

§ 1356.50

for reimbursement of nonrecurring expenses if the child meets the requirements of section 473(c).

(i) The term “nonrecurring adoption expenses” means reasonable and necessary adoption fees, court costs, attorney fees and other expenses which are directly related to the legal adoption of a child with special needs, which are not incurred in violation of State or Federal law, and which have not been reimbursed from other sources or other funds. “Other expenses which are directly related to the legal adoption of a child with special needs” means the costs of the adoption incurred by or on behalf of the parents and for which parents carry the ultimate liability for payment. Such costs may include the adoption study, including health and psychological examination, supervision of the placement prior to adoption, transportation and the reasonable costs of lodging and food for the child and/or the adoptive parents when necessary to complete the placement or adoption process.

(j) When State statutes must be amended in order to reimburse parents for nonrecurring expenses in the adoption of eligible children, legislation must be enacted before the close of the second general session following publication of the final rule and must apply retroactively to January 1, 1987. Failure to honor all eligible claims will be considered non-compliance by the State with Title IV-E of the Act.

(k) A State expenditure is considered made in the quarter during which the payment was made by a State agency to a private nonprofit agency, individual or vendor payee.

[53 FR 50220, Dec. 14, 1988]

§ 1356.50 Withholding of funds for non-compliance with the approved title IV-E State plan.

(a) To be in compliance with the title IV-E State plan requirements, a State must meet the requirements of the Act and 45 CFR 1356.20, 1356.21, 1356.30, and 1356.40 of this part.

(b) To be in compliance with the title IV-E State plan requirements, a State that chooses to claim FFP for voluntary placements must meet the requirements of the Act, 45 CFR 1356.22 and paragraph (a) of this section; and

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(c) For purposes of this section, the provisions of 45 CFR part 213, Practice and Procedure for Hearings to States on Conformity of Public Assistance Plans to Federal Requirements, apply.

[48 FR 23117, May 23, 1983, as amended at 65 FR 4091, Jan. 25, 2000]

§ 1356.60 Fiscal requirements (title IV-E).

(a) *Federal matching funds for foster care maintenance and adoption assistance payments.* (1) Effective October 1, 1980, Federal financial participation (FFP) is available to States under an approved title IV-E State plan for allowable costs in expenditures for:

(i) Foster care maintenance payments as defined in section 475(4) of the Act, made in accordance with 45 CFR 1356.20 through 1356.30 of this part, section 472 of the Act and section 102(d) of Pub. L. 96-272, the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980;

(ii) Adoption assistance payments made in accordance with 45 CFR 1356.20 and 1356.40 and sections 473 and 475(3) of the Act.

(2) Federal financial participation is available at the rate of the Federal medical assistance percentage as defined in section 1905(b) of the Act, Definitions, and pertinent regulations as promulgated by the Secretary, or his designee.

(b) *Federal matching funds for State and local training for foster care and adoption assistance under title IV-E.*

(1) Federal financial participation is available at the rate of seventy-five percent (75%) in the costs of:

(i) Training personnel employed or preparing for employment by the State or local agency administering the plan, and;

(ii) Providing short-term training (including travel and per diem expenses) to current or prospective foster or adoptive parents and the members of the state licensed or approved child care institutions providing care to foster and adopted children receiving title IV-E assistance.

(2) All training activities and costs funded under title IV-E shall be included in the State agency's training plan for title IV-B.

(3) Short and long term training at educational institutions and in-service

training may be provided in accordance with the provisions of §§ 235.63 through 235.66(a) of this title.

(c) *Federal matching funds for other State and local administrative expenditures for foster care and adoption assistance under title IV-E.* Federal financial participation is available at the rate of fifty percent (50%) for administrative expenditures necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the title IV-E State plan. The State's cost allocation plan shall identify which costs are allocated and claimed under this program.

(1) The determination and redetermination of eligibility, fair hearings and appeals, rate setting and other costs directly related only to the administration of the foster care program under this part are deemed allowable administrative costs under this paragraph. They may not be claimed under any other section or Federal program.

(2) The following are examples of allowable administrative costs necessary for the administration of the foster care program:

- (i) Referral to services;
- (ii) Preparation for and participation in judicial determinations;
- (iii) Placement of the child;
- (iv) Development of the case plan;
- (v) Case reviews;
- (vi) Case management and supervision;
- (vii) Recruitment and licensing of foster homes and institutions;
- (viii) Rate setting; and
- (ix) A proportionate share of related agency overhead.
- (x) Costs related to data collection and reporting.

(3) Allowable administrative costs do not include the costs of social services provided to the child, the child's family or foster family which provide counseling or treatment to ameliorate or remedy personal problems, behaviors or home conditions.

(d) *Cost of the data collection system.*

(1) Costs related to data collection system initiation, implementation and operation may be charged as an administrative cost of title IV-E at the 50 percent matching rate subject to the restrictions in paragraph (d) (2) of this section

(2) For information systems used for purposes other than those specified by section 479 of the Act, costs must be allocated and must bear the same ratio as the foster care and adoption population bears to the total population contained in the information system as verified by reports from all other programs included in the system.

(e) *Federal matching funds for SACWIS.* All expenditures of a State to plan, design, develop, install and operate the Statewide automated child welfare information system approved under § 1355.52 of this chapter, shall be treated as necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the State plan without regard to whether the system may be used with respect to foster or adoptive children other than those on behalf of whom foster care maintenance or adoption assistance payments may be made under this part.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control numbers 0980-0130 and 0980-0131)

[47 FR 30925, July 15, 1982, as amended at 48 FR 23117, May 23, 1983; 53 FR 50221, Dec. 14, 1988; 58 FR 67938, 67947, Dec. 22, 1993; 65 FR 4091, Jan. 25, 2000]

§§ 1356.65–1356.70 [Reserved]

§ 1356.71 Federal review of the eligibility of children in foster care and the eligibility of foster care providers in title IV-E programs.

(a) *Purpose, scope and overview of the process.*

(1) This section sets forth requirements governing Federal reviews of State compliance with the title IV-E eligibility provisions as they apply to children and foster care providers under paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 472 of the Act.

(2) The requirements of this section apply to State agencies that receive Federal payments for foster care under title IV-E of the Act.

(3) The review process begins with a primary review of foster care cases for the title IV-E eligibility requirements. States determined to be in substantial compliance based on the primary review will not be subject to another review for three years. States that are determined not to be in compliance