A small number of clients receive moneys from other miscellaneous sources.

## 11840. Dedicated Accounts

11840. Dedicated Accounts [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 22:59

1. The Social Security Administration (SSA) will pay directly by electronic bank transfer to a "dedicated account" any SSI benefits which exceed 6 times the monthly benefit amount, (except when payment is under an IAR).
2. Dedicated accounts are managed by the DSHS Trust Fund Unit and questions about the dedicated accounts may be referred there. See Section 118130.
3. Funds in the dedicated account may not be used for maintenance purposes, but may be used for the special medical, educational and adaptive use of the client. Requests for permission to use these moneys must be submitted to the Trust Fund Unit, which will then submit to SSA for approval.
4. When a client leaves care, any remaining balance will be returned to SSA for transfer to another dedicated account set up by the new Representative Payee.

## 11850. Benefits

11850. Benefits [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 23:00

1. The SSIF must apply with the appropriate agency (SSA, VA, etc.) for DSHS to be made payee for client benefits. For Title II and Title XVI the SSIF must submit a Request to be Selected Payee, SSA-11-BK, "change of payee" application and forward a copy of the application to the Trust Fund Unit.
  1. SSIF is responsible for applying for benefits or applying for a change of payee, unless otherwise designated by a local office.

2. SSIF is responsible for entering client data regarding payee change or benefits request into SSI tracking in FamLink. After a request for payee change has been done, it takes approximately two months for the payee change to be made to DSHS. The social worker or other staff, in accordance with regional procedures, must notify the client's current payee to return any additional payments received to the appropriate agency (SSA, VA, etc.) or forward to the Trust Fund Unit until DSHS is named payee.
3. If the client is age 18 or over and becomes or remains his/her own payee, the social worker arranges for monthly benefits to be endorsed and forwarded to the DSHS Trust Funds Unit. (see Section 118130)

## 11860. Resources

11860. Resources [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 23:00

1. Any available resources (settlements, insurance benefits, inheritances, etc.) must be forwarded to the Trust Fund Unit, along with any relevant documentation or court orders pertaining to these funds.
2. When funds are received, they will be used to reimburse DSHS for the client's cost-of-care unless there are legal restrictions on their use or an approved case plan.
3. Case plans for savings or expenditures must be approved by the child's social worker and the Regional Trust Funds Coordinator.

## 11870. Correspondence with Trust Fund Unit

11870. Correspondence with Trust Fund Unit [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 23:01

1. Agency Notices
  1. Any correspondence received from the various agencies will be forwarded to CA for distribution. Social workers, FFS, or SSIFs must review these notices and take any necessary action. For Title II/RSDI and Title XVI/SSI cases, the SSIF are available to assist the worker in resolving any problems. Title II/RSDI and Title XVI/SSI notices are noted in the SSI Tracking module of CAMIS by the Headquarters SSI eligibility specialist. Changes in benefits, notices of over and underpayment, etc., are analyzed for correctness.
  2. Field staff or Headquarters SSI staff need to give particular attention to notices regarding rates, termination of benefits, and overpayments. Workers must notify the Trust Fund Unit and the appropriate agency immediately if information on notices is incorrect. The Trust Fund Unit has limited knowledge of the client's case and, therefore, must assume information is correct and proceed accordingly.
2. Notification of Excess Client Funds
  1. Client accounts are audited on a biannual basis. If the Trust Fund Unit Financial Coordinator determines that a client has excess funds, the SSIF will receive an e-mail notification of the amount.
  2. Spending of these funds is optional, unless the notification indicates that the client balance is nearing or over the SSI resource limit. Trust Fund Unit staff will update the client's FamLink SSI record to list the current available balance in the Trust Fund as of that date.
  3. If funds are not used right away, workers will need to confirm the balance with Trust Fund staff prior to making future spending plans.

## 11880. Disbursements from Trust Funds Accounts

11880. Disbursements from Trust Funds Accounts [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 23:01

1. The responsible social worker or SSIF may request a withdrawal from an account if the client has available funds. Funds can be used for any goods or services that directly benefit the client. Larger items or adaptive equipment must go with the child should he/she change foster homes, return home, or emancipate. The request contains the following:
  1. List of items or services to be purchased.
  2. Payee name and address. The payee is usually the foster parent. The payee cannot be the client unless at least 18 years of age.
  3. Worker signature. Electronic E-mail request is acceptable with the social worker's own log-on identification.
  4. Exceptional requests for expenditure or conservation of funds must be approved according to regional guidelines with the Regional Trust Funds Coordinator.
  5. The OAS Trust Funds Unit will disburse from a child's account to reimburse for costs of care, reimbursing first for basic maintenance and then any other allowable costs. All authorizations and payments must be in SSPS, through FamLink, and child specific.

## 11890. Client Placement Changes

11890. Client Placement Changes [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 23:02

1. The social worker or SSIF, in accordance with regional procedures:
  1. Notifies, in writing, the appropriate agency (SSA, etc.);
  2. For SSI clients, notifies SSA immediately by FAX as such changes may affect client SSI eligibility; and
  3. Updates FamLink placement screens in PLACEUP and SSIUP.

## 118100. Youth Remaining in Care After 18th Birthday

118100. Youth Remaining in Care After 18th Birthday [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 23:03

1. Under approved circumstances, the youth may remain in licensed care after his or her 18th birthday, but placement must end before the youth's 21st birthday. The effect on the client's Trust Fund account is as follows:
  1. Title XVI/SSI
    1. There is no change to the client's Trust Fund account. The Trust Fund Unit will continue to receive payments and reimburse for cost-of-care. Any remaining balance will be disbursed to the client upon leaving care.
    2. The client over age 18 authorizes the department to remain the payee by signing the Voluntary Placement Agreement, (DSHS 09-004B). A copy of the VPA is forwarded to the Trust Fund Unit with a written explanation of the proposed time-limited plan.
  2. Title II/RSDI and VA
    1. Payments will normally stop when the client turns 18 years of age. If the client remains in high school, the client will need to apply to the SSA or VA for an extension of benefits. SSIF will receive SSA notices of upcoming termination and will assist in applying for continued benefits if the child remains in high school. If an extension is granted, payments will be sent directly to the client. The client will need to endorse these



payments and send them to the Trust Fund Unit to be used to reimburse for cost-of-care. Any balance accumulating in the account will be held until the client leaves care.

2. If a Title II/RSDI client has evidence of any physical or mental impairment, an application for Childhood Disability Benefits (CDB) is made to continue the benefits into adulthood. Disability must be established prior to the attainment of age 22.
3. Other Benefits
  1. Legal settlements, insurance benefits, inheritances, for example, do not alter the Trust Fund account.
  2. Any non-exempt available funds will continue to be used for ongoing cost-of-care reimbursement and approved special needs.
  3. Any account balance will be held until the client leaves care.

## 118110. Child Leaving Care

118110. Child Leaving Care [sarah.sanchez](#) Thu, 08/16/2018 - 23:04

1. When a client leaves care, their Trust Fund account will be closed. Any remaining balance will be returned to SSA, to the client if age 18 or above, or to the client's new custodian, who needs to apply to be payee for the client's benefits.
2. Parents, guardians, relatives, or adoptive parents must go to the nearest SSA office to apply to be the child's payee. This should be done as soon as a new placement or return home occurs.
3. To close an account, the social worker or SSIF:
  1. Notifies the Trust Fund Unit in writing or E-mail, providing the following information:
    1. Type of change in status (returned home, adopted, adult placement, maturation, death, etc.);
    2. Name and address of new custodian; and
    3. FamLink person ID of the child.
  2. Notifies the appropriate agency (SSA, VA); and
  3. Notifies client's new custodian to apply to be payee.
4. It takes approximately two months for the payee to change. If requested and approved by the agency providing benefits, the Trust Fund Unit will forward payments until the payee changes.
5. For Title XVI/SSI clients, the Trust Fund Unit will not forward payments when clients return home or are adopted, unless authorized by SSA. Clients' continuing SSI eligibility will be based on parents' income determined by the SSA.

## 118120. Releasing Client Account Information

118120. Releasing Client Account Information [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 17:44

1. The client's foster parents or family will sometimes have questions regarding the child's Trust Fund account. The social worker or SSIF contacts the Trust Fund Unit to clarify these questions or concerns and then releases account information at their own discretion. Under no circumstances shall DCFS staff give the names or telephone numbers of Trust Fund Unit staff to anyone outside of DSHS.
2. Upon request, an accounting of a client's Trust Fund account can be sent to the worker to review and release as appropriate. Trust Fund Accountability Statements can be released directly to other DSHS divisions. For example, workers may refer the Division of Child Support to the Trust Fund Unit, whose staff will work directly with them to provide the information that division needs.

## 118130. Trust Fund Information

1. Forward payments on transmittal to:

DSHS Trust Fund Unit  
P. O. Box 9501  
Olympia, WA 98507-9501

2. Forward correspondence to:

Trust Fund Unit  
Mail Stop: 45842  
P.O. Box 45842  
Olympia, WA 98504-5842  
Telephone: (360) 902-8284  
CAMIS ID: KEGK300  
FAX Number: (360) 902-8213  
Employer ID: 91-6001088

3. NOTE: Requests for disbursement can be made through FamLink E-Mail to FamLink ID: KEGK300
4. When forwarding payments or correspondence to the Trust Fund Unit, the following information must be included:
  1. Client name;
  2. CAMIS person ID;
  3. Client date of birth; and
  4. Client Social Security Number.

## 13200. Initiating a Case Record and Record Establishment

13200. Initiating a Case Record and Record Establishment [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 17:58

## 13201. Initiating A Case Record

13201. Initiating A Case Record [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:00

1. All Children's Administration (CA) cases are:
  1. assigned a unique case number, generated by FamLink, and
  2. are "family based cases" with the exception of legally free, and adoption support cases.
2. CA has three types of cases:
  1. Family Case - The intake supervisor (Field or Central Intake) reviews each intake, determine if information is on an existing case in FamLink and either links or creates a new case.
  2. Legally Free Case - When a child becomes legally free, the child is deactivated from the family case for the reason of "legally free". FamLink automatically creates a new Legally Free case for that specific child. A legally free case has only one participant and is created without a new intake.

3. Adoption Support Case - After adoption finalization, an adoption support case is created through the Legally Free Case, from the options menu in FamLink. The legally free case should be closed as soon as all work is completed on it. This closed case becomes a restricted case in FamLink. The adoption support case becomes a "sealed" case, meaning it will only show in search results to those with secured adoption support security.
3. If an adopted child is an alleged victim of abuse or neglect in their adoptive home or if non-adoption support services are requested, a new intake must be created in FamLink and a new family case should be created under the adoptive parents (separate from the adoption support case).

## 13210. Record Establishment

13210. Record Establishment [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:01

Case records are created in the local offices for the following screened-in intakes:

1. Child Protective Services (CPS)
2. Family Voluntary Services (FVS)
3. Family Reconciliation Services (FRS)
4. Child and Family Welfare Services (CFWS)
5. Adoptions
6. Child Day Care Services
7. Foster Home/Private Agency Licensing
8. Intra and Interstate Home studies
9. Federal Funding

## 13300. Constructing a DCFS Case Record

13300. Constructing a DCFS Case Record [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:02

All DCFS paper records are to be constructed with the following sections as described in procedures below. The DCFS physical record contains separate sections placed in a binder in the following order: *All information in the binder is to be filed in chronological order.*

1. Family Assessment Information
2. Case Activities
3. Placement and Legal
4. Privileged Communication
5. Child Health and Safety
6. Family Background
7. Indian Child Welfare
8. Service Reports and Correspondence
9. Correspondence
10. Reports, Staffings, Visits
11. Payment
12. Other
13. Audio Recording
14. Federal Revenue

## 13600. Restricted Records

13600. Restricted Records [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:05

1. Electronic and paper files require restricted access for the following categories of personnel and their families: Children's Administration (CA) staff; Economic Services Administration (ESA) Division Early Learning (DEL); personnel covered by the Public Assistance Bargaining Agreement; High Profile Cases; and other defined circumstances.
2. All information related to persons covered under this policy must be immediately secured both physically (in a locked file) and electronically.

## 13601. Creation of Restricted Records

13601. Creation of Restricted Records [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:05

1. Restricted records will be created for:
  1. CA & DEL employee or their family members that are listed as a subject, victim, or client in a CPS, Risk Only or Non CPS intake; or in facility intakes/cases.  
**Note:** Definition of "family" for CA personnel means members of the household of any employee. Other relatives may be designated if the employee, social worker or client makes a written request and receives approval from the DCFS/DLR Deputy Administrator, DCFS/DLR Area Administrator or the HQ Appointing Authority.
  2. Any employee represented by the Washington Federation of State Employees or their family members are listed as a subject, victim or client in a CPS, Risk Only or Non CPS intake; or in facility intakes/cases.
  3. All other DSHS employees listed as a subject in a CPS or Risk Only intake.
  4. Legally Free Child's Case Record: Upon the Final Adoption Decree and archiving of a legally free child's case record, the child's pre-adoption record must be made Administrative restricted.
  5. High Profile Cases as designated by an Appointing Authority.

