

2011 Realignment

This section provides high-level summaries of the realigned programs, estimated caseloads for programs or services, histories of rate changes, links to other related information in the 2014-15 Governor’s Budget binder and links to the CDSS website.

SUMMARY OF 2011 REALIGNMENT:

In FY 2011-12, state funding for the following programs was realigned to the counties: AAP; FC; CWS; CAPIT and APS.

Authorizing legislation included AB 118 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2011) and ABX1 16 (Chapter 13, First Extraordinary Session, Statutes of 2011), which also established the LRF. SB 1020 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2012) established the Support Services Account by revising the provisions of AB 118 and ABX1 16. Specified tax revenues are now redirected to the counties’ LRF Protective Services Subaccount of the Support Services Account on an ongoing basis.

EXPENDITURE DATA AND DESCRIPTIONS FOR REALIGNED PROGRAMS:

SB 1013 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012) required CDSS to annually report to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature, and publicly post on CDSS’ Internet website, a summary of outcome and expenditure data that allows for monitoring of changes over time that may have occurred as a result of 2011 Realignment on the child welfare system. The report can be found on CDSS website: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/PG2800.htm>

The ESTIMATE METHODOLOGIES section in the 2013 November Estimates binder under “Realigned Programs” pages 155-159 provide the details of FY 2011-12 base year costs for the 2011 Realignment funding and also reflects updated assumptions for the federal, county and reimbursement funding.

Descriptions for each of the realigned premises from the 2011 May Revision are available at: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/pdf/2011MayRevisionRealignedPremises.pdf>. These premises provide full descriptions, methodologies and funding for the FY 2011-12 realigned programs.

SUMMARY OF REALIGNED PROGRAMS:

AAP AND FC PROGRAM:

The following two tables provide a history of AAP and FC rates over a select number of years and the projected caseload by program type for the 2011 May Revision base year, FY 2013-14, and FY 2014-15. Summary program descriptions follow the tables.

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AAP AND FC PROGRAM (CONTINUED):

FC BUDGETED AVERAGE GRANT BY PLACEMENT TYPE

The FFH, FFA, GH and AAP grants reflect the combined average federal and nonfederal amounts.

	FYs						
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11¹	2011-12²	2012-13³	2013-14	2014-15
FFH	\$688.33	\$729.59	\$753.96	\$905.40	\$932.03	\$954.21	\$982.65
FFA	1,792.70	1,778.74	1,789.32	1,642.66	2,002.94	2,083.03	2,145.11
GH	5,174.68	5,380.43	7,103.14	7,259.46	7,737.22	8,006.40	8,245.04
AAP	777.85	780.14	834.31	847.89	902.02	933.33	961.14

¹ The GH rate increased overall by 32 percent beginning December 14, 2009, with CNI increases every July thereafter.

² The basic rate component of the FFH rate increased by 31 percent beginning May 1, 2011, with CNI increases every July thereafter. The basic rate component for prospective AAP cases increased by 31 percent beginning May 1, 2011 for prospective and current AAP cases, with CNI increases every July thereafter.

³ The basic rate component of the FFA rate increased by 31 percent beginning July 1, 2012, with CNI increases every July thereafter.

FC 58 COUNTY CASELOAD FORECAST

	Base Year	2013 November Forecast			
	FY 2011-12	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Change (BY – CY)	
		CY	BY	Caseload	%
Total FC Caseload	45,857	41,926	40,129	-1,797	-4.29%
FFH	23,446	23,792	23,194	-598	-2.51%
FFA	15,378	12,187	11,379	-808	-6.63%
GH	7,033	5,947	5,556	-391	-6.57%
AAP Caseload	86,393	84,535	84,961	426	0.50%

Caseload trends for AAP and FC are shown under the caseload tabs on pages 35-36 and pages 25-32 respectively of the 2013 November Estimates binder.

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AAP:

Authority: W&IC sections 16115 through 16123.

An overview of the AAP program is provided on pages 1-2 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on page 1 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in the 2013 November Estimates binder.

The AAP funding reflects the basic cost of providing financial support to families adopting a child with special needs. The AAP benefit is limited to the age-related FFH basic rate for which the child would otherwise be eligible. Additionally, the grant cost for a child entering the AAP on or after January 1, 2010, is frozen at the level provided at entry, i.e., no increases are provided based on an increase in age.

AGENCY ADOPTIONS PROGRAM:

The Adoptions Program is comprised of both Agency (Relinquishment) and Independent Adoptions Programs, however only Agency Adoptions were realigned. Agency Adoptions funding is provided for adoption placements through a licensed adoption agency for children who have been relinquished by their parent(s) and/or the parental rights have been terminated by a court action due to abuse or neglect.

Authority: W&IC sections 16100 through 16106.

An overview of the Agency Adoptions Program is provided on pages 3-4 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on pages 3-4 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in the 2013 November Estimates binder.

FC PROGRAM:

Estimated realignment expenditures for FY 2013-14 and FY 2014-15 by funding source are shown in the premise write up, "Realigned Programs", on pages 155-159 of ESTIMATE METHODOLOGIES in the 2013 November Estimates binder. Federal and nonfederal average grant computations utilize caseload and expenditure data reported by the counties on the CA 237 FC Report.

An overview of the FC program is provided on pages 19-20 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on pages 23-25 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in the 2013 November Estimates binder.

Summary descriptions of the types of FC placements are shown below.

FFHs

- Authority: W&IC section 11461.
- Provide 24-hour care and supervision in a family environment for children who cannot live in their own homes.
- Capacity of six or less.
- Licensed by the state or county CCL agencies or are approved homes of relatives or nonrelated legal guardians.

