# 2019 Policy Cliff Notes & FSFN Enhancements

Jennifer W. Perez Statewide Revenue Maximization Specialist Office of Child Welfare

### Chapter 1 Section 1-6

- Fiscal Charge
  - Client payments must be documented in FSFN (as the state's CCWIS) as defined in the CBC Cost Allocation Plan.
  - CBC's must follow guidance as outlined in the FSFN Payment Reference Guide for setting up Service Types in FSFN.



# Chapter 1 Section 1-7

### Definitions

- <u>Date Court Proceedings Initiated</u>: The date the petition/motion is filed with the court as to the removal of the child. If a petition/motion is not filed or is filed after the removal court order, the date is the date the court order is effective.
- Removal Home: The removal home is home of the person(s) who is(are) subject of the contrary to welfare finding or whom executed a voluntary placement agreement. The removal home is the basis for which AFDC criteria is considered as part of a Title IV-E Foster Care Eligibility Determination.

## Chapter 1 Section 1-9

### **Quality Assurance**

### **Federal Monitoring Plan**

- Due by October 15<sup>th</sup> of every year
- Approach to reviews to be completed during the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)
- Data source and when Sample will be captured for 90/10 sample size
- Qualtrics tools will be utilized

### **Federal Monitoring Report**

- Due by September 30<sup>th</sup> of every year
- Population size of each funding source and sample size
- Number of Error cases, number of Error Cases brought into compliance
- Summary of each Error Case efforts to bring file into compliance and outcome
- Recommendations and action to be take3n for improvement

## Chapter 3 Section 3-2

TANF – In Home Services

- Determination required for each child receiving services
- Due within 30 calendar days of case transfer staffing from investigations to case management

TANF - Out of Home Services

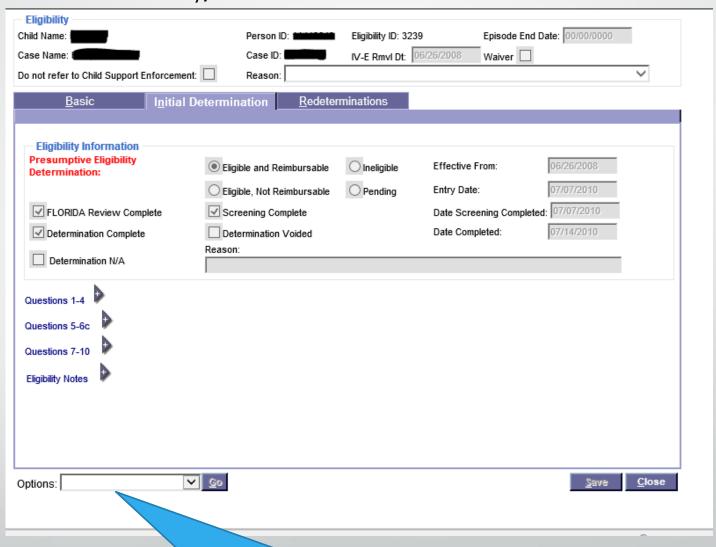
- Determination required for each child in non-licensed placements
   OR licensed care with a relative if child is IV-E Ineligible
- Due within 30 calendar days of placement

TANF – Redeterminations

• Approved within 10 calendar days of expiration of existing TANF

- Title IV-E Foster Care
  - All children in entering out-of-home care must have an Initial Title IV-E Eligibility Determination approved in FSFN
  - Due within 30 calendar days of removal

Any child with an Initial Determination completed prior to 2016 with prior FSFN functionality, determination must be Voided and reconstructed.



Key Indicator: Options Drop Down located on Bottom of Page.