## 13604. Access to Restricted Records

13604. Access to Restricted Records [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:07

1. Children's Administration (CA) staff must not access any person, case or intake information without a need to know. "Need to know" means that the information is necessary in the discharge of an employee's professional responsibilities (see Administrative Policies No. 18.64; No. 05.01; 15.10)
2. Employees assigned to a case have access to restricted records associated with that case.
3. The following persons have been identified as the "designated Security Group" and have access to all restricted records in FamLink:
  1. Assistant Secretary
  2. FOD, P&PI, & Practice Model Division Directors
  3. Regional Administrators & Deputy Regional Administrators
  4. HQ Risk Management (Deputy FOD Director, Supervisor Constituent Relations, & Practice Consultants)
  5. DLR HQ Program Managers
  6. Legislative Liaison
  7. Ombudsman Office
  8. CATS Service Desk
  9. Foster Care Medical Team Supervisor & Lead Worker (HRSA)
  10. HQ IV-E (One Lead)
  11. HQ Payment Specialist (One Lead)

12. HQ ICPC Supervisor
13. HQ Adoption Support Program Manager
14. Foster Care Public Health Nurse Program Coordinator & PH Assistant
15. Area Administrators
16. Administrative Secretaries
17. Regional Safety (CPS) Program Managers or Fatality Review Program Managers
18. Intake Supervisors

## 13605. Designated Access

13605. Designated Access [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:07

Anyone in the designated Security Group listed above in 13604, may designate an individual access to an **open** record. Once supervisors or area administrators have been given access to a restricted record they may designate further access through secondary case assignments.

## 13609. Who May Restrict A File

13609. Who May Restrict A File [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:09

Files meeting the criteria for restriction may be restricted in FamLink by a supervisor or above.

## 13700. Record Accuracy, Privacy, and Disclosure

13700. Record Accuracy, Privacy, and Disclosure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:11

This section addresses maintenance of accurate records, personal privacy, and disclosure and nondisclosure of CA records, including licensing records.

These topics are inter-related, with accuracy of information being a significant element.

## 13720. Public Records Request

13720. Public Records Request [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:11

1. The Public Records Act, chapter 42.56 RCW, governs access to and disclosure of public records. CA is required to make identifiable public records promptly available for inspection and copying upon request by any person, unless nondisclosure is required or authorized by law.
2. Administrative Policy 5.02 governs all DSHS responses to Public Records Act requests. All CA staff must follow Administrative Policy 5.02. The CA Operations Manual is intended to supplement this policy with additional internal operation procedures.

## 13721. Public Disclosure Coordinator Responsibilities

1. All CA Public Disclosure Coordinator must follow Administrative Policy 5.02, Public Records Requests. If Administrative Policy 5.02 and the CA Operations Manual contradict one another, the Public Disclosure Coordinator must follow Administrative Policy 5.02.
2. The Public Disclosure Manager, in the Finance and Operations Support Division (FOSD) is the designated Public Disclosure Officer for Children's Administration. The Public Disclosure function for CA is centralized under the Public Disclosure Manager, with regional offices as well as a headquarters unit.
3. Regional Public Disclosure Coordinators will respond to routine public disclosure requests. However, regional Public Disclosure Coordinators must not respond to the following requests and must immediately route such requests to a headquarters Public Disclosure Coordinator for response.
  1. Requests for reports collected at the state office; for example, statewide Health and Safety Report, FamLink reports generated at the state office level.
  2. Requests for information from more than one region where consistency of information is necessary.
  3. Requests from employees.
  4. Especially sensitive issues are best handled at Headquarters:
    1. Requests from the media, including, newspapers, television, and radio;
    2. Requests from attorneys, which may involve potential lawsuits;
    3. Requests from legislators;
    4. Requests involving "hot" cases or those generating controversy in the community; and
    5. Other cases which may be of a hostile nature or where there is need for headquarters staff and Media Relations to be aware of the request.
  5. When there is a question about whether the preparation should be done at the regional or headquarters level, the regional Public Disclosure Coordinator will consult with a headquarters Public Disclosure Coordinator. or the Public Disclosure Manager
4. Public Disclosure Coordinators must consult with an assigned AAG and/or the DSHS Public Records and Privacy Officer when an issue regarding the release of information is not clear.
5. If the person requesting disclosure disagrees with the decision of a Public Disclosure Coordinator, the person may petition for review of the decision denying disclosure.
  1. If the petition is for the review of a decision made by a regional Public Disclosure Coordinator, it must be sent to a headquarters Public Disclosure Coordinator for review.
  2. If the petition is for the review of a decision made by a CA headquarters Public Disclosure Coordinator, it must be sent to the Public Disclosure Manager or their designee for review.

## **13722. Public Records Request - Responsibilities of all CA Staff**

CA staff must comply with the provisions of WAC Chapter 388-01 and DSHS Administrative Policy No. 5.02 - Public Records Requests. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. A public records request may be made to any staff and does not need to be made in writing or on a specific form. If a CA staff receives a public records request, or believes they may have received a public records request, they must forward that request immediately to a CA Public Disclosure Coordinator. Not doing so may result in fines to the agency under the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.

2. When a Public Disclosure Coordinator requests records staff are required to provide all records, whether disclosable or not, to the Public Disclosure Coordinator. It is the responsibility of the Public Disclosure Coordinator to determine what may be disclosed.
  1. Failure to provide all responsive records may result in fines to the agency under the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.
3. If a public records request is made at a time when such record exists but is scheduled for destruction, the department must retain possession of the record and may not destroy or erase the record until the request is resolved. WAC 388-01-060; RCW 42.56.100.

## 13726. Disclosure to Client's Representative

13726. Disclosure to Client's Representative [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:13

When a representative designated by a client requests the client's record, the request must be accompanied by a written release signed by the client. The representative may be an attorney, legal guardian or lay representative. The written release must include the following:

1. The identity of the person(s) or organization(s) to whom disclosure is to be made;
2. An identification of the record, or portion thereof, to be disclosed; and
3. A statement of when the authorization for disclosure expires.

## 13790. Disclosure for Program and Other Purposes

13790. Disclosure for Program and Other Purposes [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:13

1. For purposes directly related to the administration of department programs, information shall be disclosed between offices of the department, unless prohibited by 45 CFR 205.50 or other law.
2. For purposes directly connected with the administration of department programs, information may be disclosed by the department to outside agencies, unless disclosure is prohibited by law. Agencies or individuals receiving such information are subject to the same standards of disclosure as are required of the department.
3. To the extent not otherwise prohibited or authorized by law, inquiries from agencies outside the department will be honored only if written and only if the client's authorization is included in the request. WAC 388-01-070

## 13797. Purpose

13797. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:14

1. These forms were developed to meet the various federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements on a Department-wide basis, as confirmed by the review of program Assistant Attorney Generals (AAG).
2. The two forms provide uniformity and are valid Department-wide. CA will use the forms in place of any existing forms. Staff are to accept these forms as valid and not ask a client to complete a different DSHS form if one of these two has been properly executed.
  1. The Consent Form 14-012 allows programs to share information about mutual clients to coordinate service delivery.
  2. The Authorization Form 17-063 permits DSHS to release client records and information to a third party, including an attorney, legislator, or relative.

# 137110. Practice Considerations

137110. Practice Considerations [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:16

1. The social worker provides, subject to the constraints outlined above, a copy of all case file information, relevant to a court proceeding, to a child's parent(s), guardian, legal custodian, or legal counsel. Information which the department reasonably expects to introduce to support the petition is considered relevant. The social worker will provide a copy, free of charge, within 20 days of a written request or prior to the Shelter Care Hearing, whichever is sooner.
2. Clients with proper identification have the right to look at their records if they request to do so. They also may challenge the accuracy, completeness, or relevance of statements. Sources of CPS complaints remain anonymous, and their names must be purged from the record prior to the client's review.
3. The social worker offers language interpreter services to clients who are unable to read the case record information.
4. All material presented at a dispute hearing is open to examination of the client and his/her representatives, even though such material would ordinarily be considered confidential.
5. Staff subpoenaed to appear in court shall not take the social service record unless it is also subpoenaed, at which point the social worker consults with the assigned Assistant Attorney General.
6. No individual shall make available outside the department a partial or complete list of service recipient names or address. Social Service Payment System (SSPS) reports containing client identifiers are confidential.
7. For adoption records, after the petition for adoption is filed, information, except medical reports, in the child's record may be released only by written order of a Superior Court.
8. With respect to the service records of children and youth who are under the jurisdiction of the court, the requirements outlined in the Case Services Policy Manual, Chapter 2000, section 2150, are to be followed. RCW 13.50.100
9. If a juvenile, his/her parents, or their attorney makes a written request asking the department about the existence and content of custody, or care records, the Area Manager completes the following steps.
  1. Makes written response to the inquiry within 10 working days after its receipt. The department provides to the juvenile, the parents, or attorney making the inquiry information regarding the location, nature, and content of any records in the department's possession. A juvenile, the parents, or the attorney, wishing to challenge the information contained in the department records, must notify the department in writing, providing:
    1. The name of the juvenile.
    2. A statement of those portions of the record alleged to be inaccurate.
    3. If retention of the record is being challenged, a statement as to why the record should be destroyed.
  2. Reviews the notification of challenge and responds in writing within 30 calendar days. The response will indicate the corrections which have been or will be made or shall state the basis for denial of any requested corrections. If appropriate, the response will also include a statement indicating whether the records have been destroyed or transferred to another juvenile justice or child care agency.
  3. Notifies the juvenile, the parents, or their attorney that, if they dispute the department's response, they may seek an administrative review of the decision as provided in the Administrative Procedure Act.
10. CA staff removing records to an alternative work site must maintain security and confidentiality of information contained in records. To maintain security and confidentiality, information contained in FamLink or mobile devices will be printed on CA network equipment

# 137111. Client Records



1. The following records are disclosable only to the client (the child's parent or legal designee, child or custodian-parent of a child under 18, legal representative of a child).
  1. The CPS record, except that the name and other identifiers of the referrer of alleged CA/N may be removed prior to disclosure.
  2. CWS or FRS records.
  3. Juvenile court records or juvenile court documents contained in DCFS files. RCW 13.50.100
2. When a non-custodial parent requests information from a child or family record, the public disclosure coordinator consults with the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) prior to releasing the information to determine criteria for release.
3. The information in paragraph A above may be shared with other public agencies subject to the same rules of confidentiality as CA. For example, information from a CPS or CWS record may be provided to a contractor who is providing counseling or evaluation of a child/ family or shared with Child Protection Teams (CPT) or Local Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committees (LICWAC).

## 137112. Licensing Files

1. Unless non-disclosure of particular information is required or authorized by law, licensing record information must be disclosed upon request. Most information contained in licensing records is disclosable. However, licensing records frequently contain information that is confidential or exempt from disclosure requirements.
2. The public disclosure coordinator or other designated staff will review requested licensing records and identify non-disclosable information in accordance with these guidelines. Staff will redact (remove) non-disclosable information from the record. The public disclosure coordinator will make remaining disclosable information available to the requester for inspection and copying or provide a copy to the requester.
3. Whenever disclosure of information is denied, the public disclosure coordinator will provide a written explanation to the requester, identifying the information for which disclosure is denied and the specific statutory basis for the denial.
4. Personal Information in Licensing Files-The release of personal and private information is a sensitive issue, and decisions about releasing too much or too little information are difficult. When a question regarding the release of personal and private information arises, the coordinator needs to consult with the assigned AAG.
5. Personal and Private Information-The following table provides examples of personal and private information that CA has released and examples of such information that the agency has declined to release.

Information Released	Information Not Released
Generalized answers about the applicant's background	Fact that a foster mother had been raped and received extensive counseling
Experiences with raising children	Sexual orientation of applicant when of no concern to public
Description of foster parent relationships, marital relationships, individual strengths, etc.	Historical family background, such as applicant's parents' marital relationship, family conflict issues, etc.

Statements regarding desire to become licensed providers	Reports of abuse applicants suffered in the past
Description of physical home of applicant, medical and other services they utilize for children in their care	Criminal conviction of applicant's parents or children unless it directly relates to the application
Autobiographical information that does not seem private or offensive	Medical conditions of applicants or their family, such as a child with Down's Syndrome
Statements regarding licensees' willingness to work with parents and agency staff	

#### 6. Notice of Disclosure

1. The public disclosure coordinator provides notice of disclosure to individuals whose licensing files are being released prior to release of the file.
2. The coordinator also provides notice to those named in the file who will be significantly impacted by release of the information.
3. If a question arises regarding the need to notify an individual, the coordinator consults with the assigned AAG.

