



April 10, 2020

TO: Directors, Public Children Services Agencies
Honorable Judges, Title IV-E Courts

FROM: Kara Wentz, Assistant Director, Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act, P.L. 116-127 authorized additional federal funding to states through a 6.2 percentage point increase in the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). The FMAP rate, also known as the Medicaid matching rate, represents the level of federal participation for foster care maintenance and adoption assistance programs. The period during which the increased FMAP rate is in effect starts from January 1, 2020 and will remain in effect until the last day of the calendar year quarter in which the public health emergency period ends. Ohio's FMAP rate will be increased from 63.02% to 69.22% for this period.

Foster Care Maintenance Reimbursements –

The new FMAP percentage will be entered into the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS). When the next monthly reimbursement batch job is run on May 1, 2020, any previously reimbursed payments with claim periods on or after January 1, 2020 will be adjusted and agencies will receive the increased reimbursement amount. New claims entered for periods on or after January 1, 2020 will be reimbursed at the increased rate.

Adoption Assistance Payments –

The new FMAP percentage will be entered into the SACWIS. When the May 2020 adoption assistance payments are generated the federal share will be increased and the state and local shares decreased. For adoption payments that have already been made for periods on or after January 1, 2020, a calculation will be conducted to determine the amount of state and local shares overpaid. An adjustment will be made to recoup the state share overpaid on the next federal foster care and adoption report. Manual payments will be issued to each county agency for the local share amounts overpaid.

Once the public health emergency period is ended, the FMAP rate will revert to 63.02%.

If you have any questions about the funding, please contact The OCF Help Desk via email at HELP-DESK-OCF@jfs.ohio.gov.