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Governor

NEW YORK STATE
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Local Commissioners Memorandum

Transmittal:	07-OCFS-LCM-01
To:	Local District Commissioners
Issuing Division/Office:	Strategic Planning and Policy Development Administration
Date:	March 22, 2007
Subject:	Amended SFY 2006-07 Foster Care Block Grant Allocations
Suggested Distribution:	Accounting Supervisors Directors of Social Services
Contact Person(s):	See pages 3 and 4
Attachments:	A. Allocation of \$383.5 million
Attachment Available Online:	Yes

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Local Commissioners Memorandum (LCM) is to provide social services districts with amended Foster Care Block Grant allocations for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2006–07. These allocations provide an additional \$1.0 million in funding related to the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) authorized by Part C of Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2006.

II. Background

Part C of Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2006 provides a new three-year COLA that is designed to address the additional effects of inflation related to payments for foster and adoptive parents, as well as to voluntary agency programs for which the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) establishes the Maximum State Aid Rates (MSARs) and Committee on Special Education (CSE) Maintenance Rates. The COLA is based on the most recent United States Congressional Budget Office estimate of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers. The initial CPI projection used to determine the Foster Care Block Grant allocations published in 06-OCFS-LCM-

02 necessitated a \$9.0 million increase to the Foster Care Block Grant to support the partial year cost of State reimbursement of the rate increases for the period October 1, 2006, through March 31, 2007. The 2.8 percent CPI projection actually used to implement the COLA effective October 1, 2006, provides for an additional \$1.0 million in the Foster Care Block Grant, which is allocated in this LCM.

III. Program Implications

The implementation of the COLA pursuant to Part C of Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2006 involves three implementation dates. The first COLA is effective October 1, 2006, with subsequent COLAs effective April 1, 2007, and April 1, 2008. This LCM adds \$1.0 million in State funding to the SFY 2006-07 Foster Care Block Grant and amends the allocations to the local social services districts (Attachment A) that were previously published in 06-OCFS-LCM-02.

Program implications outlined in the 06-OCFS-LCM-02 published May 12, 2006, are not changed by the publication of this policy. Administrative Directive 06-OCFS-ADM-09 published on December 27, 2006, provides instructions on how to apply the 2.8 percent COLA.

Allocation Methodology

The methodology used to allocate the additional \$1.0 million in State funding to the local social services districts did not change from the original allocation methodology used to allocate the Block Grant in 06-OCFS-LCM-02. The \$1.0 million was added to the base allocation of \$346.05 million, which increased the base to \$347.05 million. The base was distributed to districts according to their respective shares of historical claims. The amended allocations for each component of the SFY 2006-07 Foster Care Block Grant are provided in Attachment A.

The allocations associated with the \$36.45 million set-aside related to reductions in care days remains unchanged.

IV. Fiscal and Claiming

The Foster Care Block Grant is an annual capped allocation for foster care costs that are ordinarily reimbursed during the SFY. The Foster Care Block Grant payments are generally made on a monthly basis, and there is no State share settlement of the claims filed for State reimbursement. The reimbursement schedule below sets forth the relevant periods for the foster care maintenance, administration and tuition costs covered by this year's allocations.

The scheduled time periods relate to when expenditures are paid. If a social services district exceeds its allocation for a particular SFY, there is no additional funding. Any social services district claims submitted for a particular SFY that do not receive State reimbursement during that SFY may not be claimed against that district's block grant apportionment for the subsequent SFY.

There is no Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirement associated with the Foster Care Block Grant.

Supplemental claims are paid from the Foster Care Block Grant allocation that covers the period when the expenditures are paid by the district for the services or administrative costs, regardless of when the supplemental claims are submitted.

Federal reimbursement will not be affected by this Block Grant and will be settled in the normal manner subject to the availability of Federal funds. Expenditures for allocations included in this LCM are claimed as follows:

Foster Care	Schedule K	LDSS - 3479
	Schedule H	LDSS - 4283
	Schedule D-2	LDSS - 2347-B
	Special Project Form	LDSS - 3922

Please refer to the Fiscal Reference Manual, Volume 2, Chapter 3 for instructions on completing Schedules K and H, and the Special Claims Form. The instructions for the Schedules D and D-2 are in the Fiscal Reference Manual Volume 3 (or Volume 4 for New York City). The Fiscal Reference Manual is accessible to local districts and sister agencies at the following intranet site address: <http://otda.state.nyenet/bfdm/#>.

Unclaimed Foster Care Block Grant funds from SFY 2006-07 that an eligible district wishes to use during SFY 2007-08 for eligible preventive, independent living and aftercare services must be reported on the "Reimbursement Claim for Special Projects," (LDSS – 3922), with "Saving FCBG 06-07" indicated in the project name box. Costs should be reported in the non-Administrative column. The reported expenditures are eligible for 100 percent State reimbursement up to the amount of the unclaimed Foster Care Block Grant Funds from SFY 2006-07. Any such claims submitted by a social services district for which there are insufficient unclaimed funds available from the district's SFY 2006-07 Foster Care Block Grant allocation are subject to 65 percent State reimbursement net of any available Federal funds.

The reimbursement schedule for SFY 2006-07 Foster Care Block Grant is as follows:

- Foster Care Maintenance: January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006
- Foster Care Administration: October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006
- Foster Care Tuition EAF: October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006
- Non-EAF Foster Care Tuition: January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006
- Special Project Claims Form: January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006

EAF Foster Care Maintenance, Administration and Tuition other than TANF EAF JD/PINS and TANF EAF NYC Tuition costs are only counted toward the Foster Care Block Grant if the costs are not eligible to be swapped for Public Assistance reimbursement.