## 137113. Disclosure of Police Reports

137113. Disclosure of Police Reports [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:18

1. When a request is received for a copy of a police report, the public disclosure coordinator needs to notify the police agency that CA has received a request for a copy of one of their reports in the agency file.
  1. The police agency must provide specific legal citations, within time-frames that will enable CA to meet legal deadlines for disclosure of information, if it wants CA to withhold the information.
  2. If disclosure of the information would interfere with an ongoing investigation or legal action (on the part of a prosecutor), CA can withhold the information when it receives such notice from the police or prosecutor in writing.
  3. Information may be releasable once the investigation is completed.

## 13907. Storage and Retrieval of Case Records

13907. Storage and Retrieval of Case Records [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:22

1. Office Request Coordinator- Is the person(s) designated by the office as authorized to request records or obtain information from records stored at RRC.
2. Records Coordinator - Is the person(s) designated at HQ and in each local office to have responsibility and authority for the retention and destruction of all files.
3. Instructions for record storage, retrieval and destruction using the Records Retention Center bar code system can be found at the [Records Retention Center](#).
4. Non-essential volumes of an open case that are too large for the worker's cube can be sent to Records Retention Center for storage. The master files clerk must ensure that the case destruction date matches that of the other volumes when the case is closed. **If non-essential volumes are sent to the Records Retention Center, care must be taken to ensure that they are not prematurely destroyed.**

## 13908. Destruction of Records

13908. Destruction of Records [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:23

1. Destruction lists sent from the Records and Retention Center are to be reviewed every month by the master files clerk/supervisor and final approval for destruction sent to the Records and Retention Center.
2. Final destruction requires that any related electronic records in FamLink be purged.

## 14112. Posters and Brochures

14112. Posters and Brochures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:24

1. The following posters must be displayed in each CA client reception area:
  1. Multilingual Interpreter Services, DSHS 24-019(X).
  2. Non-Discrimination posters in English, Cambodian, Chinese, Laotian, Spanish, and Vietnamese, DSHS 24-007.
2. Non-Discrimination Policy brochures in English, Cambodian, Chinese, Laotian, Spanish, and Vietnamese, DSHS 22-171(X) must be available for clients in each reception area.
3. Supplementary client information and brochures are available from the DSHS Forms and Publications Warehouse in a variety of languages.
  1. Each CA office is to maintain a supply of bilingual information for clients that is reflective of the languages spoken in the local service area.
  2. Following is the Translation Color-Coded System used by the department:
    1. SPANISH - Goldenrod
    2. VIETNAMESE - Yellow
    3. CAMBODIAN - Light Bluerod
    4. VIETNAMESE - Yellow
    5. LAOTIAN - Lime Green
    6. HMONG - Tan
    7. CHINESE - Orange
4. The Equal Employment Opportunity is the Law poster is to be displayed in the employee work area of each office.

## 14200. Mail System

14200. Mail System [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:28

## 14210. Introduction

14210. Introduction [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:28

1. The CA mail system provides internal control and efficient processing of all incoming and outgoing mail.
2. The mail clerk(s) is expected to have current directories of ZIP codes, DSHS address and mail stops, a roster of office employees, and pick-up/delivery schedules for the mail services available.

## 14211. Definitions

14211. Definitions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:28

See definitions relating to mail in [Appendix A](#), Definitions

## 14220. Incoming Mail

14220. Incoming Mail [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:30

1. The mail clerk processes the incoming mail as follows:
  1. Date stamps but does not open "Confidential" mail envelope; sets it aside.
  2. Opens, date stamps each piece of mail with the current date, and staples the envelope to its contents, but date stamps only the envelope for each of the following items:
    1. Original or notarized-copy documents; e.g., birth certificates, marriage licenses, etc.;
    2. Negotiable items; and
    3. Other items as specified by the Regional Manager or Area Manager or designee.
2. Separates into the following categories:
  1. Cash items and the Cash Items Log
    1. Annotates each item to the Cash Items log, DSHS 19-48; both staff opening mail initial the log.
    2. Takes log (white and pink copies only) and cash item(s) to the Business Office or account.
    3. Retains the yellow copy of the DSHS 19-48.
    4. Accountant or Business Office staff return white copy to mail clerk to be stapled to yellow copy and retained in the Cash Items Mail Log file for a retention period of two years.
  2. Negotiable Documents-Distributes negotiable documents directly to the designated responsible individual(s) and keeps them in a secured area (e.g., locked filing cabinet) when unattended.
  3. All other mail per Regional Manager/Area Manager/designee instructions.
3. Distribute Mail
  1. Confidential Mail - Deliver all mail marked "Confidential" to the addressees.
  2. All Other Mail - Distribute all other mail as designated by the Regional Manager/Area Manager/designee.
  3. Incorrectly Sent/Delivered Mail - Determine if address is correct. Make correction if necessary. Sort to outgoing mail.

## 14230. Outgoing Mail

14230. Outgoing Mail [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:30

1. Support staff will set a time that outgoing mail leaves the office.
2. Preparation of outgoing mail will occur to correlate with the scheduled outgoing mail pick-up time.
3. The schedule needs to accommodate processing of all accumulated mail and the time the mail leaves for the Post Office.

## 14231. Types of Mail Service

14231. Types of Mail Service [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:30

1. Regional Courier service is available to offices in Regions 4 and 5, in conjunction with the State Office Courier, to distribute mail from and to all "N," "S," and Olympia-area mail stops.
2. State Office Courier service is available to all offices with "N," "S," and Olympia-area mail stops to distribute mail to these stops.
3. State courier service is to be used by all offices to which it is available.

## 14232. Special Instructions

14232. Special Instructions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:32

1. Offices will establish local instructions to utilize courier mail as provided in their area.
2. Unique Shipping Instructions
  1. Usage-Offices may establish other shipping arrangements as necessary and approved by the business office. A separate account will be established for this purpose.
  2. Additional Instructions
    1. CA offices need to contact United Parcel Service (UPS) or Federal Express (FedEx) for specific details regarding establishing a UPS or FedEx account, rates, pick-up/delivery times, etc.
    2. Some offices have a UPS account specifically for shipping case records to the Records Reference Center. This account is not to be used for any other reason. A separate account must be established for unusual situations.
    3. Shipping invoices are obtained from UPS.
  3. United States Postal Service (USPS)
    1. Usage - USPS can be used for all mail not sent by courier or other means.
    2. Special Instructions
      1. The following forms can be obtained from the local post office:
        - PS Form 3533 - Application and Voucher for Refund of Postage and Fees;
        - PS Form 3602-A - USPS Daily Record of Meter Register Readings;
        - PS Form 3800 - Receipt for Certified Mail; and
        - PS Form 3811 - Return Receipt.
      2. Offices contact the local Postmaster for additional information; e.g., rates, delivery/pick-up schedules, etc.
3. General Instructions
  1. General Mail - Outgoing mail to be sent via USPS is to be prepared as described in the USPS publications Addressing for Success and Postal Addressing Standards.
  2. Client Case Records - Regardless of mail services, support staff use the following procedures for mailing client case records to ensure protection of confidentiality and record content.
    1. Use a Tyvek envelope or a suitable box.
    2. Wrap the envelope/box as appropriate to keep contents from shifting and/or splitting open.
    3. Mark the package "Confidential."
    4. If the shipping method is to be USPS, utilize the certified mail service without return receipt to assure a method of tracking the shipment in case of loss.
3. Addressing
  1. All first class mail is to be addressed following the guidelines in the USPS publications Addressing for Success and Postal Addressing Standards.
  2. Mailing Address
    1. Courier Mail - Use the complete/correct mail stop. For courier mail, this is the only address needed.
    2. UPS - Use the street address rather than the Post Office. Box on UPS mail.
    3. USPS - Address as advised in Addressing for Success brochure.

3. Return Address- Inter-Office Mail Envelopes (Courier Mail)
  1. Ensure the enclosed material clearly identifies the sender and the sender's return address or attach a completed Routing Slip, DSHS 1-32, to provide sender information.
4. Specially Shipped Packages
  1. Prepare packages as necessary utilizing proper packaging and addressing methods.
  2. Maintain an invoice shipping copy for account charge reconciliation and payment.
5. USPS Mail
  1. Certified Mail
    1. Complete and attach Receipt for Certified Mail, PS Form 3800.
    2. Complete and attach Return Receipt, PS Form 3811, when needed. Ensure the return address is stamped/written on the back of PS Form 3811.
    3. Enter each certified item in a certified mail log.
  2. Postage Stamping
    1. Daily, prior to running the mail, change postage meter date and check moistener and ink supplies for adequacy to produce clear legible marking.
    2. Affix correct postage to items to be mailed.
    3. Separate mail as required by the local Post Office and band groups together.

## 14240. Special Procedures

14240. Special Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:33

## 14241. Business Reply (BR) and Postage Due Accounts

14241. Business Reply (BR) and Postage Due Accounts [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:34

1. Business Reply Accounts-When someone uses a BR envelope to mail information to an office, the USPS charges the mailing costs to that office's BR account.
  1. Establishment of a BR Account-To establish a BR Account with the post office:
    1. Contact the DSHS Mail Room Supervisor to obtain a copy of the current BR permit fee receipt and information about the accounting fee amount (refer to c. below).
    2. Complete an Invoice Voucher, A-19, to request a warrant for payment of the annual accounting fee and sufficient funds to cover BR charges for three to six months;
    3. Process the A-19 in accordance with local office procedures.
    4. Upon receipt of the warrant, take it, a copy of the A-19, the Remittance Advice (RA), and the permit fee receipt (when received) to the local Post Office. Give these items to the postal employee, who:
      1. Issues a receipt for each payment, with the total equaling the warrant amount;
      2. Signs the A-19;
      3. Date stamps the A-19 and the RA;
      4. Returns the A-19, RA, permit receipt, and warrant receipt(s).
    5. Deliver these documents to the person responsible for maintaining the BR and Postage Due ledgers.
  2. Replenishment of BR Account-Request additional funds for the BR Account about one month prior to the fund's depletion. To order funds:
    1. Complete an A-19 requesting enough money to last three to six months;
    2. Process the A-19 in accordance with local office procedures.

3. Upon receipt of the warrant, take it, the A-19 copy, and RA to the local Post Office. Give the items to the postal employee who:
  1. Issues a receipt for the payment;
  2. Signs the A-19 copy;
  3. Date stamps the A-19 and RA; and
  4. Returns the A-19, RA, and payment receipt.
4. Deliver these documents to the person responsible for maintaining the BR and Postage Due ledgers.
3. Payment of the Annual Accounting Fee
  1. Prior to the end of the calendar year, the DSHS Mail Room buys a BR permit from the USPS. Each office using BR services must then pay the USPS an accounting fee.
  2. The Mail Room sends a notice of the annual accounting fee due and a copy of the permit fee receipt to the affected offices. When the receipt and accounting fee notice are received:
    1. Complete an A-19 for the accounting fee; and
    2. Follow the procedures in section 14240, paragraph A.1.b.
2. Postage Due Accounts
  1. Each office receiving USPS mail can establish/maintain a Postage Due Account with the local Post Office or make specific arrangements with the local Post Office to handle postage due mail.
  2. To order/replenish Postage Due Account funds, follow the instructions in section 14241, paragraph A.2.
3. Maintenance of BR and Postage Due Account Ledgers-Each office will designate an individual to maintain accurate records (ledgers) of all debits/credits made to the BR and Postage Due Accounts.
4. A-19 Post Office Receipt
  1. When a Post Office receipt and/or an A-19 and related documents are received, record the account debit in the corresponding ledger(s) as follows:
    1. Enter the date from the Post Office receipt and the debit amount;
    2. Add the debit amount to the previous balance and verify the new balance with the Post Office account balance; annotate ledger for verification. The BR accounting and permit fees do not change the BR Account Balance.
    3. Attach related documents behind the A-19 and maintain the file in chronological order.
  2. The local Post Office gives the office a Postage Due Bill, PS Form 3582-A, each day as charges are made against the account(s). The form shows each account's credit amount, the total credit amount, and the postage meter tape with the date and total credit amount.
  3. When a PS Form 3582-A is received, credit the corresponding ledger as follows:
    1. Enter the credit date and applicable credit amount;
    2. Subtract the amount from the previous balance and enter the new account balance;
    3. File PS Form 3582-A in chronological order.

