



NEW YORK STATE  
OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE  
40 NORTH PEARL STREET  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12243-0001

Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Kristin M. Proud  
Commissioner

## Local Commissioners Memorandum

### Section 1

<b>Transmittal:</b>	14-LCM-04
<b>To:</b>	Local District Commissioners
<b>Issuing Division/Office:</b>	OTDA Center for Employment and Economic Supports OCFS Division of Administration
<b>Date:</b>	April 30, 2014
<b>Subject:</b>	Flexible Fund for Family Services (FFFS) 2014 – 2015 Allocations and Child Welfare Services Thresholds
<b>Contact Person(s):</b>	OTDA FFFS Plan and TRACS 2 Susanne Haag (518) 486-6291, Susanne.Haag@otda.ny.gov Claiming – Region 1-5 – Edward Conway (518) 474-7549, Edward.Conway@otda.ny.gov Region 6 – Michael Simon (212) 961-8250, Michael.Simon@otda.ny.gov OCFS Budget – Gabrielle R. Ares (518) 474-1361 Gabrielle.Ares@ocfs.ny.gov FFFS Plan – OCFS Regional Offices
<b>Attachments:</b>	<a href="#">Attachment 1: FFFS 2014-2015 Allocations</a> <a href="#">Attachment 2: 2014-2015 Child Welfare Services Thresholds</a>
<b>Attachment Available On – Line:</b>	Yes

### Section 2

#### I. Purpose

The purpose of this Local Commissioners Memorandum (LCM) is to provide each social services district (district) with its State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2014-15 Flexible Fund for Family Services (FFFS) allocation. Additionally, the SFY 2014-15 Child Welfare Services Threshold for each district's FFFS allocation is provided.

#### II. Background

The FFFS has been enacted in the SFY 2014-15 Budget at a level of \$964,000,000, which is equivalent to the SFY 2013-14 appropriation. District allocations are the same as SFY 2013-14 allocations and are provided on Attachment 1. The FFFS provides

each district with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding to support local programming consistent with FFFS guidelines to fund services that best address the needs of TANF eligible individuals and the local community.

Districts are reminded that they will need to continue to be aware of their portion of the \$342,322,341 statewide Child Welfare Services threshold when determining how to dedicate their FFFS allocation. To the extent that districts have eligible claims, they must meet the child welfare threshold through child welfare expenditures under FFFS and FFFS funds transferred to Title XX, in order to receive 62 percent State Child Welfare Services funding for any child protective services; child preventive services (other than COPS); after care services; independent living services; and, adoption services and administration costs.

The following are counted towards a district's Child Welfare threshold:

- Child Welfare (EAF or 200%) Program,
- Child Welfare (EAF or 200%) Administration,
- Child Welfare Services Directly Funded Under FFFS,
- Title XX Below 200% Child Welfare, and
- Title XX Below 200% COPS.

The Child Welfare Services Thresholds, by district, are set forth in Attachment 2.

The United States Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families has issued TANF-ACF-IM-2014-01 providing proposed revisions to TANF Financial Data Collection. Once finalized, these revisions will require reporting of data for additional categories of expenditures, some of which are not currently captured on existing claim forms. Since the FFFS allocation is TANF funded, expenditures under this allocation will be subject to these reporting requirements. The revisions are scheduled to take effect October 1, 2014.

A forthcoming Administrative Directive (ADM) will provide districts with information, forms and full instructions for completing the SFY 2014–15 FFFS Plans and claiming instructions, including those resulting from the new TANF reporting requirements. Additionally, the ADM will include guidance on the collection of performance and accountability data.

### **III. Program Implications**

The provision of FFFS allocations and Child Welfare Services thresholds will support each district's ability to plan for program expenditures in advance of full program instructions.

#### **Issued By**

**Name:** Phyllis Morris

**Title:** Deputy Commissioner

**Division/Office:** Center for Employment and Economic Supports