

FFPSA & Claiming Update

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Highlights

Family First Prevention Service Act (FFPSA)

Family First Community-Based Pathway (FFCBP) Design & Development

FFPSA Claiming



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FFPSA is a Funding Source

to support DCYF prevention efforts
to prevent entry or re-entry into foster care

FFPSA

- Federal Law signed on Feb. 9, 2018
- Aims to transform the child welfare system

New opportunity for Title IV-E Federal Reimbursement to include funding for prevention services that strengthen families so children can safely remain with their parents and caregivers.

Requirements

- Federally-approved state prevention plan
- Evidence-Based Practices approved by the Title IV-E Clearinghouse or
- A culturally-responsive Tribal preventive service when a Tribal Title IV-E agreement exists with DCYF
- Federal reporting requirements from child welfare case management system.



FFPSA Prevention Plan

In December 2024, DCYF submitted a new five-year State Prevention Plan with the updated add-ons:

- New Evidence Based Programs (EBPs), such as those more recently added to the Clearinghouse
- New eligible service populations
- Tribal Nation service flexibility for those Tribes with IV-E agreements
- Further detail on the vision for Family First community-based pathways

Family First Community-Based Pathways

A collaborative, prevention-focused system designed to connect families with culturally responsive, locally driven supports and Family First-funded services delivered by trusted community organizations who are not connected to the child welfare system.

DCYF **is building** the infrastructure for community-based pathways.

Community-Based Pathways

Plan of SafeCare (POSC)

A direct **community** referral pathway that connects substance exposed infants (with no safety identified safety concern) and their birthing parents to Help Me Grow Washington and other support services.

Support services and navigation for substance using pregnant people who **screen out** at intake.

Community-Based Family Reconciliation Services (CBFRS)

A **community-based** FRS pilot model co-designed to champion greater understanding on the elements necessary to expand CBFRS setting the stage for alignment with FFPSA claiming requirements.

Consistent with intent of 2022 FRS Proviso ([SB 5693](#) Sec 230(22)) and [Co-design recommendations](#)

Family Resource Centers (FRC)

Community-based hubs that provide select high-need families with access to a wide range of supportive services, resources, and programs aimed at promoting family stability, strengthening parenting skills, and fostering overall well-being.

Focus on high-mod/high risk families right now churning at front end of child welfare; and/or screened out referrals



FFPSA Claiming

From DCYF Decision Packages:

“DCYF is currently undergoing development of a Comprehensive Child Welfare System (CCWIS) that will comply with the US Department of Health & Human Services’ (HHS) Office of the Administration for Children & Families (ACF) Final Rule on Comprehensive Child Welfare information Systems, providing a case management information system that state and tribal Title IV-E agencies may develop to support their child welfare program needs. The CCWIS project is projected to be completed by June 30, 2029 (FY 29) and at that time when DCYF is at full system implementation in FY30, the agency will have the opportunity to leverage Title IV_E federal matching prevention funding through the FFPSA to prevent out of home placements for at-risk foster care candidates.”

- For budget planning purposes, FFPSA Claiming must be linked to CCWIS development.
- Agency still unwinding early premature budget assumptions about FFPSA claiming.