## 14242. Certified Mail

14242. Certified Mail [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:35

1. Due to the reasons for using certified mail, assigned support staff in each office must maintain a record of each item sent certified. A certified mail log is used for this purpose.
  1. Each piece of certified mail is promptly recorded in the log on the day it is mailed. After receipt from the Post Office, PS Form 3800s are filed in numerical order.
  2. Each Return Receipt is recorded in the log when it is received from the Post Office. After logging in the Certified mail log, the PS Form 3811 is routed to the requester.

## 14243. Express Mail

14243. Express Mail [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:35

1. Occasionally, items may need to be mailed so the addressee receives them the next day. This USPS service is called Express Mail.
2. Each office coordinates Express Mail service usage with the building mailroom or the Post Office as is appropriate to that facility

## 14244. Ordering Postage

14244. Ordering Postage [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:35

1. When requesting postage, request an amount sufficient to last for at least a one month period.
2. For the Remote Meter Resetting System (RMRS) Meter, utilize the instructions as provided with the meter by Pitney Bowes.

## 14245. Security Procedures

14245. Security Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:35

1. Keep the postage meter key in a secured area (e.g., locked cabinet) when not in use. Only authorized personnel are to access the key.
2. Use postage for state business mail only.

## 14246. Unused Postage Reimbursement

14246. Unused Postage Reimbursement [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:36

1. Envelopes and wrappings to which metered postage has been applied and subsequently not used are to be retained for reimbursement.
2. A maximum of once per month, the mail person:
  1. Completes an Application and Voucher for Refund of Postage and Fees, PS Form 3533 and takes the completed form and envelopes/wrappings to the Post Office;
  2. Receives from the Post Office a 90 percent reimbursement of the total postage amount;
  3. Requests the Post Office to apply the reimbursement moneys amount to the office's BR or Postage Due account.
  4. Upon application of funds to BR or Postage Due accounts, the receipt received from post office is given to individual who maintains the BR & Postage Due ledgers. If the BR or Postage Due account is not credited, the Post Office issues a reimbursement check. Upon receipt of this check, the office transmits it to OFR.

## 14500. Requesting a Notary

14500. Requesting a Notary [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:39



1. Following are the steps to be taken by CA staff to become a notary through the Office of Risk Management's (ORM) Risk Management Services Section:
  1. The applicant completes an Application for Appointment or Reappointment as a Notary Public, #NP659-007 Notary Public App (R5/94), obtained from the Department of Licensing.
  2. Once the application is completed, the contact person sends a memorandum to ORM, P. O. Box 45844, MS 45844, Olympia, WA 98504-5844. The following elements are included in the memorandum:
    1. Whether it is an original or renewal application.
    2. Name of the employee.
    3. Notary stamp delivery address.
    4. Contact person: name, address, and telephone number.
    5. Funding code.
    6. Whether or not applicant wants a notary stamp.
  3. Once the applicant receives the certificate in the mail, and, if the applicant has requested the procurement of a notary stamp, the applicant gives a copy of the certificate to the contact person.
  4. The contact person faxes or mails a copy of the certificate to Kimura Insurance Agency, P. O. Box 3142, Seattle, WA 98114. Telephone number: (206) 323-4773; Fax number: (206) 324-7668.
  5. Kimura Insurance Agency will then send the stamp by United Parcel Service to the local or regional CA office's street address.
  6. If the applicant is renewing their notary, ORM needs to receive the renewal memorandum 45 days before the applicant's notary expires.
  7. Staff with questions may contact ORM at (360) 664-3249

## **15000. Information Systems Standards**

15000. Information Systems Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:39

## **15100. Introduction**

15100. Introduction [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:39

1. This chapter contains standards and procedures for the Classic and Graphical User Interface (GUI) versions of the Case and Management Information System (CAMIS) and other electronic information systems used by Children's Administration (CA).
2. These policies and procedures have been reviewed and endorsed by the CA management team.
3. Children's Administration Technology Services shall maintain on the CA intranet an electronic version of the CA Operations Manual, managers and supervisors are to ensure that all staff know how to access and use this manual

## **15200. System Development, Security and Network Standards**

15200. System Development, Security and Network Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:40

## **15201. SACWIS System Work Request**

## 152011. Purpose

152011. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:41

The purpose is to establish the process for requesting new or updated processes to the Children's Administration SACWIS system.

## 152012. Standard/Procedure

152012. Standard/Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:41

1. For all updates to existing or requests for new applications to the SACWIS system, CA staff will submit a work request using the CATS Work Request Form. The process is as defined below.

#	Process or Decision	Lead	Person(s)	Description
1	Identify Need	CA	Originator	<p>Anyone may identify a business need. An originator is the person who identifies a business need. Unmet business needs are often associated with system enhancements, policy changes, or technology opportunities. The originator determines whether to document the need. If yes, they describe the need using a CATS Work Request Form.</p>
2	Describe Need	CA	Originator	<p>The originator works with the appropriate regional and headquarters staff to describe the business need in detail. The description includes a summary of the need; relevant policy references; current and recommended future processes; and, summary of the users impacted by the recommended change. The description must include the impact of not addressing the business need and alternatives, including non automated solutions, considered. Once the description is complete, the originator forwards the WR form to an approved sponsor from their CA Region or Division.</p>
3	Review & Prioritize Need	CA	Sponsor	<p>A sponsor reviews the WR to determine whether to sponsor the request. A sponsor is a pre-identified CA Regional or Division leader who reviews and advocates a WR throughout the process. Field office staffs' sponsors are either their Regional Administrator (RA) or Deputy RA. Headquarters staffs' sponsors are either their Division Director or a designated Office Chief. See the CATS WR Process FAQs for a current list of sponsors.</p>

				If the Regional or Division of leader chooses to sponsor the request, they must indicate whether the change is Mandatory, i.e. is required by current CA policy, and the Priority of the change, i.e. high, medium, or low.
D1	Regional Sponsor?	CA	Sponsor	If the WR originated from the field, it is forwarded to the Director of Field Operations for consideration at the monthly Field Operations meeting.
4	Field Operations Review	VA	Regional Administrators	The purpose of this step is to ensure that all of the RAs are aware of the pending WR and that the business need is shared across the state as opposed to just within the Region in which the need originated.
D2	Submit WR To Change Coordinator?	CA	Sponsor or Regional Administrators	The sponsor or RAs may ask the originator for additional details, close the request, or forward the request to the CATS WR Coordinator.
D3	WR Complete?	CATS	CATS Change Coordinator	The CATS WR Coordinator reviews the WR form and verifies that Part I, Originator Information; Part II, Business Need; and, Part III, Sponsor Information are complete. If the form is complete, the WR Coordinator assigns the change request to a CATS business analyst to complete a Scope Document. If the form is not complete, the WR Coordinator assigns a CATS business analyst to work with the originator and sponsor to complete the form.
4	Describe Scope	CATS	CATS Business Analyst	A CATS business analyst works with the appropriate regional and headquarters staff to complete a Scope Document. The Scope Document describes the recommended solution to meet the business need and includes a DRAFT Estimate to design, build, test, and implement the recommended solution. Once a Scope Document has WR completed, the business analyst works with the Change Coordinator to schedule a WR Board review of the WR and Scope Document.
5	CCB Reviews WR & Scope Document	CA & CATS	CCB	The CATS WR Board (WRB) is made up of selected regional and headquarters senior managers. These WRB determines whether to approve, defer, or deny WRs. In addition, they set WR priorities. The WRB meets frequently during certain periods, e.g. the design phase of the CAMIS Replacement project.
D4	Approve, Not Approve or Defer Scope	CA & CATS	CCB	After reviewing a WR and the associated Scope Document, the WRB determines whether to approve, defer, or deny the WR.
6	Complete Design	CATS	CATS Business Analyst	Once a WR has been approved, a CATS business analyst completes a Design Document. A Design Document includes a description of the solution that will be implemented to meet the business need. The description of the solution may be

				documented in a Use Case or other design document and include screen shots and a summary of the steps, decisions, and business rules required to implement the solution. Designs must be reviewed by the originator, sponsor, and other appropriate headquarters and regional prior to completion.
7	Perform Implementation LOE Estimate	CATS	CATS Business Analyst	Once a Design Document is complete, the business analyst will work with CATS managers to complete a FINAL Estimate to build, test, and implement the recommended solution.
D5	Validate Design & Review Implementation Estimate	CA & CATS	CCB	The WRB validates the completed design and reviews the FINAL Estimate to construct and implement the recommended solution.
8	Execute Development Life Cycle	CATS	CATS Business and Programmer Analysts	Once validated, CATS implements the solution described in the Design Document.

## 15202. User Access (6/15/2006)

15202. User Access (6/15/2006) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:45

### 152021. Purpose

152021. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:45

The purpose is to establish who has access to CAMIS.

### 152022. Standard

152022. Standard [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:45

1. In accordance with DSHS Information Technology Security policy manual Chapter 4, Chapter 12 and Admin Policy No. 05.01, No. 15.10, the only persons having authorized access to CAMIS are Children's Administration staff, Case Aides, Interns (given access by their Regional Administrator), Director, Office Chief, internal or external auditors (for limited audit purposes), and those persons, on an individual basis, whose access has been approved by the Office of Information Services Manager. Access to CAMIS shall be given on a need-to-know basis.
2. Other persons requesting CAMIS access may receive authorization only after their request is reviewed by the applicable Regional Administrator, Director, or Office Chief and approved by the Office of Information Services Manager.

### 152023. Procedure

152023. Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:45

1. All persons who have access, pre-approved or granted by exception, shall receive basic CAMIS training and training in the specific applications they will use prior to their use of the system. Additionally they shall acknowledge in writing that they understand the department's requirement for protecting certain information, understand the penalties and sanctions associated with unauthorized information disclosure, and have read and understand applicable department policies and procedures governing information security.
2. Requests to give persons access shall be submitted to ISSD Data Security and shall include person or persons desiring access, agency for whom they work, which modules are being requested, and reason for needing access, time-frame for which access is requested, systems to which access is requested (LAN, WAN, CAMIS, etc.), and cost associated with their access and agreement on who pays those costs.
3. Requests may be submitted using the IBM Mainframe Security Access Form, or in memorandum format.
4. ISSD Data Security shall review the request with the CAMIS office and have authority to approve the request.

## **15203. Storage of Confidential or Mission Critical Data (6/15/2006)**

15203. Storage of Confidential or Mission Critical Data (6/15/2006) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:46

### **152031. Purpose**

152031. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:47

1. In accordance with DSHS Information Technology Security policy manual Chapter 3 and Admin Policy No. 05.01, No. 15.10, to provide a policy for Children's Administration regarding the storage of confidential and mission critical data so that proper back-up may be made.
2. B. Confidential information includes all personal information (e.g., name, birth date, SSN, etc.) and case data (e.g., case number, type, allegations, etc.) relating to CA clients.

### **152032. Applicability (This policy applies to all CA employees.)**

152032. Applicability (This policy applies to all CA employees.) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:47

### **152033. Standard**

152033. Standard [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:47

1. Due to the critical and confidential nature of the data used by Children's Administration, it is necessary that all data files that contain confidential information or are mission critical in nature be stored on the network file server and not on local hard drives. This would include all information that might need to be accessed by a co-worker or supervisor in a staff person's absence.
2. Each file server within an office will be set up with a directory structure that users may access for the storage of these files.

3. A back-up shall be made regularly, using suitable back-up media, of the information on the network file server, and these files will be part of this back-up. The regional System Support Specialist will be responsible to ensure that a back-up of the file server is done at least on a daily basis.
4. Access to directories and files will only be granted when required to perform job related functions.

## 152034. Procedure

152034. Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:48

1. The file server directory structure for users to store their files will be set up by the regional System Support Specialist. The regional System Support Specialist will publish the necessary information needed for staff to be able to access and use the directory structure for this data, and insure data security is applied to file directory structure.

## 15206. Creating/Changing Log-in Id's For Users (6/15/2006)

15206. Creating/Changing Log-in Id's For Users (6/15/2006) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:52

### 152061. Purpose

152061. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:52

1. In accordance with DSHS Information Technology Security policy manual Chapter 4 and Admin Policy No. 05.01 and No. 15.10, this standard provides procedure for Children's Administration staff regarding the creation of system user ID's in the CAMIS system, on the DSHS Domain, and for electronic mail for better security for systems and a more timely approach for assigning security.

### 152062. Standard

152062. Standard [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:52

1. Children's Administration will identify individuals who are authorized to create and delete user ID's for the various computer systems used within the administration. These systems are currently the Case and Management Information System (FamLink), the DSHS domain, and the Exchange electronic mail system. A user ID needs to be created in each of these systems in order for each user to access the information needed to perform his or her job functions.
2. Security rights that allow a user to create system ID's shall be limited to a small number of staff.

### 152063. Procedure

152063. Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 18:53

1. Children's Administration staff shall use the form IBM Mainframe Security Access Form for Children's Administration to identify and authorize needed security. The individual(s) creating system user ID's

need to have this information two weeks before a new employee begins work in order to have security in place before the employee's first day on the job.

