

February 10, 2023

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COUNTY FISCAL LETTER NO. 22/23-49

This letter informs counties and federally recognized tribes of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support Program General Fund (GF) planning allocation. A total of approximately \$150.7 million GF is available based on the Budget Act of 2022. Of the \$150.7 million budgeted, \$750,000 has been set aside for the Center for Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support. From the remaining \$150.0 million GF, \$7.5 million is set aside for participating Tribes. The balance of \$142.5 million in one-time funding is available for distribution, as shown in the attachment.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

February 10, 2023

COUNTY FISCAL LETTER (CFL) NO. 22/23-49

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE FISCAL OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY CHILD WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
ALL FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 EXCELLENCE IN FAMILY FINDING,
ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT GENERAL FUND PLANNING
ALLOCATION

REFERENCE: [UNITED STATES CODE TITLE 25, SECTION 1919](#)
[WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTION 10553.1](#)
[BUDGET ACT OF 2022 \(ASSEMBLY BILL 179, SECTION 148,](#)
[PROVISION 32\)](#)
[ALL COUNTY LETTER \(ACL\) NO. 23-12, DATED FEBRUARY 2, 2023](#)
[CFL NO. 21/22-31, DATED NOVEMBER 15, 2021](#)
[CFL NO. 14/15-29, DATED OCTOBER 29, 2014](#)

This letter informs counties and participating federally recognized Tribes of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support (EFFES) Program General Fund (GF) planning allocation. For the purpose of this letter, “participating Tribes” means those Tribes, consortia of Tribes, or Tribal Organizations that elect to access this funding and that have or will enter a state agreement pursuant to [WIC section 10553.1](#) or in accordance with [25 U.S.C. 1919](#). A total of approximately \$150.7 million GF is available based on the Budget Act of 2022. Of the \$150.7 million GF budgeted, \$750,000 has been set aside for the Center for Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support. From the remaining \$150.0 million GF, \$7.5 million is set aside for participating Tribes. The balance of \$142.5 million in one-time funding is available for distribution to County Welfare Departments (CWDs) and County Probation Departments (CPDs), as shown in the attachment. A separate letter will be released regarding funding for participating Tribes.

Background

The [AB 179](#) makes available \$150.0 million GF in one-time funding for specialized permanency work, including culturally responsive, family-centered, and trauma-informed family finding and engagement services. Services shall focus on establishing and maintaining permanent connections for foster children with their relatives and extended family members.

An additional \$750,000 GF in ongoing funding was allocated to create the Center for Excellence in Family Finding, Support, and Engagement to provide culturally appropriate training and technical assistance to county child welfare and probation departments, participating Tribes, and foster care providers to enhance their practices, policies, and efforts for family finding, support, and engagement. Please refer to [ACL No. 23-12](#) for additional information regarding the Center for Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support.

Participation

A county may elect to participate in the EFFES Program by submitting a written plan to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) by June 30, 2025, in accordance with instructions issued in [ACL No. 23-12](#), and may begin accessing the one-time funds beginning in FY 2022-23 contingent upon notification from CDSS that the county's complete written plan has been approved.

Counties and Tribes that elect to participate in the Program will be able to access funding beginning in FY 2022-23. Counties and Tribes who choose to participate in the Program must opt in by June 30, 2025. After June 30, 2025, allocations from those counties and Tribes that did not opt-in by June 30, 2025, will be allocated to counties and Tribes that did opt-in in order to maximize funding. All funds must be expended by June 30, 2027.

The EFFES Program funding must be used for specialized permanency services and supports that augment existing funding. Funds may not supplant funds for existing family finding and engagement programs; however, counties may use funds to expand their existing programs. Please refer to [ACL No. 23-12](#) for further information regarding allowable activities.

County Match

Counties will need to demonstrate a 50 percent match of local funds, which may include in-kind contributions of services or other resources from the county or community-based organizations to the state funds being offered through the program. Additional information on the match requirement and claiming instructions can be found in the forthcoming claiming CFL.

Funding

The attachment displays the planning one-time allocations for all counties assuming all counties choose to participate in the EFFES Program. A final distribution will be provided in a forthcoming allocation CFL after the June 30, 2025, opt-in deadline mentioned above.

CWDs

In consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association of California, approximately \$138.0 million GF is distributed to CWDs based on each county's percentage of the total statewide number of child welfare agency foster care placements, ages 0 through 18 years, excluding pre-adoption, dependent and non-dependent guardian, and trial home visit placements, during federal FY 2022, taken from the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS). A minimum floor adjustment ensures each CWD receives at least \$48,000 GF.

CPDs

Approximately \$4.4 million GF is distributed to CPDs based on each county's percentage of the total statewide average number of probation department foster care placements, ages 0 through 18 years, excluding pre-adoption, dependent and non-dependent guardian, and trial home visit placements, during federal FYs 2020 through 2022, taken from the CWS/CMS. A minimum floor adjustment ensures each CPD receives \$27,782.