V. Contact Information

Any fiscal questions regarding the Foster Care Block Grant should be directed to:

Deborah Hanor, Director, Bureau of Budget Management at (518) 474-1361.
Andrea Sweda, Assistant Director, Bureau of Budget Management at (518) 402-3324.

Programmatic questions should be directed to the appropriate Regional Office, Division of Development and Prevention Services:

- BRO - Linda Brown (716) 847-3145
User ID: Linda.Brown@ocfs.state.ny.us
- RRO - Linda Kurtz (585) 238-8201
User ID: Linda.Kurtz@ocfs.state.ny.us
- SRO - Jack Klump (315) 423-1200
User ID: Jack.Klump@ocfs.state.ny.us
- ARO – Glenn Humphreys (518) 486-7078
User ID: Glenn.Humphreys@ocfs.state.ny.us
- YRO - Pat Sheehy (914) 377-2080
User ID: Patricia.Sheehy@ocfs.state.ny.us
- NYCRO - Brenda Smalls (212) 383-1820
User ID: Brenda.Smalls@ocfs.state.ny.us

Fiscal Claiming:

Regions I-IV: Carolyn Oleyourryk 1-800-343-8859, ext. 4-7549 or (518) 474-7549
E-mail - Carolyn.Oleyourryk@otda.state.ny.us

Region V: Michael Borenstein (631) 854-9704
E-mail – Michael.Borenstein@otda.state.ny.us

Region VI: Marian Borenstein (212) 961-8250
E-mail – Marian.Borenstein@otda.state.ny.us

s/s Nancy W. Martinez _____

Issued By:

Name: Nancy W. Martinez
Title: Director
Division/Office: Strategic Planning and Policy Development

s/s Susan A. Costello _____

Issued By:

Name: Susan A. Costello
Title: Deputy Commissioner
Division/Office: Administration

Attachment A

Proposed SFY 2006-07 Foster Care Block Grant Allocations

District	Allocation of \$347.05 Million	Allocation of the \$9,112,500 Set- Aside	Allocation of the \$27,337,500 Set- Aside	Total Allocation
Albany	6,496,999	196,593	313,151	7,006,743
Allegany	1,009,247	31,174	-	1,040,421
Broome	4,162,986	38,874	13,341	4,215,201
Cattaraugus	1,647,454	-	182,423	1,829,877
Cayuga	1,138,324	-	114,407	1,252,731
Chautauqua	1,346,760	55,914	-	1,402,674
Chemung	1,901,250	-	218,044	2,119,294
Chenango	768,602	-	22,389	790,991
Clinton	1,156,633	-	-	1,156,633
Columbia	2,390,607	-	92,428	2,483,035
Cortland	723,399	-	33,215	756,614
Delaware	715,918	-	-	715,918
Dutchess	4,145,811	-	266,322	4,412,133
Erie	13,867,876	118,554	1,059,492	15,045,922
Essex	528,744	-	-	528,744
Franklin	728,993	-	-	728,993
Fulton	1,064,324	18,252	60,881	1,143,457
Genesee	629,978	28,704	36,550	695,232
Greene	1,163,316	-	42,564	1,205,880
Hamilton	60,646	-	-	60,646
Herkimer	1,216,133	-	85,129	1,301,262
Jefferson	1,515,058	-	130,728	1,645,786
Lewis	223,491	20,868	8,147	252,506
Livingston	571,203	-	53,855	625,058
Madison	1,331,173	22,408	75,698	1,429,279
Monroe	13,021,517	216,331	-	13,237,848
Montgomery	721,978	32,605	-	754,583
Nassau	9,709,960	115,082	109,350	9,934,392
Niagara	2,723,819	50,347	41,799	2,815,965
Oneida	5,291,008	-	140,159	5,431,167
Onondaga	6,689,473	22,909	-	6,712,382

Proposed SFY 2006-07 Foster Care Block Grant Allocations

District	Allocation of \$347.05 Million	Allocation of the \$9,112,500 Set- Aside	Allocation of the \$27,337,500 Set- Aside	Total Allocation
Ontario	717,153	-	-	717,153
Orange	5,178,883	-	136,168	5,315,051
Orleans	300,257	2,032	-	302,289
Oswego	2,112,228	48,415	106,398	2,267,041
Otsego	1,068,785	8,712	50,219	1,127,716
Putnam	512,567	-	-	512,567
Rensselaer	3,482,497	10,598	-	3,493,095
Rockland	3,456,958	8,602	205,059	3,670,619
St. Lawrence	1,195,710	14,853	-	1,210,563
Saratoga	2,259,251	15,865	9,049	2,284,165
Schenectady	4,241,869	80,937	-	4,322,806
Schoharie	477,146	17,305	43,467	537,918
Schuyler	218,957	-	30,809	249,766
Seneca	466,322	15,491	56,561	538,374
Steuben	1,763,567	-	35,238	1,798,805
Suffolk	14,226,084	-	230,072	14,456,156
Sullivan	1,014,910	16,348	38,190	1,069,448
Tioga	502,645	14,662	47,458	564,765
Tompkins	969,079	2,725	71,734	1,043,538
Ulster	2,975,157	51,613	26,982	3,053,752
Warren	1,022,970	-	-	1,022,970
Washington	534,709	-	56,288	590,997
Wayne	1,079,303	34,810	-	1,114,113
Westchester	15,852,653	62,794	10,142	15,925,589
Wyoming	529,829	-	52,105	581,934
Yates	242,549	3,217	1,504	247,270
Upstate Totals	155,064,718	1,377,594	4,307,515	160,749,827
New York City	191,985,282	7,734,906	23,029,985	222,750,173
Statewide Totals	347,050,000	9,112,500	27,337,500	383,500,000