2. This form must be included in entrance and exit interviews, filled out by the Human Resource Consultant Assistant (HRCA) or the supervisor of the new employee, and emailed to ISSD Data Security one week prior to the employee's first day and no more than one week after their last day of employment.
  1. Creating a user new to the Administration
    1. At least two weeks before the employee's first day, a user ID needs to be created within the CAMIS system. This ID will be generated from ISSD Data Security. This will generate the seven character alphanumeric log-in ID that will be used with the other systems. The job classification/title and office information for the user is to be entered at the time this ID is created.
    2. If the user is hired into a new position, using the ID generated in CAMIS, a new user profile will need to be created in the DSHS Domain by a Children's Administration Service Desk person and a user directory created. Within this profile, the local ITSS will add the groups needed for them to access necessary information and printing capabilities. This will give the user access to the Local Area Networks (LAN) and the mainframe where CAMIS resides.
    3. If the user is in an existing position that has been vacated, any files not relating to this position should be removed from the file server by the region's or headquarters' ITSS or exiting employee's supervisor. Any files that are related to the position should be transferred to the new employee by the region's or headquarters or exiting employee's supervisor. Also using the ID generated in CAMIS, a new user ID will need to be created in the Exchange e-mail system by the Children's Administration Service Desk.
    4. If the user has another ID created by another agency, that ID must be used only if that ID is available in the CAMIS system.
    5. e. If the user needs security for specific CAMIS applications, the supervisor submits via memo the request for security training to the Children's Administration Service Desk.
  2. Moving a User Within the Administration From One Position to Another
    1. Since the user should already have a CAMIS user ID and NT domain ID, Children's Administration Headquarters Help Desk staff needs to update the CAMIS and NT ID's by changing the office information. The NT ID information will be updated by the local/regional ITSS.
    2. An e-mail ID may need to be created if the user is moving to an office with a different e-mail domain.
  3. Deleting a User From the Respective Systems
    1. CAMIS -- When a user leaves Children's Administration, the HRCA notifies the Children's Administration Help Desk and the local/regional ITSS within one week of the employee's departure.
    2. The Children's Administration Service Desk will update the CAMIS account information by putting a date in the Inactive Data field. This will trigger the events to remove access security and ensure the security integrity of the CAMIS system.
    3. The local/regional ITSS will transfer any mission critical files from the existing employee to the employee's supervisor (if necessary) and then delete the user's profile from the e-mail system and file server.
    4. If the person is remaining with the administration, the employee's CAMIS ID remains active.
    5. DSHS Domain -- When a user is leaving Children's Administration permanently, the DSHS domain ID is to be deleted. If the user is leaving the administration temporarily, the DSHS domain ID is to be disabled until the user returns.
    6. E-mail -- The Exchange administrator also deletes the e-mail ID at this time.

7. Other Systems - When a user no longer needs access to other Information Services, the HRCA or supervisor notifies the Children's Administration Service Desk, who will remove the user's access to those systems.

## **15207. Patch Notification Response Procedures (PNRP)**

15207. Patch Notification Response Procedures (PNRP) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:18

### **152071. Purpose**

152071. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:19

1. The purpose of this document is to outline the necessary resources, steps and methodology needed to successfully classify and respond to virus definition file updates and software patch upgrade notifications from vendors.

### **152072. Applicability**

152072. Applicability [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:19

1. The standard applies to all automation systems supported by the Children's Administration Technical Services (CATS) Division and all CATS Staff.

### **152073. Definitions**

152073. Definitions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:20

1. Patch: A temporary addition to a piece of code, usually as a quick-and-dirty remedy to an existing bug or misfeature.
2. Network: Refers to all automation resources maintained by the Division and includes hardware, software and infrastructure.
3. Patch Tracking Log: Electronic log used to track all actions taken in response to a Patch notification.
4. Virus Definition File: An electronic file that includes the information necessary for Antivirus Software to detect and repair viruses.
5. Maintenance Rollup Package: Refers to a collection of enhancements that are pushed out to PCs at regular intervals. These are generally non-critical and do not require immediate action.
6. CA Patch Notification Distribution List: E-mail distribution list that contains the names of all CATS staff that require notifications during patch procedures.

### **152074. Resources Requirements**

152074. Resources Requirements [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:20

1. CA Patch Notification Distribution List



## 2. Patch Tracking Log

# 152075. Procedures for Patch Application

152075. Procedures for Patch Application [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:21

1. Upon receipt of notification of a Patch, the Technical Support Services Manager or designee and Senior Technical Analyst must determine the level of impact on the CA Network. There are 3 Impact Levels it can fall under; No Impact, Minor Impact, Critical Impact.
  1. No Impact means our systems are not vulnerable or fit the scope of the patch (i.e. we do not use that software or function) and it cannot be exploited on our network.
  2. Minor Impact means we may fit the scope but the patch does not fix vulnerability, or the fix is for non-critical functionality improvements (i.e. enhancements to software).
  3. Critical Impact means we fit the scope of the patch and not applying it could result in a negative impact on our network and systems resulting in loss of productivity.
2. Upon determination of impact level, the Technical Support Services Manager or designee and Senior Technical Analyst will take the following actions. All actions must be entered into the Patch Tracking Log.
  1. No Impact. If the patch falls in this category, make notation in Patch Tracking Log and communicate info to CA Patch Notification Distribution List.
  2. Minor Impact. If the patch falls in this category, communicate that info to the CA Patch Notification Distribution List and add it to the regular Maintenance Rollup Package.
  3. Critical Impact. If the patch falls in this category, the Senior Technical Analyst or designee will communicate that info to the CA Patch Notification Distribution List and invoke the Expedited Patch Application Plan (EPAP).

# 152076. Procedures for Virus Definition File Application

152076. Procedures for Virus Definition File Application [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:21

1. The McAfee Anti-Virus system employed by Children's Administration is the standard indicated by the DSHS Information System Services Division. All protected hardware is configured to automatically check for virus signature updates every day. In the event a vulnerability solution is identified that requires a new virus update, the Senior Technical Analyst will initiate a manual Virus Definition File update within 1 hour of reviewing the notification. The Senior Technical Analyst will send a notification to the CA Patch Notification Distribution List after the updated has been initiated.

# 15208. Expedited Patch Application Procedure (EPAP)

15208. Expedited Patch Application Procedure (EPAP) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:21

## 152081. Purpose

152081. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:22

1. The purpose of this document is to outline the procedures needed to expedite the installation of patches that are critical in nature on a network-wide basis.

## 152082. Applicability

152082. Applicability [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:22

1. The standard applies to all automation systems supported by the Children's Administration Technical Services (CATS) Division and all CATS staff.

## 152083. Definitions

152083. Definitions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:22

1. Patch - A temporary addition to a piece of code, usually as a quick-and-dirty remedy to an existing bug or misfeature.
2. Patch Tracking Log - Electronic log used to track all actions taken in response to a Patch notification.
3. N - Time when Technical Support Services Manager determines that the update/patch identified in the Notification could have a critical impact.
4. Isolated Environment - A network of computers that is not physically connected to the production network.
5. Remote Tools - Any utility or software program that allows administration of a resource from other than its own counsel. (i.e. SMS, Remote Desktop, etc.)

## 152084. Resource Requirements

152084. Resource Requirements [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:23

1. Test lab environment or other spare machines to test patches.
2. Patch Tracking Log

## 152085. Procedures

152085. Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:23

1. N + 1 hr - The Technical Support Services Manager or designee will identify CATS staff to act as EPAP team and inform the rest of CATS staff that an EPAP team has been tasked for the subject patch.
2. N + 4 hrs - The EPAP team will download and begin testing the patch in a lab or other isolated environment to determine its relationship with our existing software while not compromising our existing production network.
3. N + 24 hrs - The EPAP team, after verifying stability of the patch within our existing systems, will test distribution of the patch via Remote Tools within the lab or other isolated environment.
4. N + 48 hrs - The EPAP team will distribute patch/update statewide via Remote Tools. The Technical Support Services Manager or designee will notify all users that a patch is being distributed and what impact, if any, it will have on their workstation.

# 15209. Network Emergency Response Procedures (NERP)

15209. Network Emergency Response Procedures (NERP) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:24

## 152091. Purpose

152091. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:24

1. The purpose of this document is to outline the resources, steps and methodology necessary to successfully resolve a network-wide emergency.

## 152092. Scope

152092. Scope [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:24

The standard applies to all automation systems supported by the Children's Administration Technical Services (CATS) Division and all CATS staff.

## 152093. Definitions

152093. Definitions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:24

1. Event - an unplanned, non-specific issue that causes limited or a complete lack of computer and/or network functionality including viruses, natural disasters, fires, flooding, etc.
2. Remote Device - any laptop, notebook or tablet pc that can be removed from the network and used by Children's Administration staff
3. Shared Emergency Administrative (ESA) Account - an account created prior to an event and given full administrative privileges on every machine in the Children's Administration network.

## 152094. Resources Requirements

152094. Resources Requirements [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:25

1. Complete CATS telephone, pager and personal number lists updated on a quarterly basis.
2. Standard communication device for CATS Staff that incorporates paging, cell phone and walkie-talkie or direct connect type capabilities not dependent on telephone land lines.
3. List of local office non-CATS, ISSD and DIS staff that could assist in an emergency.
4. SEA account.
5. Listing of remote computers and their users or custodians.

## 152095. Upgrade/Change Procedures

152095. Upgrade/Change Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:25

1. All communication during an Event will occur in the following manner:
  1. The communication "tree" will mimic the chain of command for both upward and downward communication.
  2. Communications will occur at regular intervals during the event or as needed. The intervals will be determined by the CATS Director, Technical Support Services Manager or designee at the time of the Event based on its severity.
2. If any CATS staff suspects we are under the influence of an Event, that person will immediately contact the Technical Support Services Manager or designee with a description of the event, its symptoms and possible solutions.
3. If an Event is verified by the Technical Support Services Manager or designee, all appropriate staff will be notified by any means available. An interim stop-gap solution will be provided with the communication to prevent further damage to the network or loss of productivity.
4. The Technical Support Services Manager or designee will identify a NERP team. The NERP team will develop, document and prepare a solution for distribution as soon as possible.
  1. Depending on the severity of the event and the solution necessary, the Technical Support Services Manager or designee may summon the assistance of Non-CATS office support staff (see attached NERP Contacts list).
  2. If necessary, the SEA Account could be implemented. Please see the Shared Emergency Administration (ESA) Account Implementation Plan.
5. CATS and/or Office Support group will proceed to apply the fixes to equipment according to the priority identified by each office or as directed by their immediate supervisors. In the event that a priority list is not available from the office, the default priority will be as follows:
  1. Intake
  2. Social Workers
  3. Clerical
  4. Supervisors
  5. Management
6. Once the response is underway, the Technical Support Services Manager or designee will provide the Regional Management with a summary of the event, the plan to repair damage and an estimated time of completion.
7. If the solution involves computer software upgrades, once the local network has been protected, each CATS staff member will need to contact their office's remote users to ensure that a re-infestation does not occur via remote, non-wired or "checkout" equipment. If CATS staff is unable to reach a user who has a "remote" device they will revoke network rights for that device until such time an authorized staff member can physically test the device and ensure its safety on the Children's Administration network.
8. Upon completion of the response, CATS Management should conduct a review to determine the cause of the Event and how to improve processes and procedures to prevent such an emergency and/or improve the response in the future.

## **15210. Shared Emergency Administration (SEA) Account Policy**

15210. Shared Emergency Administration (SEA) Account Policy [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:26

### **152101. Purpose**

152101. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:26

1. The purpose of this document is to outline the administration of a Shared Emergency Administration (SEA) account. This account is to give Non-Technical Staff, office site assistants or other designated office workers full administrative privileges to Children's Administration desktop computers at the Local Administrative Level in response to an Event that requires software, patches or other solutions be applied to each computer locally and can't be distributed electronically.

## 152102. Applicability

152102. Applicability [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:26

1. The standard applies to all automation systems supported by the Children's Administration Technical Services (CATS) Division and all CATS staff.

## 152103. Definitions

152103. Definitions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:26

1. Local Administrative Level- refers to permission specific to one piece of equipment and not across the whole network and/or domain.
2. Event - Non-specific issue that causes limited or a complete lack of computer and/or network functionality.
3. Non-Technical Staff - Refers to a staff member in each office who has been identified as a resource for CATS to use as needed to resolve technical issues.
4. Remote Tools - Any utility or software program that allows administration of a resource from other than its own counsel. (i.e. SMS, Remote Desktop, etc.)