- Title IV-E Foster Care Initial Determinations
  - Contrary to Welfare finding must be made in first court order sanctioning removal
  - Contrary to Welfare finding establishes the removal home
  - AFDC criteria is made as to removal home

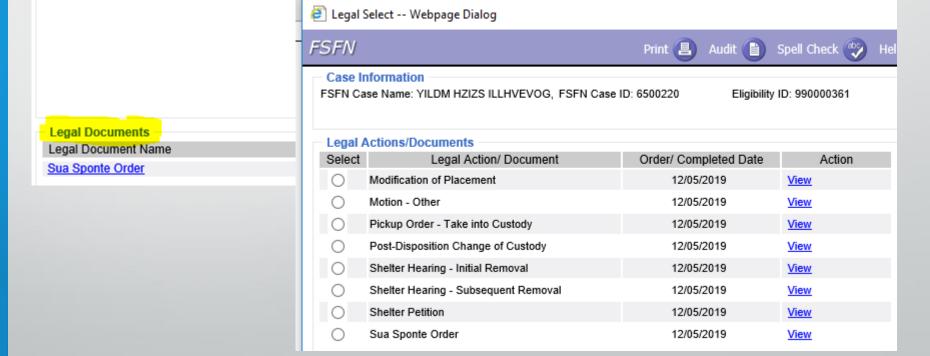


### AFDC

- Date AFDC Applies = Date Court Proceedings were Initiated
- At minimum, for every Title IV-E foster care determination, revenue maximization staff must review FLORIDA and most current FFA for information relating to the IV-E determination.
- Any instance of conflicting information shall be resolved.



Legal Select pop-up page is used to populate the Date AFDC Applies and displays LEGAL ACTIONS and one LEGAL DOCUMENT.

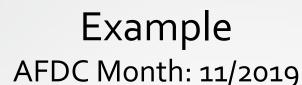


Role	Display Logic	Additional Rules
Child	Defaults for the child for whom eligibility is being determined.	
Dependent	Available for all case participants.	Only used for minor children
Household Member	Available for all case participants.	Only used for Grandparents, Parent of Non-Mutual Sibling(s)
Parent	Available if the participant is identified as Mother or Father on the Relationship tab of the Case.	Maximum of 2 participants can be identified as Parent.
Sponsor	Available only for a Case Participant not selected in the Assistance Group when another Case Participant has a Role of:  • Parent,  • Minor Parent, or  • Stepparent  and this parent is defined as an Alien.  An Alien is a Non-Qualified, Non-Citizen, or Qualified Non-Citizen if Entry Date on Person Management is less than 5 years prior to the AFDC Month.  Sponsor will only be available if the time frame is less than 3 years from the Entry Date.	Maximum of 1 participant can be identified as Sponsor.
Sponsor's Spouse	Only available if another participant has Sponsor selected and the check box is not selected.	
Stepparent	Available if the participant is identified as Stepmother or Stepfather on the Relationship tab of the Case.	Role should always be selected even if not included in AG.
Minor Parent	Available if the participant is identified as Mother or Father (on the Relationship tab of the Case) and is under the age of 18 as of the AFDC Month/Day/Year.	



- AFDC Deprivation
  - Underemployment or Unemployment must not be user selected.
  - FSFN will automatically derived reasons when two persons with the Role of Parent are selected in the Assistance Group AND criteria is met.
  - Criteria is met based on entries in the Assets and Employment pages of the parents.

- AFDC Deprivation Underemployment or Unemployment Criteria
  - Establish Principle Earner (PE) who earned greater amount in the 24-months prior to AFDC month.
  - PE must have Sufficient Work History Worked six or more calendar quarters within 13 quarters (minimum \$50 earned per quarter) from ONEYEAR of AFDC month OR received unemployment compensation within one year prior to AFDC month.
- If above met, the PE may meet one of the following:
  - \*Unemployment Not working for at least 30 days prior to AFDC month.
  - \*Underemployment
    - Working less than 100 hours in the AFDC month, or
    - •Temporary one-month increase over 100 hours but worked less than 100 hours during the prior two months and expected to work less than 100 hours in the following month