Claiming

Detailed claiming information will be provided in a forthcoming claiming CFL.

As stated in [CFL No. 14/15-29](#), CWDs may submit allowable claims on behalf of CPDs. CWDs and CPDs should reference the developed Memorandum of Understanding that designates roles and responsibilities between the two agencies related to pass-through funds and claim submission for reimbursement for further information. CWDs and CPDs may, and are encouraged to, collaborate in the EFFES Program.

Closeout

After June 30, 2027, any unspent funds that have been allocated to participating counties and Tribes via the forthcoming final allocation CFL will be redistributed to participating counties and Tribes during the year-end closeout process to maximize the funding.

For program-related questions, please contact the Resource Family Support & Permanency Branch at (916) 651-7394 or the Reunification and Pathways to

Permanency Unit at Reunification-Permanency@dss.ca.gov. Questions regarding this allocation should be directed to fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

NATHAN HART, Chief
Financial Management Branch
Finance and Accounting Division

Attachment

**FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 EXCELLENCE IN FAMILY
FINDING, ENGAGEMENT, AND SUPPORT GENERAL FUND
PLANNING ALLOCATION FOR COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENTS
AND COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENTS**

COUNTY	COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT	COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT	TOTAL ALLOCATION
Alameda	\$2,507,915	\$222,262	\$2,730,177
Alpine	\$48,000	\$27,782	\$75,782
Amador	\$165,015	\$27,782	\$192,797
Butte	\$1,154,825	\$27,782	\$1,182,607
Calaveras	\$238,554	\$27,782	\$266,336
Colusa	\$104,721	\$27,782	\$132,503
Contra Costa	\$1,565,015	\$55,568	\$1,620,583
Del Norte	\$285,326	\$27,782	\$313,108
El Dorado	\$343,274	\$27,782	\$371,056
Fresno	\$6,681,289	\$111,131	\$6,792,420
Glenn	\$118,104	\$27,782	\$145,886
Humboldt	\$940,831	\$27,782	\$968,613
Imperial	\$1,034,376	\$27,782	\$1,062,158
Inyo	\$69,124	\$27,782	\$96,906
Kern	\$5,426,159	\$250,048	\$5,676,207
Kings	\$956,421	\$27,782	\$984,203
Lake	\$202,818	\$27,782	\$230,600
Lassen	\$209,579	\$27,782	\$237,361
Los Angeles	\$48,431,716	\$1,222,493	\$49,654,209
Madera	\$758,017	\$27,782	\$785,799
Marin	\$196,196	\$27,782	\$223,978
Mariposa	\$53,533	\$27,782	\$81,315
Mendocino	\$626,393	\$27,782	\$654,175
Merced	\$1,524,865	\$27,782	\$1,552,647
Modoc	\$64,709	\$27,782	\$92,491
Mono	\$48,000	\$27,782	\$75,782
Monterey	\$539,471	\$55,568	\$595,039
Napa	\$267,528	\$27,782	\$295,310
Nevada	\$160,461	\$27,782	\$188,243
Orange	\$7,234,142	\$111,131	\$7,345,273
Placer	\$499,321	\$27,782	\$527,103
Plumas	\$115,896	\$27,782	\$143,678
Riverside	\$9,235,977	\$250,048	\$9,486,025
Sacramento	\$4,037,333	\$194,480	\$4,231,813
San Benito	\$102,513	\$27,782	\$130,295
San Bernardino	\$15,415,599	\$222,262	\$15,637,861
San Diego	\$5,851,940	\$277,830	\$6,129,770
San Francisco	\$1,560,462	\$83,349	\$1,643,811
San Joaquin	\$3,303,875	\$55,568	\$3,359,443
San Luis Obispo	\$666,543	\$27,782	\$694,325
San Mateo	\$307,677	\$27,782	\$335,459
Santa Barbara	\$1,217,188	\$27,782	\$1,244,970
Santa Clara	\$1,723,268	\$55,568	\$1,778,836
Santa Cruz	\$367,833	\$27,782	\$395,615
Shasta	\$1,181,592	\$55,568	\$1,237,160
Sierra	\$48,000	\$27,782	\$75,782
Siskiyou	\$209,579	\$27,782	\$237,361
Solano	\$989,810	\$27,782	\$1,017,592
Sonoma	\$1,290,727	\$27,782	\$1,318,509
Stanislaus	\$1,636,346	\$27,782	\$1,664,128
Sutter	\$305,470	\$27,782	\$333,252
Tehama	\$372,249	\$27,782	\$400,031
Trinity	\$75,746	\$27,782	\$103,528
Tulare	\$2,581,592	\$27,782	\$2,609,374
Tuolumne	\$234,138	\$27,782	\$261,920
Ventura	\$1,348,675	\$27,782	\$1,376,457
Yolo	\$960,837	\$27,782	\$988,619
Yuba	\$485,937	\$27,782	\$513,719
Total	\$138,082,500	\$4,417,500	\$142,500,000