## 152104. Resource Requirements

152104. Resource Requirements [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:27

1. Complete list of non-technical staff as designated by the local CATS staff
2. SEA account and password established and installed on equipment

## 152105. Procedures

152105. Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:27

1. Upon determining that the event is of a nature that requires assistance from non-technical staff, the Technical Support Services Manager, Area Technical Manager or a designated CATS staff member will distribute the SEA account login name and password (via fax or other method) through the local ITSS to the non-technical staff.
2. Once the event has been resolved, the Technical Support Services Manager or his designee will change the password for the SEA account via Remote Tools and/or manually on all affected CA equipment preventing in order to prevent its continued and unauthorized use. This new SEA account password will be shared only with the Technical Support Services Manager, Area Technical Managers and Senior Technical Analyst.

# 15211. CA Information System Disaster Recovery Procedures

15211. CA Information System Disaster Recovery Procedures [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:27

## 15212. Securing Unattended Computer Terminals (06/16/06)

15212. Securing Unattended Computer Terminals (06/16/06) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:29

### 152121. Purpose

152121. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:29

1. To ensure our adherence to DSHS Administrative Policy 05-01 and to provide a policy for CA regarding the securing of computer terminals that provides access to confidential and mission critical data.
2. Confidential information includes all personal information (e.g., name, birth date, SSN, etc.) and case data (e.g., case number, type, allegations, etc.) relating to CA clients.
3. This policy is necessary to ensure that the administration is in compliance with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) Information Technology Security Policy Manual (ITSPM), Chapter 3, Classifying and Protecting Data and IT Resources.

### 152122. Applicability

152122. Applicability [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:29

1. This policy applies to all CA employees, whether working in CA offices, in private homes, or when connecting to the CA network remotely via wired or wireless access, whenever using electronic equipment to access client confidential information.

### 152123. Standard

152123. Standard [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:30

1. Due to the critical and confidential nature of the data used by the Administration, it is necessary that all data files and information that are confidential or mission critical in nature are secure when staff leave their terminals unattended.
2. Employees must log off from CAMIS if they do not intend to use CAMIS for documentation or review of data for any period in excess of 90 minutes. CAMIS will automatically log off any user who has remained "idle" in the system for longer than 90 minutes. The automatic log off is necessary to assure data security, to allow active workers freedom to access the system, and to keep the system cost efficient. System users creating or updating CAMIS records, reviewing existing records, and/or performing searches in the system will not be involuntarily logged off if they perform any of these activities at least once every 90 minutes.

3. Employees who use computers that access the Local Area Network (LAN) must either log off or lock their workstations by using the built-in lock feature within the operating system when they leave their terminals unattended. Additionally, an auto-locking feature will be implemented on all CA computer equipment so that following ten (10) minutes of user inactivity the computer will automatically lock with a password.
4. For instructions on how to log off of the system or lock the computer with a password, staff should contact their local Systems Support Specialist or the CA Service Desk via email or telephone.
5. Computer terminals within CA will not be set up to automatically enter the user ID and password into either the LAN or CAMIS system via a macro or program.

## **15213. Network Equipment Relocation and Connections (3/1/95)**

15213. Network Equipment Relocation and Connections (3/1/95) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:30

### **152131. Purpose**

152131. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:30

1. Pursuant to DSHS Administrative Policy 15-10 which deals with Information and Technology Security the following guidelines are provided to outline the handling of network related computer equipment within offices of CA to:
2. Assure networks continue to function properly.
3. Minimize the number of system problems caused by users moving equipment and disturbing networks.
4. Keep site documentation accurate.

### **152132. Applicability: To all CA Employees**

152132. Applicability: To all CA Employees [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:31

### **152133. Standard**

152133. Standard [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:31

1. All computer equipment attached to a Local Area Network (LAN) or Wide Area Network (WAN) is part of that network. Only Children's Administration Technology Services (CATS) personnel may authorize a change to the configuration of those networks. To connect or disconnect any equipment from that network, including a PC, monitor, printer, copier (or other multi-function device i.e. network copier or scanner) or moving patch cables, is to alter the configuration of that network.
2. All LAN and WAN related equipment will be maintained and handled by the local Systems Support Specialist or the Regional Systems Support Supervisor. The equipment will be purchased, installed, and serviced only under the direction and coordination of the Regional Systems Support Supervisor or the Systems Support Manager. Non-technical field staff are not authorized to disconnect, reconfigure, or move LAN and WAN equipment except under the coordination and direction of the local Systems Support Specialist or the Regional Systems Support Supervisor.

## **152134. Procedure**

152134. Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:31

1. In the event that an office within a region would like to relocate a piece of equipment (i.e., computer, printer, etc.) or change the configuration of the office LAN in some way, responsible staff are to contact their local Systems Support Specialist for approval and follow the procedures as outlined by their region.

## **15300. General SACWIS System Standards**

15300. General SACWIS System Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:32

## **15301. Updates to CAMIS Files (11/30/95)**

15301. Updates to CAMIS Files (11/30/95) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:32

## **153011. Purpose**

153011. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:32

1. To ensure that CAMIS files represent the work of the person who originally entered it or the designated supervisor.

## **153012. Applicability**

153012. Applicability [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:33

1. Applies to all CA employees.

## **153013. Standards**

153013. Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:33

1. All initial documentation in CAMIS shall remain a discrete representation of the information available at the time it was entered.

## **153014. Procedure**

153014. Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:33

1. No textual information shall be completed or edited after five working days of initial input. CAMIS text shall be updated by the person who created it or by the designated supervisor. A designee shall indicate for whom he or she is inputting the text.



2. For licensing, case, referral, and facility complaint SERs, any new or corrected text information shall be documented in a separate, subsequent SER addendum.
3. For Risk Tags any changes to the risk tag shall be added below the original risk tag text. It shall be dated and the person making the addition shall sign by typing their name at the end.
4. Investigative assessment text corrections must be made 31 days after the assessment has been marked complete. Any changes needing to be made subsequently must be approved by an Area Administrator and the assessment lock security overridden by a person with designated security.

## 15302. Standards for Input of Names (4/14/94)

15302. Standards for Input of Names (4/14/94) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:33

### 153021. Purpose

153021. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:34

1. To provide a consistent standard for the entry of names in CAMIS for persons, businesses, contracts, licenses, and providers; to improve search procedures; and to improve data integrity.

### 153022. Standard

153022. Standard [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:35

1. The following standards shall be used when entering names in the CAMIS system:
  1. No spaces are to be used in names; e.g., McDonald and MacDonald, not Mc Donald and Mac Donald.
  2. The only punctuation to be used will be the hyphen, "-"; as in Jones-Borland. Periods, commas, apostrophes, etc., will not be used.
  3. Use full names when known and nicknames or alternate spellings as aliases; e.g., Elizabeth G Johnson, AKA: Beth Johnson, Liz Johnson.
  4. The middle initial or name will be entered in the correct data field only. It will not be entered in the data field provided for the person's first name.
  5. Titles such as Jr., Sr., II, III, Dr, etc., will be entered in "Title" data field. The only exception is if a first name is not known at the time of intake. No "unknown" names will be entered for any reason, either first, last, or first and last. If there are allegations regarding an unidentified person or persons, any and all identifying information shall be entered in the allegation text; e.g., "presumed mother locked two female children, 5 to 8 years old, in the car and went into the bar. License # ABC123." If persons are later identified, complete information will be entered at that time.
  6. Contract Names: When contracts are created, the business ID and provider number will be created in the same format (last name space first name space initial or title with no punctuation). Facilities may be abbreviated identically for business and provider IDs. Once the business or provider number is pulled into the contract, it can be typed over to reflect the desired name format for the person/contract.
  7. Day Care and Foster Homes: The licensee will be created in the licensing module following the same format as the provider file (last name space first name/spouse or other name). Each facility will have a business ID created at the time the license application is entered into CAMIS if one does not already exist. The female's name, if any, will be listed first; spouse or other name will be listed second. At the time the facility is licensed, the licenser will request an SSPS provider

number using the above naming format. The provider number will be related to the existing business. See examples below.

8. Day Care Centers with Multiple Sites: A license will be created for each site, each with a separate business ID. The business ID for each site will be related to the appropriate SSPS provider number.
9. Private Agency Foster Homes: Private agency foster homes will be entered using the same naming format as for all other persons, business, licenses, contracts, and SSPS numbers (last name space female first name/male first name). Private agency foster homes will have business ID, license, and SSPS number, all listed the same. The private agency foster home's address will be coded as the mailing address. Under alternate name/address, type in the name and address of the agency that licensed them.
10. Examples of Name Formats:

<b>Contracts</b>	
1) Provider File:	Jones James A
Contract:	James A Jones DBA: Jones James A
2) Provider File:	NWYS/CRC/REGIONAL
Contract:	Northwest Youth Services DBA: NWYS/ASSESS/WHATCOM
3) Provider File:	NWYS/CRC/REGIONAL
Contract:	Northwest Youth Services DBA: NWYS/CRC/REGIONAL
4) Provider File:	Catholic Community Services
Contract:	Catholic Community Services DBA: CCS/SNO CNTY/CRISIS DC

11.

<b>Day Care and Foster Homes</b>	
1) Provider File:	Smith Mary A
License:	Smith Mary A
2) Provider File:	Smith Mary/John
License:	Smith Mary/John
3) Provider File:	Smith Mary/Jones Barbara
License:	Smith Mary/Jones Barbara

12.

<b>Day Care Centers with Multiple Sites:</b>	
1) Provider File (UNYSIS):	YMCA South County

Provider File (CAMIS/SBUS):	YMCA S CNTY Main Site YMCA S CNTY Lynndale
License:	YMCA S CNTY Main Site YMCA S CNTY Lynndale
2) Provider File (UNYSIS):	YMCA Clark County Daycare
Provider File (CAMIS/SBUS):	YMCA Clark CNTY Hazel Dell YMCA Clark CNTY Cascade Park
License:	YMCA Clark CNTY Hazel Dell YMCA Clark CNTY Cascade Park
3) Provider File (UNYSIS):	YMCA Yakima Daycare
Provider File (CAMIS/SBUS):	YMCA Yakima Naches Ave YMCA Yakima Summitview
License:	YMCA Yakima Naches Ave YMCA Yakima Summitview
4) Provider File (UNYSIS):	YMCA Spokane Daycare
Provider File (CAMIS/SBUS):	YMCA Spokane (School Name 1) YMCA Spokane (School Name 2) YMCA Spokane (School Name 3)
License:	YMCA Spokane (School Name 1) YMCA Spokane (School Name 2) YMCA Spokane (School Name 3)

## 15306. Residential Address for Children Served by Children's Administration (8/17/95)

15306. Residential Address for Children Served by Children's Administration (8/17/95) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:35

### 153061. Purpose

153061. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:36

1. The purpose is to establish a standard protocol for recording the address of children served by CA.

## **153062. Standard/Procedure**

153062. Standard/Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:36

1. For children served by CA, the following criteria will be used for establishing the residential address in their person record.
  1. Children who reside with parent or legal guardian: Use the parent or guardian's address.
  2. Children who are in the department's custody: Use the parent or guardian's address.
  3. Legally free child: Use the office address of the DCFS office responsible for supervising the child. Code this address as a mailing address. Do not use the pre-adoptive or foster parent's address as a residential address.
  4. If the child's parent or guardian is homeless, the street address may be listed as HOMELESS with the city and county showing where the family is normally found.
  5. Children who are in care will have their current whereabouts recorded in their placement record.