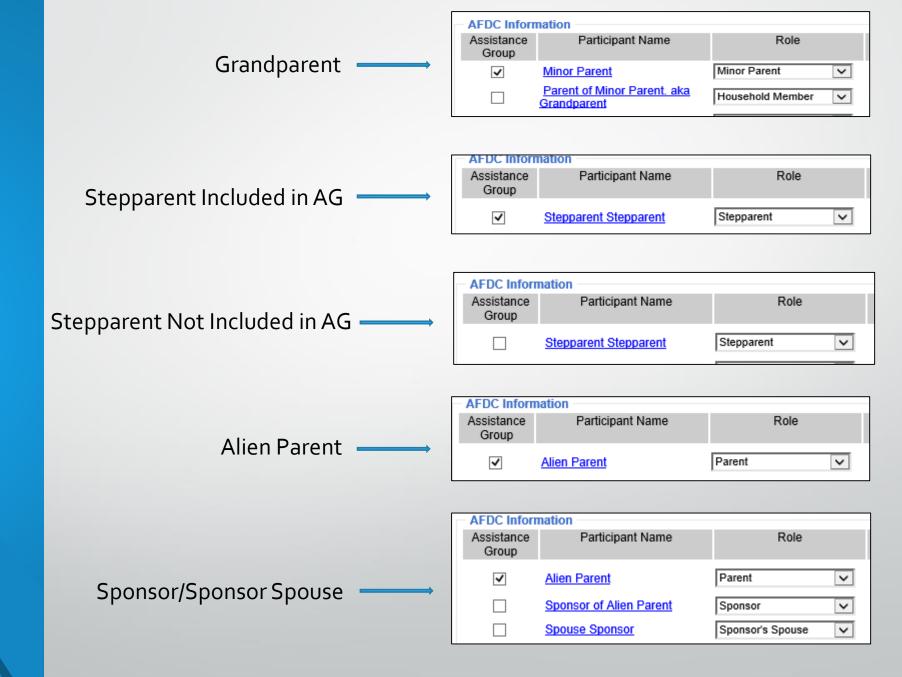




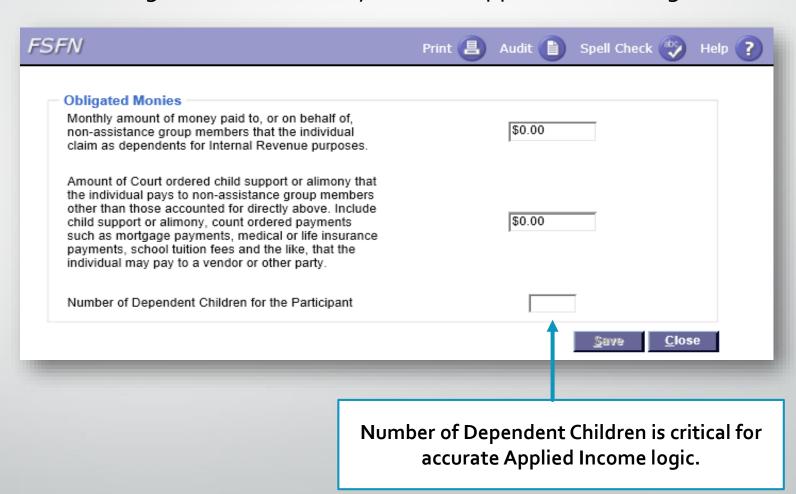
- AFDC Financial
  - FSFN two-step income and asset calculations explained in workflow on Center's website <a href="http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/kb/RevMax/AFDC-lncomeAssetsCalculationsFlowchart.pdf">http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/kb/RevMax/AFDC-lncomeAssetsCalculationsFlowchart.pdf</a>
  - Do not alter income or asset amounts from actual amounts/values



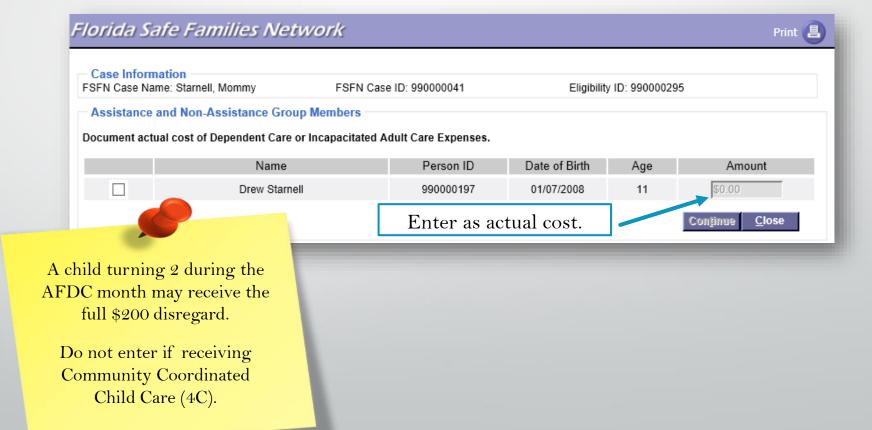
- AFDC Financial Applied Income
  - When a household member is not included in the AG nor SFU but their income shall be considered, Applied Income budgeting method is used.
    - When a Minor Parent lives with his or her parent(s) in the removal home, the income of the child's Grandparent(s) is calculated as unearned income of the Minor Parent.
    - When a Stepparent lives in the removal home but is excluded from the AG & SFU, the income of the Stepparent is calculated as unearned income of the parent in the home.
    - When a parent in the removal home does not meet citizenship criteria, the income of the Alien Parent is calculated as unearned income of the child.
    - When the Sponsor(s) of an Alien Parent reside in the removal home, the income and assets of the Sponsor and Sponsor Spouse, if applicable, is calculated as unearned income of the Alien Parent for three years following the alien parent's entry into the United States.
  - The Applied Income amount is added to Step 1 and Step 2.



