



WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

August 6, 2015

ERRATA

COUNTY FISCAL LETTER (CFL) NO. 14/15-63E

TO: COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS
COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
COUNTY AUDITOR CONTROLLERS

SUBJECT: ADOPTIONS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) DE-LINK SAVINGS

REFERENCE: [CFL NO. 14/15-63, DATED MAY 21, 2015](#);
[CFL NO. 14/14-17, DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2015](#)

The purpose of this erratum is to provide clarifying instructions regarding the reporting of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 AAP De-link savings.

Background

Per CFL No. 14/15-63:

“Effective October 1, 2014, [H.R. 4980 Section 206](#) requires not less than 30 percent of the total de-link savings each year to be spent on post adoption services, post guardianship services, and services to support and sustain positive permanent outcomes for children who otherwise might enter into Foster Care under the responsibility of the State. Of that 30 percent, two-thirds (which equates to 20 percent of the total de-link savings), must be spent on post adoption services and post guardianship services and documented as such. The remaining one-third of the 30 percent (which equates to 10 percent of the total de-link savings), must be spent on services to support and sustain positive permanent outcomes for children who otherwise might enter Foster Care. The remaining 70 percent of the total de-link savings should be spent on Foster Care and adoptions services pursuant to Title IV-B and Title IV-E.”

While CFL No. 14/15-63 correctly indicates H.R. 4980 reporting requirements beginning with FY 2014-15, those reporting requirements do not apply to FY 2013-14 as implied in the letter and indicated on Attachment III of CFL No. 14/15-63. The FYs 2012-13 and 2013-14 are not affected by H.R. 4980 and do not have the reinvestment requirements

that take effect for FY 2014-15. Prior to H.R. 4980, the “Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-351)” mandated Title IV-E agencies spend any Local Revenue Fund (LRF)/county savings generated from implementing the revised adoption assistance eligibility criteria on child welfare services that may be provided under Title IV-B and Title IV-E. This would allow counties more flexibility for reinvestment for FY 2012-13 and 2013-14.

Reporting Instructions

For FY 2013-14 reporting, counties should use the Attachment (Adoption Assistance Program [AAP] De-link Savings and Reinvestment Reporting Form) of this Erratum. If counties have already submitted Attachment III of CFL No. 14/15-63 for FY 2013-14 reinvestment savings, it is not required to re-submit the same information on the Attachment of this CFL. If counties have already submitted Attachment III of CFL No.14/15-63 and wish to re-submit FY 2013-14 reinvestment information, please report using the Attachment of this CFL.

A forthcoming CFL will be released with final FY 2014-15 savings amounts as well as an updated form to report the FY 2014-15 savings according to the H.R. 4980 requirements.

In order for counties to certify how the LRF/county savings were reinvested and/or how they will be reinvested going forward, the Attachment of this CFL needs to be submitted to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) at the address below. Please note, the LRF/county savings from any fiscal year do not have to be reinvested within that fiscal year. However, in compliance with the provision of Foster Care and adoption services as stated in [Welfare and Institutions Code \(W&IC\) section 16118\(d\) and \(f\)](#) and [W&IC section 16132](#), counties are required to report annually to CDSS how the LRF/county savings were reinvested, including expenditures for post-adoption services. The Attachment for FY 2013-14 is due by August 31, 2015. If the LRF/county savings are not reinvested within two years, the counties must provide an explanation on the Attachment of this CFL.

California Department of Social Services
Attn: Adoptions Services Bureau
Children’s Services Operations & Evaluation Branch
744 P Street, Mail Station 8-12-31
Sacramento, CA 95814

Please note, the Attachment for FY 2013-14 is due by August 31, 2015. Accurate and timely reporting is necessary for the efficient administration of Title IV-E funds.

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Questions regarding this CFL should be directed to fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov.
Questions regarding the certification requirement may be directed to the Adoptions
Services Bureau at (916) 651-8089 or emailed to Marta.Platt@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

LILIA A. YOUNG, Chief
Fiscal Forecasting and Policy Branch

Attachment

**Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) De-link
Savings and Reinvestment Reporting Form**

The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-351) mandates Title IV-E agencies spend any Local Revenue Fund (LRF)/county savings generated from implementing the revised adoption assistance eligibility criteria on child welfare services that may be provided under Title IV-B and Title IV-E. Title IV-E agencies need to report the amount of LRF/county savings and how the funds are being reinvested, to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). The [Welfare and Institutions Code \(W&IC\) section 16118\(d\)](#) implements the reporting requirement. Under 2011 Realignment, the LRF/county savings accrued required the County Welfare Department (CWD) to provide county-specific information on how the funds were reinvested in order to meet the federal reporting requirements per [W&IC section 16118\(d\)](#). The CWD is required to report to CDSS: the amount of savings; how the savings are reinvested; and how the savings are being reinvested on child welfare related services, specific to Title IV-B and Title IV-E State Plans. If savings are not reinvested within two years, the counties must indicate a reason.

Provide responses to the following questions, for the time period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, and submit the responses to the Adoptions Services Bureau at the following address, **by August 31, 2015**:

California Department of Social Services
Attn: Adoptions Services Bureau
Children's Services Operations & Evaluation Branch
744 P Street, Mail Station 8-12-31
Sacramento, CA 95814

1. County: _____
2. Contact: _____
3. Number: _____
4. Email Address: _____
5. Total County Fund Savings: \$ _____
(To be provided by California Department of Social Services)
6. The amount of savings reinvested in the below programs and the activities provided:
 - a. Foster Care: \$ _____
Activities: _____

**Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) De-link
Savings and Reinvestment Reporting Form**

b. Adoption: \$ _____

Activities: _____

c. Post Adoption Services: \$ _____

Activities: _____

COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury, that I am the official responsible for the administration of the public welfare programs in said county; that I have not violated any of the provisions of Sections 1090 to 1096, inclusive, of the Government Code; that the activities reported herein comply with the AAP de-link savings expenditure provisions of Sections 16118 and 16132 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

Signature of County Welfare Director	Date
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Questions regarding the certification requirement may be directed to the Adoptions Services Bureau at (916) 651-8089 or emailed to Marta.Platt@dss.ca.gov.