## **15400. SACWIS System Program Specific Standards**

15400. SACWIS System Program Specific Standards [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:37

### **15401. Program and Code Definitions (11/1/98)**

15401. Program and Code Definitions (11/1/98) [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:37

#### **154011. Purpose**

154011. Purpose [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:37

1. The purpose is to establish consistent Program Code definitions in CAMIS.

#### **154012. Standard**

154012. Standard [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:39

1. Program or Service/Activity Codes are entered in three different and unique places in CAMIS. There are Referral codes, Case codes, and File Folder codes. This standard specifically addresses referral codes and case codes.
2. Programs Used in Referrals
  1. Child Protective Services
  2. Child Welfare Services
  3. DLR/CPS
  4. Family Reconciliation Services
  5. Licensing Complaint (Non-CPS)

6. Home Studies
3. Program Codes Used in Cases
  1. C Child Protective Services
  2. W Child Welfare Services
  3. F Family Reconciliation Services
  4. D Income Eligible Daycare
  5. L Licensing
  6. R DLR/CPS
  7. A Adoptive Home Services
  8. H Home Study
  9. I Interstate Compact
  10. U Courtesy Supervision
  11. T Adoption Support
  12. S Service Inactive
4. The following definitions are to be used in determining which program codes are used in CAMIS for cases:
  1. C - Child Protective Services-A case assignment would be coded C - CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES in the following circumstances:
    1. A referral is accepted for investigation. The case would be coded as CPS as long as the case is open for investigation, it has a service contract, or until dependency is established.
    2. Cases already open for W - Child Welfare Services would also be coded C - CPS while the new referral is being investigated.
  2. F - Family Reconciliation Services
    1. A case assignment will be coded as F - FAMILY RECONCILIATION SERVICES for cases in which a referral or request for services has been accepted for assignment which meets the definition of FRS services in RCW.
    2. The maximum length of time a child/family would qualify for FRS is 90 days. For a case to continue as an FRS case beyond the 90 days, supervisory approval is necessary.
    3. If a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) petition is filed, the case will remain an FRS case until the CHINS is approved or denied.
  3. W - Child Welfare Services-A case assignment will be coded W - CHILD WELFARE SERVICES when a case meets the following criteria:
    1. A case that initiates as CPS and has had a Dependency established. The case remains as a CWS case until the Dependency is dismissed, including legally free children placed in pre-adoptive homes.
    2. A case which initiates as FRS receiving continued services beyond the initial 90 days of FRS services or has had a CHINS approved by the court.
    3. Any request for services, accepted for assignment, from a family for a child that does not fit into any of the other categories.
  4. D - Income Eligible Daycare is a teen parent day care- case open for the provision of Teen Parent Child Care only.
  5. I - Interstate Compact-A case open for supervision of children from other states under the Interstate Compact on Placement of Children (ICPC).
  6. H - Home Study-A case open for the purposes of assessing whether a placement resource is appropriate for a child. This code does not apply to Foster Care Home Studies or to Adoptive Home Studies.
  7. U - Courtesy Supervision-A case in which the worker assigned is supervising the placement of a child from another office within the state. This case shall also be open in the sending office as a CPS, CWS, or FRS case.
  8. A - Adoptive Home Services-A case which is open under the Adoption Services Program. This code is to be used for the prospective adoptive parent/s only. The child's case remains open as a CWS case. This includes the adoptive home study.

9. T - Adoption Support-This is only to be used by the state or regional Adoption Support program managers for cases involving children with approved adoption support subsidy agreements.
10. L - Licensing-This code is used for licensing and respite care provider cases only. This includes foster care home studies.
11. S - Service Inactive
  1. This code is used to designate a case in which the worker has finished providing direct services, and the case is waiting for completion of paper work. Additionally, this code is used for supervisory review when the supervisor is reviewing the case pending closure. If the case is being transferred or reassigned, the appropriate program code for the type of program/services the case is receiving is used.
  2. Upon completion of direct services, the program code is closed and S - Service Inactive code is opened to the assigned worker or supervisor. This code is not opened unless the related direct service code is closed.

## 154013. Procedure

154013. Procedure [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:41

1. Upon initial case assignment or assignment of additional workers to a case, one of the above program codes is used.

## Appendix A: Definitions

Appendix A: Definitions [sarah.sanchez](#) Tue, 08/21/2018 - 20:48

The following definitions apply to the Children's Administration (CA) *Operations Manual*.

**"ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME"** (AIDS) - a diagnosis given if an individual is infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and has an AIDS defining condition or laboratory evidence of severely impaired immunity. These conditions in adults include pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), invasive cervical cancer, and tuberculosis. In children, symptomatic infection (Class P-2) might include PCP, bacterial infections, neurologic disease, or cytomegalovirus.

**"AIR BORNE PATHOGENS"** means pathogenic microorganism that can be present in air and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Tuberculosis (TB) Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), viruses (e.g. influenza), bacteria, and fungi.

**"AUTHORIZING A PLACEMENT"** is any situation where CA staff are called upon to make a recommendation about the suitability of a placement resource for a child.

**"BLOOD BORNE PATHOGENS"** means pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and HIV.

**"CASE FILE MAKE-UP"** - For Case File Make-up, the following definitions apply:

1. **Case Number:** A case number consists of a two-digit office number, a one-letter program code, a six-digit basic number, and a one-digit suffix number.
2. **Case Record:** The folder(s) containing forms and documents related to a person or family group of CA clients.

3. **Client:** Any person requesting or receiving services in a CA office.
4. **Master File Clearances:** The research of initial information received by intake is verified and updated/input. This consists of a statewide CAMIS search, ACES check, and birth certificate search.
5. **Basic Number:** The basic number is a six-digit number unique within a CA office. The basic number is assigned upon opening a case. The basic number immediately follows the program code.
6. **Suffix:** A suffix is a one-digit number used to distinguish between a family record and a child's placement record (dash record).

“**CHILD CARE INSTITUTION**” means a private child care institution, or a public child care institution that accommodates no more than 25 children, and is licensed by the state in which it is located or has been approved by the agency of the state or tribal licensing authority (with respect to child care institutions on or near Indian Reservations) responsible for licensing or approval of institutions of this type as meeting the standards established for such licensing. The definition does 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. **45 CFR 1335.20**

“**CHILD DAY CARE PAYMENTS**” - The following definitions apply to the Child Day Care Payments Program.

In-home care is exempt from licensing.

An overpayment dispute arises when an individual disagrees with the overpayment determination. Clients, contracted vendors, and non-contracted vendors each have a different process for appealing the overpayment.

1. “**Approving Worker/Authorizing Worker**” means the approving worker is the representative of DSHS who establishes that the client is eligible to receive child care benefits. The authorizing worker is the representative of DSHS who authorizes child care payment through the Social Service Payment System (SSPS). The approving worker is often the authorizing worker also.
2. “**Child**” is a person 12 years of age or younger. Special needs child care may be authorized for a child 19 years of age or younger.
3. “**Family**” means two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption residing in the same household.
  1. Related adults residing together, other than spouses, are each considered a separate family. Unmarried parents living together are considered a family for purposes of determining income eligibility.
  2. A child living with legally non-responsible relatives, a minor living independently, and a child living under the care of unrelated persons are also considered one-person families.
  3. A school-age parent residing in her/his parent's home with her/his child is considered a separate family unit for purposes of determining family income for eligibility for the Teen Parent Child Care Program.
  4. Only members of the immediate family residing in the same household are included in family size.
  5. Only members of the immediate family currently residing in the same household are included in family size for the military family whose mother or father is on active duty overseas or out of state.
4. “**Gross Income**” is both earned and unearned income. Earned income includes wages, overtime, tips, etc. Unearned income includes TANF grants (children's only), Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), child support, pensions, etc.
5. “**In-Home Care**” means child care given by:
  1. A relative in the child's own home. “**Relative**” means a grandmother, grandfather, aunt, uncle, cousin, or an adult sibling who lives outside the family home. See definition of “Relative Care-Giver,” below. Or

2. An unrelated person in the child's own home.
6. **“Out-Of-Home Care”** means child care provided outside the child's home, including licensed family child care homes and licensed child care centers. Agencies or programs exempt from licensing, which may include but are not limited to the military, public schools, and Tribal Nations, request that DSHS, through OCCP, certify them as meeting licensing standards. Exempt agencies or programs must be certified to be eligible to participate in a state child care subsidy program.
7. **“Overpayment,”** for child care payments, means:
  1. **Client Overpayment**
    1. Payment is greater than the client is eligible to receive; or
    2. Payment is made for in-home or relative child care (child care exempt from licensing) services not provided.
  2. **Vendor Overpayment**
    1. Payment made to the vendor for services not provided; or
    2. Payment made to the vendor exceeds the amount due. For example: The vendor's customary rate is less than the amount paid or the vendor billed in excess of the time the child attended, including the allowable absence days.
  3. **Disputes**
8. **“Relative Care Giver”** means a child care provider who is 18 years of age or older who provides child care services to children who are, by marriage, blood relationship, or court decree, the grandchild, niece, nephew, or first cousin of the provider. Authorizations for other degrees of relationship, including but not limited to great and great-great, are approved through an Exception to Policy (ETP).
  1. The department shall allow no payment for child care given by the following relatives: father, mother, brother, sister, stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, or stepsister.
  2. The department does pay adult siblings living outside the family home. Authorizing workers may use their discretion to determine eligible degrees of relationship where the family's culture would define relative in a broader way.
9. **“Relative - Relative's Home Care”** means child care given by the child's relative in the relative's home. Relative-relative's home care is exempt from licensing. See the definition of “Relative Care Giver,” above.
10. **“COMPLAINANT”** means a CA client, foster parent, or other individual filing a complaint.

**“COMPLAINT”** means a formally expressed dissatisfaction about the application of a CA standard or procedure or about an action or failure to act by CA; it does not apply to an inquiry for information.

**“CONSULATE”** is a foreign governmental office with a designated official appointed to live in the host country, looking after that foreign country's citizen and business interests.

**“CONTAMINATED”** means the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

**“CRIMES RELATING TO DRUGS”** means a conviction of a crime to manufacture, deliver, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver a controlled substance. **RCW 43.43.830(6)**

**“CRITICAL INCIDENT”** includes serious and emergent incidents as defined by DSHS Administrative Policy 9.01 and other incidents requiring reporting or review, including but not limited to:

- A. Serious injury or death of a child in a CA active case or a case that has been closed within the last 12 months.
- B. Serious injury or death of a child in a Division of Licensed Resource (DLR) licensed facility.
- C. A case alleging client abuse or client neglect by a CA employee, volunteer, licensee, contractor, or another client.



D. Conditions which present a substantial threat to CA operations or client safety, such as: a) work-related physical assault, serious injury, or death of a CA employee in the line of regular work activity; b) threat of physical violence to an employee or co-worker; c) bomb threat, hostage situation, break-in or burglary; or property damage.

E. Vehicle accidents involving CA staff, foster parents, or child day care providers with clients when there is an injury or death.

F. Runaway of child in CA care when there is serious threat to the child or community.

G. Any other unusual event or situation of special concern to CA or that may elicit a request for information from the news media, families, or community.

"**EXPOSURE**" means a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that results from the performance of an employee's duties.

"**FOREIGN NATIONAL**" is anyone in the boundaries of the United States who is not a citizen of the United States.

"**FOSTER PARENT LIABILITY PLAN**" - for the plan, the following definitions apply:

A. **Bodily Injury** - Tangible physical injury to the body of any third party person for which the foster parent is or may be held legally liable, sustained as the result of an action(s) of their foster/respite care child(ren). Does not include sickness, disease, death, shock, mental anguish, mental injury, humiliation, or other such conditions.

B. **Claim** - A written demand for payment pursuant to the terms of the Liability Plan. To be considered a claim the demand must be:

1. On the appropriate form;
2. Received by their social worker within 30 days of notice of property damage or personal/bodily injury; and
3. Received by ORM within 90 days of notice of property damage or personal/bodily injury.

C. **Depreciated Value** - That value established from the lost or damaged asset cost using an accepted function of depreciation method such as straight-line, units of production, double declining balance, or summary of the year digits.

D. **Foster Child** - A child who is within the care, custody, and supervision of DSHS and who has been placed in foster care by DSHS or DSHS-approved child placing agency.

E. **Foster Parent** - A person licensed by DSHS to provide care on a 24-hour-a-day basis to one or more assigned foster children in the foster parent residence.

F. **Foster Parent Household Members** - Any spouse, minor child(ren), or dependent member of the foster parent who is a permanent resident of the foster parent home. For purposes of the Plan, household members do **not** include other foster children.

G. **Gross Negligence** - The intentional failure to perform a manifest duty in reckless disregard of the consequences as affecting the life or property of another.

H. **Guardian Ad Litem**- A special guardian appointed by the court to represent the best interests of the minor child.

I. **Legal Guardian** - Person(s) lawfully invested with the power, and charged with the duty, of taking care of the person and managing the property and rights of a minor child (or one who is considered incapable of administering their own affairs).

J. **Occurrence** - A tangible identifiable incident, or series of incidents occurring in a manner so as to be deemed a single occurrence, that results in personal/bodily injury, or property damage, to any third party, that was intentionally, negligently, or otherwise caused by the foster parent or their foster/respite care child(ren).

K. **Owned Aircraft** - Serviceable/operable aircraft, including permanently attached devices/equipment and mechanical controls, owned/rented/leased by a third party or foster parent for their private or business use.

L. **Owned Motor Vehicle** - Serviceable/operable automobiles, trailers when attached to power units, and motor vehicles of any kind, including permanently attached devices/equipment and mechanical controls, owned/rented/leased by a third party or foster parent for their private or business use.

M. **Owned Watercraft** - Serviceable/operable powered or non-powered water craft, including permanently attached devices/ equipment and mechanical controls, owned/rented/leased by a third party or foster parent for their private or business use.

N. **Personal Injury** - Any injury which is an invasion of personal rights which may include such injuries to the person as libel or slander, criminal conversation, malicious prosecution, false imprisonment, and mental suffering.

O. **Premises** - The owned/rented/leased/occupied residential dwelling of the foster parent, including the structures attached to the residence, the surrounding land on which the residence is located, and structures located on the surrounding land, such as garages, sheds, or appurtenant structures.