Obligated Monies is only used for Applied Income logic.



- Care Expenses
  - Disregard up to \$200 per child under the age of two or up to \$175 per child age 2 or older.
    - Child care must be necessary for the parent to maintain employment.
    - The child in need of care must be under age 13, or physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself, or be under court supervision and in the assistance group



- Reimbursability
  - If a child is placed in a foster home or facility whose license expires or Safety Requirements not met during the month, Title IV-E reimbursement may be claimed for the full month, provided all other eligibility factors are met.
    - Title IV-E reimbursement may resume for the month in which the facility or placement becomes fully licensed or Safety Requirements met.
  - If a child placed in a foster home or facility is absent for a portion of the month, not to exceed 14 days, and the placement with the same provider continues after the brief absence, a full month of foster care maintenance payment may be claimed. If the absence exceeds 14 days, the claim must be prorated.

- FSFN Documentation Initial Determination
  - The following modules must be completed for the assistance group members:
    - Person Management
    - Education Record (under 18)
    - Maintain Case (Relationship tab)
    - Assets & Employment
      - Eff. Start Date & Effective From must reflect the date in which the first payment was received and the FSFN fields of Eff. End Date and Effective To dates must reflect the date in which the last payment was received.
      - Employment earned twice a month shall be entered as the 1st and 15th or 15th and last day of the month.

Critical when payment first or last received in AFDC month!

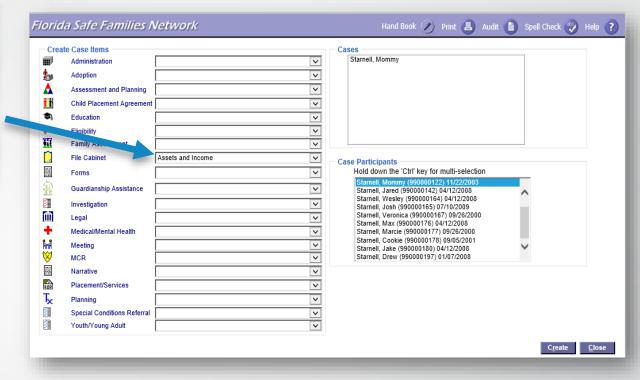
- FSFN Documentation Initial Determination
  - Prior to utilizing the Unable to Obtain Income/Asset Verification functionality, revenue maximization staff, at minimum, must document the utilization of the following methods:
    - seek self-declaration from the income/asset holder,
    - review of FLORIDA system,
    - review of SUNTAX system,
    - review of Family Functionality Assessment (FFA),
    - review of Investigative TANF,
    - review of court indigency form, and
    - review of FSFN Narratives from contacts with income/asset holder.



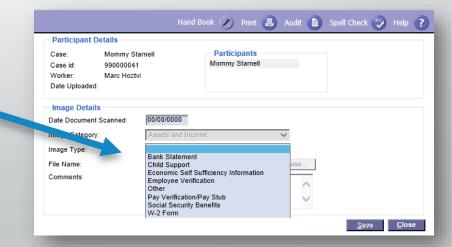
- FSFN Documentation Initial Determination
  - Revenue maximization staff shall upload financial documentation supporting the assistance group, removal home, and AFDC factors to the FSFN File Cabinet under the relevant Image Category and Image Type.
  - Then, link the documents to the IV-E Eligibility Determination using the Link Income/Asset Verification or Link Legal Document hyperlink.

