

Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention, and Support (FPRRS) Funding

The Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention, and Support (FPRRS) program¹ provides funding to county probation and child welfare departments to ensure that [foster youth](#) under their supervision can live outside of group home care (i.e., with a relative, non-related extended family member, foster family, or resource family) whenever it is in their best interest. Finding “least restrictive placements” for foster youth is not only the law,² but is also in the fiscal interest of county probation and child welfare departments. By placing more youth with families, a probation department decreases its reliance on (more expensive) group homes and short-term residential therapeutic programs (STRTPs).

In fiscal year 2016-17 the annual statewide appropriation for the FPRRS program was \$15.5 million to county probation departments and \$27.7 million to child welfare agencies, and came from the State’s General Fund.³ The same amount has been allocated for fiscal year 2017-18.⁴

This funding source can be used as a non-federal match to draw down federal reimbursement through [Title IV-E](#).⁵ The allocation for each probation department is pegged to its January 2017 group home population. Los Angeles received a \$5 million planning allocation. The remaining amount was distributed based on the percent of each county’s group home population including a multiplier based on the Rate Classification Level (RCL) one through 14 of the point-in-time caseload.⁶

Allowable expenditures for FPRRS funding include:

- Extra staffing to support youth in community-based foster care placements;
- Funding to meet the exceptional needs of youth that would normalize the youth’s experience, stabilize the placement, or enhance well-being;
- Intensive family finding, including engagement and navigation services;
- Technological or other nontraditional approaches to outreach to resource families and relatives to increase the numbers of available community-based foster care placements; and
- Child care under certain specific requirements (e.g., for youth under 13, when all caregivers in the home are working, when the child is not in school, when provided by a licensed child care provider, and other conditions).⁷

Counties receiving FPRRS funding must follow annual reporting requirements on outcomes of the funded activities.⁸

More Information

Menu of FPRRS Strategies Prepared by CWDA/CFPIC
http://www.cwda.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rss_menu_of_strategies_08_18_16.pdf

Governor's Budget 2016-17 – FPPRS Program Update

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/pdf/legislature/FPPRSProgramUpdates.pdf>

¹ Authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code § 16003.5.

² Welf. & Inst. Code § 727.1.

³ California Department of Social Services, All-County Letter No. 16-52: Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention, and Support (FPPRS) Funding Opportunity (July 14, 2016), at 4, available at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acl/2016/16-52.pdf>.

⁴ California Department of Social Services, County Fiscal Letter No. 17/18-37: Fiscal Year 2017-18 Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention, and Support for Program Planning Allocations for County Welfare and Probation Departments (Dec. 6, 2017), at 2, http://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CFL/2017-18/17-18_37.pdf?ver=2017-12-07-113005-843.

⁵ For additional claiming instructions, see County Fiscal Letter No. 16/17-34: Fiscal Year 2016-17 Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention and Support Program Allocations for County Welfare and Probation Departments (Nov. 17, 2016), at 2, available at http://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/cfl/2016-17/16-17_34.pdf.

⁶ All-County Letter 16-52, *supra* note 3; County Fiscal Letter 17/18-37, *supra* note 4.

⁷ For a full list of proposed activities, see Welf. & Inst. Code § 16003.5(a). For a list of child care conditions, see All-County Letter No. 16-52E: Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention and Support (FPPRS) Funding Opportunity (Nov. 16, 2016), at 1-2, available at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acl/2016/16-52E.pdf>.

⁸ Welf. & Inst. Code § 16003.5(c).