P. **Property Damage** - Physical damage or loss to tangible property of a third party caused by the action(s) of a foster/respite care child(ren) for which the foster parent is or may be held legally liable.

Q. **Respite Care** - The temporary provision of care by foster parents for the maintenance, health, and safety of any eligible foster child.

R. **Third Party** - Any person other than the foster parent or foster parent household members as defined in this Liability Plan.

“**FOSTER PARENT REIMBURSEMENT PLAN**” - As used in the Reimbursement Plan, the following definitions apply:

1. **Claim** - A written demand made by a foster parent for reimbursement available pursuant to the Plan for property damages, losses, and emergency medical treatment costs incurred because of an act of their foster/respite care child(ren). Payments made under the Plan are made directly to the foster parent, including claims filed by the foster parent on behalf of their household members. The *Foster Parent Reimbursement Plan Claim* form, DSHS 18-400(X), must be used by foster parents to file claims under the Plan. Written correspondence or telephone conversations between the foster parent and DSHS employees does not constitute a valid claim.
2. **DDD Child** - A developmentally disabled child, not a foster child, who requires extraordinary care.
3. **DDD Respite Care** - For DDD participation in the Plan: The temporary provision of care by licensed foster parents for a developmentally disabled child who is not a foster child and who requires

extraordinary care. This short-term care in the foster parent's home is approved/authorized by DDD Case Management Services to provide out-of-home relief to the parents of the child.

4. **Depreciated Value** - The dollar amount determined to be the worth or value of an item at the time of a property damage or loss occurrence because of wear and tear, its age, or other causes applied, based on accepted depreciation methodology.
5. **Emergency Medical Treatment Expenses** - Costs which the foster parent or household member incurred from receiving emergency medical treatment because of a personal bodily injury sustained as a result of an action of their foster/respice care child(ren). Emergency medical treatment is defined as treatment necessary to sustain life or prevent further injury which is provided immediately following an injury occurrence. It does not include follow-up medical treatment expenses.
6. **Foster Child** - A child who is under the care, custody, and supervision of DSHS and who has been placed in foster care by DSHS or a DSHS-approved child placing agency.
7. **Foster Parent** - A person licensed to provide for the care and supervision of foster/respice care children in their foster family home.
8. **Foster Parent Household Member** - Any spouse, minor child, or dependent relative of the foster parent who is a permanent resident of the foster parent home. For purposes of the Plan, a property damage, loss, or personal injury sustained by a household member is considered a foster parent damage, loss, or injury. Foster parents file claims on behalf of their household members. Household members do not include foster/respice care children in the foster parent home.
9. **I. Occurrence** - A tangible, identifiable incident which results in a personal bodily injury, property loss, or property damage; or a series of incidents occurring in such a manner as to be deemed a single damage occurrence to a property item, sustained by a foster parent or household member caused by their foster/respice care child(ren).
10. **Owned Aircraft/Watercraft** - Serviceable/operable aircraft, or powered or non-powered water craft, including permanently attached devices/equipment and mechanical controls, which are owned, rented, or leased by the foster parent for their private or business use.
11. **Owned Motor Vehicle** - Serviceable/operable automobiles, and trailers when attached to power units, and motor vehicles of any kind, including permanently attached devices/equipment and mechanical controls, which are owned, rented, or leased by the foster parent for their private or business use.
12. **Personal Bodily Injury** - Tangible physical injury to the body of a foster parent or their household member sustained as the result of an action of their foster/respice care child(ren).
13. **Property Damage/Loss** - Physical damage or loss of tangible property belonging to the foster parent or their household member caused by their foster/respice care child(ren).
14. **Residence** - The occupied dwelling of the foster parent (owned, rented, or leased) including attached structures, and the surrounding land and structures located on the premises such as garages, green houses, and sheds.
15. **Third Party** - Any person other than the foster parent or their household member.
16. **"HEPATITIS B VIRUS" (HBV)** - a virus spread by exposure to blood, semen, vaginal secretions, and, rarely, breast milk of an HBV infected individual. It can cause inflammation and damage to the liver, occasionally leading to chronic illness and death.

**"HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS" (HIV)** - the virus that causes AIDS. HIV is spread by exposure to blood, semen, vaginal secretions, and, rarely, breast milk of an HIV infected individual.

**"U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICE" (USCIS)** is the federal agency responsible for all policies and procedures related to the presence of foreign nationals in the United States. The USCIS is the agency with authority to determine an individual's immigration status.

**"INTERPRETER"** is a person who speaks English and another language fluently. An interpreter enables clients and staff to communicate with each other.

"**LAWFULLY ADMITTED ALIEN**" is anyone admitted for permanent or temporary visitation or residence who has not been granted citizenship.

"**LEP CASE**" is a family unit wherein any person requests services in a language other than English.

"**LEP FAMILY UNIT**" consists of parent(s), children, other significant household members, or extended family being provided services.

"**LICENSED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL**" is a person whose legally permitted scope of practice allows him or her to independently perform the activities required for post-exposure evaluation and follow-up, such as physicians and dentists.

"**LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY**" (LEP) includes individuals who are unable to speak, read, and/or write English well enough to communicate effectively.

"**LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING**" (LES) are those individuals whose primary language is not English and who are not sufficiently fluent in English to convey and receive effectively the information needed to apply for and benefit fully from Children's Administration services. LEP and LES are frequently used interchangeably.

"**MAIL**" - Definitions relating to office mail include:

1. **Business Reply (BR) Mail:** A service by which Children's Administration offices provide clients and other individuals with specially printed envelopes which allow people to send mail postage free to DSHS organizations.
2. **Business Reply (BR) Account:** The account each Children's Administration office has with the local post office to pay postage on items mailed to Children's Administration in the Business Reply envelopes.
3. **Cash Items:** For purposes of this chapter, cash items include currency, endorsed warrants, personal or cashier's checks, and commercial, bank, or postal money orders.
4. **Classes of Mail:**
  1. **First Class Mail** - Consists of material weighing 12 ounces or less. First Class mail may not be opened for postal inspection.
  2. **Priority Mail** - Consists of First Class mail weighing more than 12 ounces. Maximum weight is 70 pounds and maximum size is 100 inches in length/girth combined.
    1. **Certified Mail** - Consists of First Class or Priority mail of no intrinsic value and provides the sender with proof of posting. A record of delivery is maintained at the addressee's Post Office. The charge for Certified mail is in addition to the First Class or Priority mail charge. Certified mail does not insure the item against loss or damage.
    2. The following services are available for additional fees and provide the sender with a return receipt:
      1. Show To Whom and Date Delivered - Provides the sender with this information.
      2. Restricted Delivery - Mail will only be delivered to the addressee or the representative named in writing and on file at the Post Office.
      3. Show To Whom, Date, and Address of Delivery - Provides the sender with this information
5. **Confidential Mail:** Marked as "confidential" and is opened only by the addressee or that person's supervisor/designee.
6. **Incoming Mail:** For purposes of this chapter, incoming mail consists of any envelope or package delivered to the office or staff member.
7. **Mail Clerk:** For purposes of this chapter, an individual responsible for opening incoming mail, listing cash items in the Cash Items mail log, and/or preparing outgoing mail.
8. **Negotiable Items:** All items defined as "Cash Items" and "State Office (SO) Negotiables."

9. **Outgoing Mail:** For purposes of this chapter, outgoing mail consists of any envelope or package going from the office to another location.
10. **Postage Due Account:** The account a DCFS office has with the local Post Office to pay postage due for items mailed to that office with insufficient postage.
11. **Remote Meter Resetting System (RMSR) Meter:** The type of meter for the postage machine which allows the office to purchase additional postage for their meter by telephone/electronic means, on the day the postage is needed and without taking the meter to the Post Office.
12. **State Office Negotiables:** For purposes of this chapter, SO negotiables consist of the following items:
  1. **Warrants** - State of Washington checks issued to providers of services to clients (commonly called Vendor Warrants);
  2. **Medical Coupons** - A document issued by State Office, DSHS 6-28, or local offices, DSHS 13-030PC, and presented by eligible clients to pay for medical services.

“**MANAGEMENT TEAM**” includes, for CA, the Assistant Secretary, Division Directors, Office Chiefs, and Regional Administrators.

"**MUCOUS MEMBRANE**" is the moist layer of tissue that lines the mouth, eyes, nostrils, vagina, anus, or urethra.

“**ORIGINAL PLACEMENT DATE**” or “**ORIGINAL FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT**”, for the purposes of the Social Security Act and federal regulations, means the date of the child’s most recent removal from the child’s home and placement into foster care under the care and responsibility of the state agency. **45 CFR 1356.21(f)**

This definition applies both to children placed in foster care under a voluntary agreement and to those children under the state’s responsibility through court order. Therefore, the original date of placement, for purposes of Title IV-E and section 427 of Title IV-B, would be when the child is in foster care and the state has been given responsibility for care either through a voluntary placement agreement or a court adjudication. There is no requirement under either Title IV-B or IV-E that the state have legal custody. **PIQ 83-06**

"**OTHER POTENTIALLY INFECTIOUS MATERIALS**" means:

1. The following human body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids.
2. Any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead).
3. HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV- or HBV-containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.

"**PANEL REVIEW**" means a review by a panel consisting of members appointed by a DCFS Regional Administrator.

"**PARENTERAL**" means piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needlesticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions.

"**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**" is specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard; e. g., latex gloves, protective eye wear, CPR 1-way valves, protective gowns/aprons.

"**PRIMARY LANGUAGE**" is that identified by the client as the language in which the client chooses to communicate.

"**PROPHYLAXIS**" is any substance or steps taken to prevent something from happening.

"**PUBLIC RECORD,**" for the purpose of public disclosure, includes any writing containing information relating to the conduct of government or the performance of any governmental or proprietary function prepared, owned, used, or retained by any state or local agency regardless of physical form or characteristics. **RCW 42.17.020(29)**

"**RECEPTION**" - For the purposes of Reception, the following definitions apply:

1. **Client** - Any person requesting or receiving services in CA offices.
2. **Financial Service** - Any inquiry for financial, medical, and/or food stamp benefits will be referred to the appropriate Community Services Office (CSO). Exception: A request for medical coverage for a child receiving adoption support or foster care payment from another state is referred to a social worker.
3. **Limited English Proficiency (LEP)** - A person who speaks or reads little or no English.
4. **Sensory Impaired (SI)** - A person who has little or no sight and/or little or no hearing.
5. **Social Service** - A service provided by the agency to meet a client's need; e.g., foster home licensing, Child Protective Services (CPS), Child Welfare Services (CWS), Child Day Care financial support, adoptions, Family Reconciliation Services (FRS), licensing for private agencies.

"**REGULATED WASTE**" means liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials; contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps; and pathological and microbiological wastes containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.

"**SENSORY IMPAIRED**" means hard-of-hearing, deaf, partially sighted, or blind.

"**SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE**" (STD) - a bacterial, viral, fungal, or parasitic disease or condition which is usually transmitted through sexual contact. A list of STDs appears in WAC 246.100.011(33).

"**SHARPS**" means any object that can penetrate the skin including, needles, broken glass, etc.

"**STANDARD PRECAUTIONS-** The term "Standard Precautions" (formerly referred to as Universal Precautions) refers to precautions that must be undertaken in any environment in which a person might be exposed to a communicable disease. According to OSHA (*U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration*), "this method of infection control requires employees to assume that **all** human blood and specified body fluids are infectious for HIV, HBV and other blood borne pathogens. Where differentiation of types of body fluids is difficult or impossible, **all** body fluids **are** to be considered as **potentially infectious**."

"**SUB-RECIPIENT**" means any person, governmental organization, or non-profit agency receiving qualified federal financial assistance from DSHS and to whom DSHS delegates the federal program policy and authorization responsibility.

"**TRANSLATOR**" is a person highly competent in reading and writing English and other languages.

"**UNDOCUMENTED INDIVIDUAL**" is anyone in the boundaries of the United States without a visa, work permit, alien status documentation (such as status granted by the Immigration Reform and Control Act) that grants temporary or extended visitation or residence.

"**UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS**" is an approach to infection control. According to the concept of Universal Precautions, all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, and other blood borne pathogens. Universal precautions do not apply to feces, nasal secretions, sputum, sweat, tears, urine, or vomit unless they contain visible blood.

“**WRITING**,” for purposes of public disclosure, means handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing, and every other means of recording any form of communication or representation, including, but not limited to, letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or combination thereof, and all papers, maps, magnetic or paper tapes, photographic films and prints, motion picture, film or video recordings, magnetic or punched cards, discs, drums, diskettes, sound recordings, and other documents including existing data compilations from which information may be obtained or translated. **RCW 42.17.020**