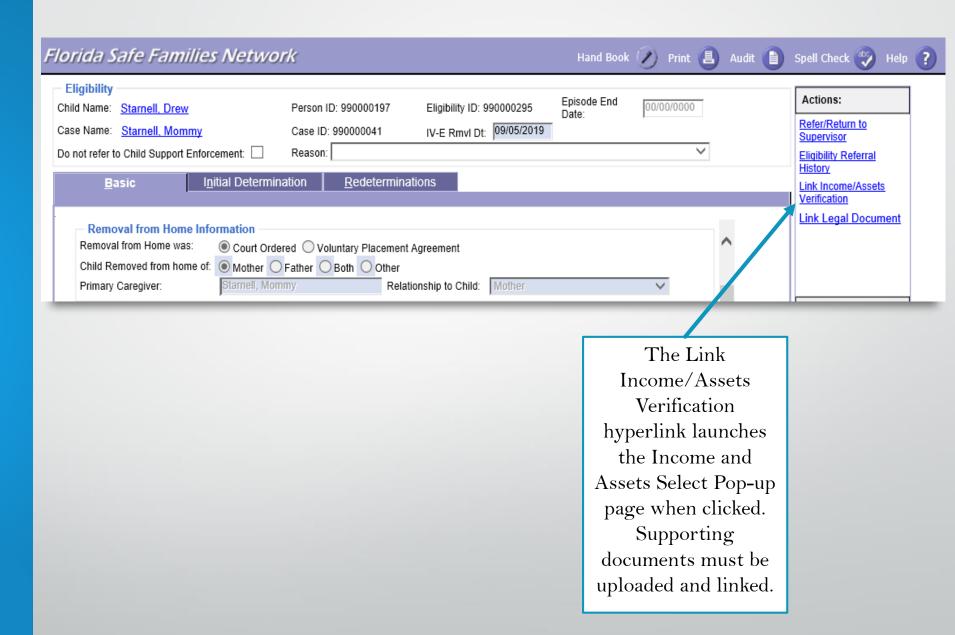
Upload supporting documentation to the file cabinet.

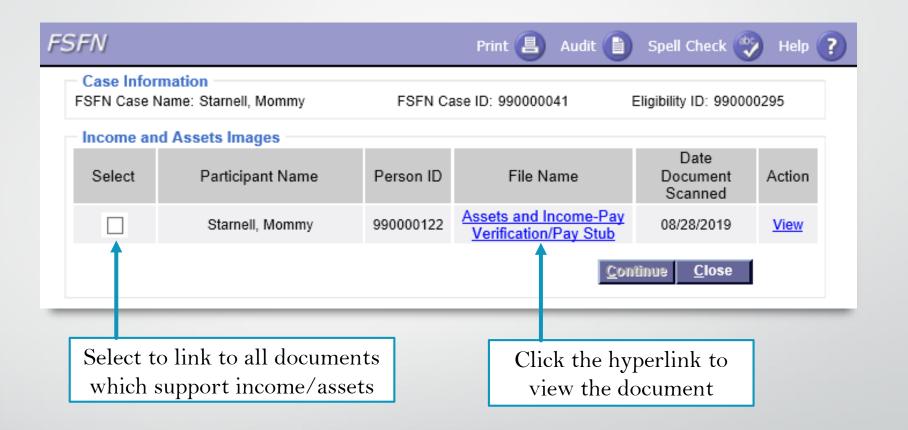
Create Case Work and select "Assets and Income".



Select the appropriate
Image Type and
attach the file.







- FSFN Documentation Redeterminations
  - For a child who is determined Title IV-E eligible, ongoing eligibility requirements must be documented in FSFN within 30 calendar days of the event.

