

OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |  
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OTDA-4037EL (Rev. 11/98)

Transmittal No: 00 LCM-7

Date: April 05, 2000

Division: OBF&DM

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Emergency Assistance to Families (EAF) for Juvenile  
Delinquents and Persons in Need of Supervision (JD/PINS)

ATTACHMENTS: None

The purpose of this LCM is to provide local districts an update on Emergency Assistance to Families funding for eligible adjudicated Juvenile Delinquents and Persons in Need of Supervision.

Background

The State Budget for 1999-2000 appropriated \$60 million in Federal funding for calendar year 1999 expenditures for EAF eligible JD/PINS youth. Federal funding for EAF JD/PINS expenditures is detailed in 99 OCFS LCM-9.

Local districts will have been paid the full appropriation of \$60 million by the end of March 2000.

The Governor's proposed State budget for 2000-01 increases the appropriation level to \$80 million in Federal funds that can be used for maintenance costs from calendar year 1999 forward and tuition costs from October 1999 forward.

Policy Implications

Under the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant, which is the funding source for these expenditures, States have one year to obligate funds with an additional one year to fully spend the obligation for non-assistance claims. While Foster Care maintenance is considered assistance, tuition for children in Foster Care voluntary institutions is not. The State obligated the \$60 million appropriation on the Federal

Fiscal Year 1999 TANF Financial Report and as previously stated will have expended this obligation six months after the close of the FFY.

Effective October 1999, Federal rules require any unobligated TANF Block Grant balances from prior FFYs to only be spent on assistance or administrative costs related to providing assistance.

#### Claiming Requirements

In order to properly report expenditures to meet Federal financial and data reporting requirements, local districts will have to segregate EAF JD/PINS maintenance costs from tuition costs effective with October 1999 expenditures. To properly report these costs, local districts should identify maintenance costs on line 12 and tuition on line 13 in Section C of the LDSS-3922 Financial Summary of Special Projects Claim Form and label them as JD/PINS TANF-EAF in the project name box of the form.

Local districts should suspend reporting of tuition costs for EAF eligible JD/PINS for expenditure periods prior to October 1999 since the appropriation is fully expended. There will be no additional appropriation, as tuition is not considered assistance under Federal TANF regulations.

To maximize Federal funding for tuition costs, expenditures for tuition for October 1999 - September 2000 should be submitted by November 3, 2000.

Districts that have already reported October - December 1999 or January or February 2000 expenditures should submit supplemental LDSS-3922s to identify maintenance and tuition costs as outlined above. The original LDSS-3922 should be reversed via a negative claim.

#### Contacts

Any questions of a fiscal nature may be directed to Mr. Roland Levie (Region I-IV) at 1-800-343-5589, extension 4-7549 (USER ID fms001) or Mr. Marvin Gold (Region V) at (212) 383-1733 (USER ID ofm270).

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