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FC PROGRAM (CONTINUED):

- Reimbursement rates range from \$657 to \$820 per month based on the age of the child in placement. A SCI may be paid to a family home in addition to the basic rate on behalf of a federal AFDC-FC child requiring specialized care because of health and/or behavioral problems. A county clothing allowance may also be paid by counties in addition to the basic rate on behalf of an AFDC-FC eligible child.

FFAs

- Authority: W&IC sections 11463 and 18358.3.
- Nonprofit agencies licensed to recruit, certify, train and support foster parents for children needing placement.
- Primarily serve children who would otherwise require GH care.
- The FFA treatment rates are established by using a basic rate similar to the FFH rate plus a set increment for the special needs of the child, an increment for social work activities and a percentage for administration, recruitment and training. Reimbursement rates range from \$1,714 to \$1,977 per month based on the age of the child in placement. Reimbursement rates for Intensive Treatment FC Program range from \$4,090 to \$5,637 per month based on the level of services provided to the child.

GHs

- Authority: W&IC section 11462.
- Private nonprofit non-detention facilities that provide services in a group setting to children in need of care and supervision.
- This is the most restrictive out-of-home placement for children in FC, providing an option for children with significant emotional or behavioral problems who would otherwise require more restrictive environments.
- Reimbursement rates range from \$2,282 to \$9,669 per month based on the RCL, 1-14.

CWS PROGRAM:

CWS CASELOAD FORECAST

The caseload components of the CWS program are: ER, ERA, FM, FR and PP. Caseload trends are shown under the caseload tab on pages 17-24 in the 2013 November Estimates binder.

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CWS PROGRAM (CONTINUED):

	Base Year	2013 November Forecast			
	FY 2011-12	FY 2013-14 CY	FY 2014-15 BY	Change (BY – CY)	
				Caseload	%
Total CWS Caseload	136,433	136,172	135,669	-503	-0.37%
ER	39,896	39,770	39,840	70	0.18%
ERA	16,162	18,261	18,825	564	3.09%
FM	23,257	23,573	23,044	-529	-2.24%
FR	21,644	22,309	22,766	457	2.05%
PP	35,474	32,259	31,194	-1,065	-3.30%

Authority: W&IC sections 16500 and 11461(e)(4)(B).

An overview of the CWS programs is provided on pages 15-16 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on pages 19-21 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in the 2013 November Estimates binder. The CWS delivered primarily through the counties are listed below.

- The ER services consist of a response system that provides in-person response, when required, to reports of child abuse, neglect or exploitation for the purpose of investigation and to determine the necessity for providing initial intake services and crisis intervention to maintain the child safely in his/her home or to protect the safety of the child.
- The ERA is the initial intake service provided in response to reported allegations of child abuse, neglect or exploitation that is determined, based upon an evaluation of risk, to be inappropriate for an in-person investigation.
- The FM is designed to provide time-limited protective services to prevent or remedy neglect, abuse or exploitation for the purpose of preventing separation of children from their families. The CWDs are responsible for determining the specific service needs of the child and family aimed at sustaining the child from the home.
- The FR is designed to provide time-limited protective services to prevent or remedy neglect, abuse or exploitation when the child cannot safely remain at home. The CWDs are responsible for determining the specific service needs of the child and/or family aimed at reunifying the child with the family.
- The PP is designed to provide an alternative permanent family structure for children who because of abuse, neglect or exploitation cannot safely remain at home and who are unlikely to ever return home. The CWDs are responsible for determining the appropriate permanent goal for the child and facilitating the implementation of that goal. These goals are defined as guardianship, adoption or long-term placement.

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CAPIT PROGRAM:

Authority: W&IC sections 18960 through 18965.

The purpose of the federal CAPTA of 1974 (PL 93-247) and subsequent amendments was to provide funding to the states in a basic state grant that targets statewide improvements in areas such as: expanding risk and safety assessments; assessing families' needs for services; and strengthening linkages between CWS, public health, mental health, and developmental disabilities agencies to screen children ages 0-5 years who have come to the attention of child protective services and are in need of early intervention services. Funds are also used to enhance the capacity of family resource centers and family support programs to provide services to strengthen families, and to provide training on the assessment and developmental interventions for high-risk, medically fragile newborns. The Act consists of two parts: Title 1, General Program and Title 2, the CBCAP Program.

The CAPIT program was originally established by AB 1733 (Chapter 1398, Statutes of 1982) to promote prevention and intervention services for children at risk of abuse and/or neglect. These funds are also used to fulfill federal CBCAP grant matching and leveraging requirements. With the passage of SB 1013 that implemented the 2011 Realignment, counties are no longer required to contract for services and may now use the realigned CAPIT funds in-house to provide direct services (such as home visiting, counseling, etc.) to the target population as long as federal match requirements continue to be met.

APS:

Authority: W&IC section 13004 through 13007 as related to the CSBG; commencing with W&IC section 15600 as related to the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection and APS.

The APS program provides assistance to elderly and dependent adults who are functionally impaired, unable to meet their own needs, and who are victims of abuse, neglect or exploitation. SB 2199 (Chapter 946, Statutes of 1998), established a statewide mandated APS program and provided funds for expanded APS activities. It required the reporting of elder dependent adult abuse on a 24-hour ER basis, completing investigation and needs assessments and providing case management services. SB 2199 also required the provision of necessary tangible resources such as food, emergency shelter care, in-home protection, transportation and the use of multidisciplinary teams.