#### Manual

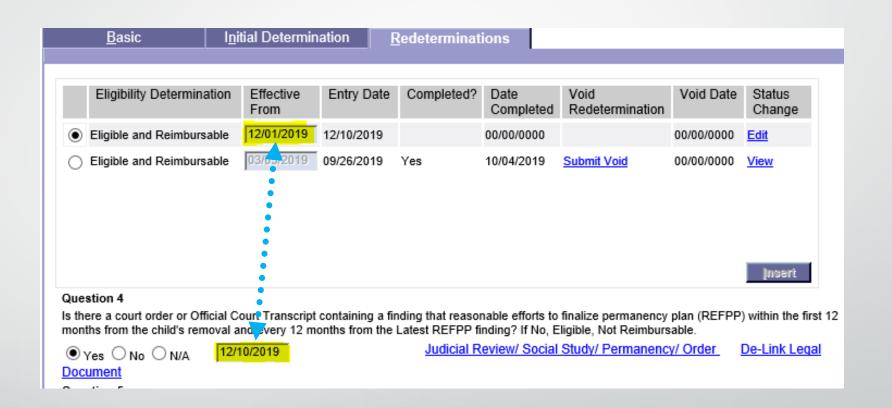
- Change in Placement and Care Responsibility
- SSI Change (Begin or Terminate)
- Reasonable Efforts to Finalize Permanency Plan (REFPP)

#### Auto

- Placement Change
  - Including Expired and Not Renewed Licensed Placement
- Non-entry of REFPP judicial finding as of the 14<sup>th</sup> month

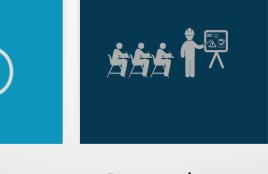
Once Initial is Approved.

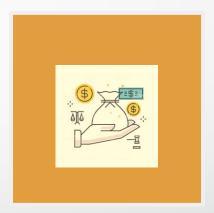
The Effective From date shall be the first day of the month.



Disregards for Step 1 @ 185%







Student Earned Income Disregard

Dependent Child Training Program Disregard

Child Support Disregard

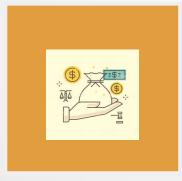
Disregards for Step 2 @ 100%







Dependent
Child Training
Program
Disregard



Child Support Disregard



Student and
Employee
Earned
Income
Disregard



Employment
Disregard
(Unless
income was
reduced
without good
cause)

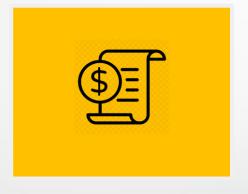


Care Expenses Disregard

Disregards for Applied Income except Sponsor/Sponsor Spouse



Employment
Disregard
(Unless income
was reduced
without good
cause)



**CNS** Disregard



Obligated Monies
Disregard

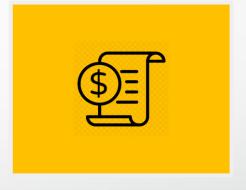
### Disregards for Applied Income of Sponsor/Sponsor Spouse



Employment
Disregard
(Unless income
was reduced
without good
cause)



20% of Total Gross Income Disregard

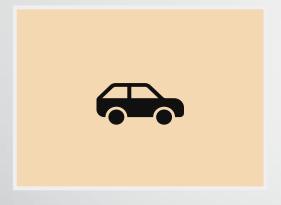


**CNS** Disregard



Obligated Monies
Disregard

Disregards for Assets



\$1500 of equity value for one qualifying vehicle per AG



\$1500 of equity value for one funeral agreement per SFU member



Primary Homestead, Real Property/Real Estate on the market and Burial Plots

Disregards for Applied Income - Sponsor/Sponsor Spouse



\$1500 of equity value for one qualifying vehicle per AG



\$1500 of equity value for one funeral agreement per SFU member

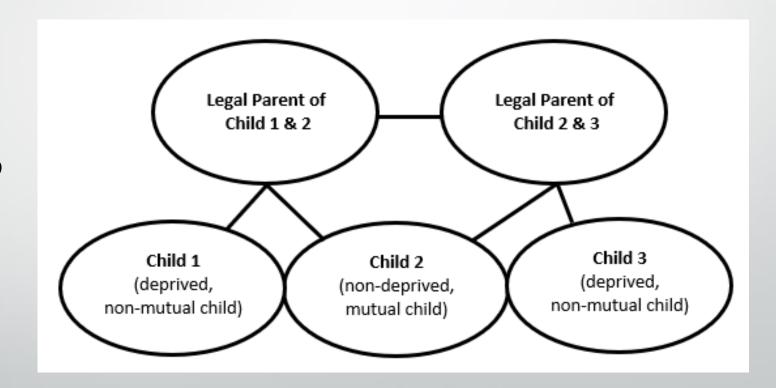


Primary
Homestead, Real
Property/Real
Estate on the
market and
Burial Plots



\$1500 Sponsor and Sponsor Spouse disregard The Assistance Group Chart provides guidance for when assistance groups should be collapsed or separated; not for single, intact families.

