

May 6, 2026

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COUNTY FISCAL LETTER NO. 25/26-81

This annual letter provides County Welfare Departments (CWDs) and County Probation Departments (CPDs) with information on the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements related to the prevention services program under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, established by Part I of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026.



JENNIFER TROIA
DIRECTOR

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



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

May 6, 2026

COUNTY FISCAL LETTER (CFL) NO. 25/26-81

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

SUBJECT: TITLE IV-E PREVENTION SERVICES PROGRAM
MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE) REQUIREMENTS AND
MEETING THE BASE MOE REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL
FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2026

REFERENCE: [FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT \(FFPSA\), AS
CONTAINED IN THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2018;
PUBLIC LAW \(PL\) 115-123;
TITLE 42 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION
671\(e\)\(7\)\(C\);
ASSEMBLY BILL 153 \(CHAPTER 86, STATUTES OF 2021\);
WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTIONS 16585-
16589;
ADMINISTRATION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES
\(ACYF\), CHILDREN'S BUREAU PROGRAM INSTRUCTION \(PI\)
18-09;
ACYF CHILD WELFARE POLICY MANUAL SECTION 8.1D;
ALL COUNTY LETTER \(ACL\) 21-47; CFL 24/25-81, CFL 24/25-71,
CFL 23/24-79, CFL 20/21-96](#)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this annual CFL is to notify counties of the MOE requirements for the Title IV-E prevention services program under the FFPSA for FFY 2026. Additionally, this CFL reminds counties of the importance of continuing to meet MOE requirements for future FFYs.

BACKGROUND

Part I of the FFPSA contained in [PL 115-123](#) authorized new, federal Title IV-E funding that may be used to fund time-limited foster care prevention services for children at imminent risk of entry or reentry into foster care who are identified as “candidates for foster care”, pregnant or parenting foster youth, and/or their parents or kin caregivers. In order for Title IV-E agencies to draw down Title IV-E funds for allowable services and administrative costs under the Title IV-E prevention services program, counties are required to meet a statewide MOE, which was calculated based on specified expenditures made in FFY 2014.

The [CFL 20/21-96](#) provided counties with MOE requirements and reporting instructions for the Title IV-E prevention services program established by FFPSA Part I. The 16 responding county agencies reported allowable expenditures resulting in a \$2.6 million MOE requirement for California.

TITLE IV-E PREVENTION SERVICES MOE REQUIREMENTS FOR FFY 2026

A certification page to report the dollar amount for FFY 2026 MOE eligible expenditures has been included as Attachment I. This page should be signed by the county's Authorized Signature Designee. The Authorized Signature Designee is an individual designated on the Authorized Signature form, as discussed in [CFL 24/25-71](#). These certification pages shall be signed and returned by November 13, 2026, to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) at the FFPSApreventionservices@dss.ca.gov inbox.

TITLE IV-E PREVENTION SERVICES MOE REQUIREMENTS FOR FFY 2026 AND FUTURE FFYS

California must continue to meet these MOE requirements to maintain eligibility to draw down federal funds for the Title IV-E prevention services program. To avoid falling short of the statewide MOE for the Title IV-E prevention services program, as the administrators of Title IV-E prevention services, counties should report any/all eligible expenditures to CDSS. An annual CFL will be issued requesting the 16 originally responding county agencies to certify the county agency's expenditures towards meeting the MOE requirement. The original 16 county agencies, and the MOE base requirement expenditures, are listed in Attachment I of [CFL 23/24-79](#). If any of the original 16 county agencies are unable to maintain the expenditures previously reported to CDSS, additional expenditures from other county agencies will need to be reported and reviewed to ensure that MOE requirements are met to continue to draw down Title IV-E funds for FFPSA prevention services. Further information regarding this process will be released if necessary.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions concerning FFPSA Part I should be directed to FFPSAPreventionServices@dss.ca.gov. Fiscal questions associated with this CFL should be directed to fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

KIRA YOUNGER
Deputy Director
Finance and Accounting Division

Attachment

Title IV-E Prevention Services Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Certification

This certification page shall be signed and returned by November 13, 2026, to the California Department of Social Services at the FFPSApreventionservices@dss.ca.gov inbox.

1. County Agency: _____

2. Contact: _____ 3. Phone Number: _____

4. Email Address: _____

5. Expenditures of total Title IV-E prevention services MOE for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026.

\$

COUNTY AGENCY CERTIFICATION

Per Section 200.415(b) of [Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations](#), I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information provided herein is true, complete, and accurate. I am aware that the provision of false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative consequences including, but not limited to the violations and consequences described in [1001](#), and [1348](#), of Title 18 of the United States (U.S.) Code, and of Title 31 of the U.S. Code.

Furthermore, I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury:

- that I have not violated any of the provisions of sections 1090 to 1096, inclusive, of the Government Code;
- that the expenditures reported herein comply with the requirements of the Title IV-E prevention services program under the Family First Prevention Services Act as established by Public Law 115-123;
- that said county agrees to certify county's expenditures towards meeting the MOE requirement for FFY 2026.

Signature of Authorized Signature Designee	Date
Email address	Contact Number

Authorized Signature Designee is an individual designated on the Authorized Signature form, as discussed in [CFL 24/25-71](#).