Chapter 4
Attachment 6





### FSFN File Cabinet Naming Convention

Document Type Image Category		Image Type	File Name Convention	
Employment Related with Earnings Information	Employment	Pay Verification/Pay Stub	Wages as of <i>MM/DD/YY</i>	
Employment Related without Earnings Information	Employment	Employee Verification	Verified Employed as of MM/DD/YY	
W-2 Form Employment W-2 Form		YYYY Wages		
Bank Statement	Income/Eligibility	Bank Statement	MM/YYYY (account type) summary	
Child Support	Income/Eligibility	Child Support	Paid to ( <i>mother/father</i> ) as of MM/YYYY	
Social Security	Income/Eligibility	Social Security Benefits	(SSI/SSDI/SSA) amount as of MM/YYYY	
FLORIDA/DEOConnect	Income/Eligibility	Economic Self Sufficiency Information	Source-describe financial information (example: FLORIDA-earned income/no assets)  Note: Use only if one FLORIDA screen identifies multiple income sources. If a single income source is identified, upload using the guidance for such income Image Type.	
Other	Income/Eligibility	Other	Clear description of document and date (example: Court Indigent Application dated MM/DD/YY)	
Proof of Citizenship	Participant Documents	Citizenship	Clear description of document (example: Permanent Resident Card-Haiti)	

# Chapter 5 Section 5-6

Eligibility For TitleIV-E Applicable Child

#### Section B (Applicable Child)

#### 4. Applicable Child Determination

Will the child meet one of the Applicable Child criteria below before the end of the federal fiscal year in which the adoption assistance agreement is signed?

4a. Age: Has the child attained or will he/she attain the applicable age any time before the end of the federal fiscal year during which the adoption assistance agreement is entered into?

Federal Fiscal Year	The applicable age is:	Federal Fiscal Year	The applicable age is:
10/01/2009 - 09/30/2010	16	10/01/2010 - 09/30/2011	14
10/01/2011 - 09/30/2012	12	10/01/2012 - 09/30/2013	10
10/01/2013 - 09/30/2014	8	10/01/2014 - 09/30/2015	6
10/01/2015 - 09/30/2016	4	10/01/2016 - 09/30/2017	2
10/01/2017 - 12/31/2017	any age	01/01/2018 - 09/30/2018	2
10/01/2018 - 09/30/2019	2	10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020	2
10/01/2020 - 09/30/2021	2	10/01/2021 - 09/30/2022	2
10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	2	10/01/2023 - 06/30/2024	2
07/01/2024 - or thereafter	any age		



The date the AAA is entered is critical to determine whether the child is applicable or non-applicable.

Florida Safe Families Net	work		Hand Book 📝 Print 📳
Child Information			
Age and Question 1 are		Child Name: <u>Starnell, Andrew</u>	
based on the Effective Date.	3: 04/12/2008	Age: 11	Worker: Wzimvoo, Kellie S
Eligibility Information       IV-E Foster Care Eligibility Status: Eligible	and Reimbursable		
IV-E Adoption Eligibility Status: Pendi	ng O Eligible O Ineligible	Approval Date:	Approved By:
Effective Date: 08/29/2019 Elig	ibility Voided:	Void Date:	Child is: O Applicable Not Ap
Are the required Federal and State backgr	ound checks completed and up	to date? • Yes O No	
1. Age			
Is this child under 18 years of age?	Yes O No	Was the child emancipated prior to	the date of finalization?
2. Citizenship/ Immigration Status Is the child a US citizen or qualified non-ci	tizen as defined in the Persona	Responsibility and Work Opportunity R	Reconciliation Act of 1996?
If qualified non-citizen, indicate documenta	ation supporting this status (e.g.	., 1-551):	
Adoption Assistance Agreement     Upon completion of this IV-e Adoption Eligiparent(s) and a Department representative			signed and dated by both the adoptive sidy Agreement Information

Eligibility Path for a Not Applicable Child with Special Needs 8. Eligibility Path for a Not Applicable Child with Special Needs				
Is the Not Applicable Child with special needs eligible for title IV-E subsidy?	Yes \(\cap \) No			
8.1. Child is a SSI recipient: Does documentation in agency records, dated prior to finalization finalization of adoption?	0			
8.2. Child was eligible in a prior adoption:	New logic for			
Does documentation in agency records, dated prior to finalization, show that the child was adop <b>Note:</b> This excludes international adoptions	Question 8.4.			
Was the child eligible for title IV-E Adoption Assistance in the prior adoption?				
Had a payment been made on his/her behalf?	○ Yes ● No			
8.3. Child of a minor parent: Does documentation in agency records, dated prior to finalization, show that the child minor parent was in foster care and Title IV-E foster care maintenance payment were made that covered both the minor parent and the child?  Yes  No				
8.4. Child meets Title IV-E & AFDC criteria: Does the child's removal episode meet Title IV-E Foster Care eligibility requirements?				
Was the child voluntarily relinquished to the Department or Private Agency? O Yes No Department O Private Agency				
Section D (Eligibility Screening Decision	Removed all que	stions and fields		
Is the child potentially eligible for Title IV-E adoption subsidy?	*			
If no, why is the child ineligible? associated with 8.4a on newly creat				
Is the child eligible for Non-recurring expenses of Adoption?	Adoption Eligibility pages.			
Comments:	1 6	7 7 7 7		

## Chapter 5 Section 5-6

### Policy

For permanent guardianship (PG)
 cases reinstated for the sole purpose
 of adoption by the permanent
 guardian, this determination is made
 in regard to the removal episode
 which resulted in permanent
 guardianship.

- When an OOH placement is created and the Provider ID is the same Provider ID which was tied to the PG discharge, a new Title IV-E Eligibility Determinations will not autogenerate.
- Adoption Eligibility will pull the Title IV-E Eligibility Determination completed as to the removal which discharged to PG.

## Chapter 5 Section 5-8



### Criminal Record Checks

- •Neither federal nor state funds may be used to pay adoption assistance when federally required criminal records checks are not in compliance or reveals a disqualifying offense.
  - Communication with Adoption specialists must occur to resolve background screening compliance before proceeding with Adoption Eligibility.

Eligibility Information  IV-E Foster Care Eligibility Status: Ineligible					
IV-E Adoption Eligibility Status:	Pending O Eligible O Ineligible	Approval Date:		Approved By:	
Effective Date: 09/13/2019	Eligibility Voided:	Void Date:		Child is: O Applicable Not Applicable	
Background Checks					
Are the required Federal and State	background checks completed and up to	○Yes ○No			
Section A					

Note: Section for Special Needs will not display under response entered for Background Check question.

## Chapter 8 Section 8-4

- Funding Type Determination
  - •Upon notification that GAP presumptive eligibility determination has been initiated, revenue maximization staff must complete/review the Title IV-E Eligibility Determination.
  - If the child is determined IV-E Ineligible, a TANF determination should be initiated.
  - •The eligibility determination shall be communicated to the child welfare professional within 15 calendar days of the notification.
    - •IV-E Eligible
    - TANF Eligible
    - State Funded/General Revenue
  - •The GAP TANF shall be approved within 10 calendar days from the GAA effective date.

## Chapter 8 Section 8-5 & 8-6

### GAP Payment

- If a child receives SSI, the GAP payment amount must equal zero.
- The guardian must be advised to contact the CBC in the event the child's SSI is terminated. A GAA Update shall be completed for the payment to be effective as of the date of the written request.
- A guardian shall receive a GAP payment if the child receives other Social Security Administration or third-party benefits.
- GAP payment continues through the month of the child's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday unless the child's date of birth is the first day of the month.



# Chapter 9 Section 9-5 & 9-6

- EGAP Payment
  - If a young adult receives SSI, the EGAP payment amount must equal zero.
  - The guardian must be advised to contact the CBC in the event the young adult's SSI is terminated. An EGAA Update shall be completed for the payment to be effective as of the date of the written request.
  - A guardian shall receive an EGAP payment if the young adult receives other Social Security Administration or third-party benefits.
  - EGAP payment continues through the month of the young adult's 21st birthday unless the young adult's date of birth is the first day of the month.

## Questions?