



Office of Children and Family Services

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Local Commissioners Memorandum

Transmittal:	23-OCFS-LCM-11-R1 (<i>Revised September 8, 2023</i>)
To:	Local Departments of Social Services Commissioners
Issuing Division/Office:	Division of Administration
Date:	R1: September 8, 2023. Original publication date: June 29, 2023
Subject:	State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023-24 Social Services Block Grant (Title XX) Allocations
Contact Person(s):	See section VI.
Attachments:	Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 Social Services Block Grant (Title XX) Allocations as Authorized by the SFY 2023-24 Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Attachment A: Adult Protective and Domestic Violence Services</i> • <i>Attachment B: Child Welfare Services Allocations (Revised)</i> • <i>Attachment C: Attachment for U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Grants – Social Services Block Grant</i>

R1: This LCM was revised and reissued on September 8, 2023, to provide local departments of social services (LDSSs) with child welfare allocations (Attachment B). There are no other notable changes from the last issuance of this LCM.

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Local Commissioners Memorandum (LCM) is to provide local departments of social services (LDSSs) with their Title XX Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) allocations for state fiscal year (SFY) 2023-24.

Notable changes from the prior year issuances include the removal of “All Other” allocations and the inclusion of child welfare allocations. Claims for Title XX “All Other” services are **not** eligible for state or federal reimbursement except for amounts transferred from the Flexible Fund for Family Services (FFFS), which continues to be eligible to receive federal reimbursement.

This policy is being revised to include child welfare allocations (Attachment B). There are no other notable changes from the issuance of the last LCM on this topic.

II. Background

SSBG (CFDA #93.667) or Title XX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397 – 1397f) provides annual capped funding from the United States Department of Health and Human Services for a range of social services. In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2023, New York State received \$94,117,442, a net decrease of \$3,042,699 from the prior year.

Approximately 5% of the total New York State allotment, or \$4,705,872, is allocated to support training activities for LDSSs and the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) staff. The remaining \$89,411,570 is allocated to LDSSs. Chapter 53 of the Laws of 2023 directs that \$66,000,000 be provided for the reimbursement of LDSS expenditures for adult protective services (APS) and domestic violence (DV) services, and that the remaining federal funding of \$23,411,570 be available to reimburse eligible child welfare services expenditures. The funds are available to reimburse LDSSs for eligible expenditures made from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, and must be final accepted in the Automated Claiming System (ACS) by March 31, 2024.

III. Other Related 2023-24 Budget Actions

The SFY 2023-24 Enacted Budget continues to appropriate FFFS that provides LDSSs with the flexibility to determine local funding priorities. Under the FFFS, LDSSs have the option to transfer a portion of their FFFS allocation to the Title XX SSBG. Federal law requires that any FFFS funding transferred to the Title XX SSBG must be used for children and their families with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level. These recipients also must be either U.S. citizens or qualified aliens as defined by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

For information on what LDSSs can fund with their FFFS allocation, please refer to the annual FFFS Administrative Directive (ADM) from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) at: <https://otda.ny.gov/policy/directives/2022/ADM/22-ADM-06.pdf>

IV. Title XX Social Services Block Grant Methodology

Adult Protective and Domestic Violence Services (Attachment A): In accordance with appropriation language, \$66,000,000 is set aside to provide 100% federal reimbursement up to the LDSS allocation for eligible Title XX services expenditures for APS and for residential services for DV victims who are not receiving public assistance during the time they are in a residential program, and for non-residential services for DV victims (collectively “DV services”) incurred on or after October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, and claimed by March 31, 2024, for settlement purposes. Allocation of this funding is based on each LDSS’s claims for those services, net of any retroactive payments, for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2022, that were submitted before January 3, 2023.

If an LDSS does not fully expend its allocation, the funds may be reallocated to other LDSSs with eligible claims that exceed their allocations. Eligible APS and DV services expenditures that exceed the federal allocation are eligible for state reimbursement at the rate of 49% after any additional federal reimbursement is applied.

It should be noted that FFFS funds also are available to cover costs eligible for Title XX below 200% of the federal poverty level. An LDSS can elect to transfer a portion of its FFFS funds allocation to Title XX to fund APS and DV services for children and their families with incomes less than 200% of the federal poverty income level for the family.

Child Welfare Eligible Services (Attachment B): The remaining funding of \$23,411,570 will be used to reimburse the LDSS at 100% federal share up to the capped allocation for eligible Title XX services expenditures for child welfare protective services that are incurred on or after October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, and claimed by March 31, 2024, for settlement purposes. The allocation of these funds is based on each LDSS's claims for eligible child welfare protective services for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2022, that were submitted on or before January 3, 2023.

If an LDSS does not fully expend its allocation, the funds may be reallocated to other LDSSs with eligible claims that exceed their allocations. Eligible child welfare protective services expenditures that exceed the federal allocation are eligible for state reimbursement at the rate of 62% after any additional federal reimbursement is applied.

It should be noted that FFFS funds also are available to cover costs eligible for Title XX below 200% of the federal poverty level. An LDSS can elect to transfer a portion of its FFFS funds allocation to Title XX to fund child welfare services for children and their families with incomes less than 200% of the federal poverty income level for the family.

V. Claiming

Expenditures for allocations included in this LCM are claimed as follows:

Title XX	Services for Recipients	Schedule G	LDSS-1372
	Administrative Expenditures	Schedule D2	LDSS-2347-B
	Training	Schedule D6	LDSS-2347-C

Instructions for claiming services for recipients can be found in the *Fiscal Reference Manual*, Volume 2, Chapter 3. Instructions for claiming administrative expenditures can be found in the *Fiscal Reference Manual*, Volume 3, Chapter 9. Instructions for claiming training expenditures can be found in the *Fiscal Reference Manual*, Volume 3, Chapter 13. The *Fiscal Reference Manual* is available at <http://otda.ny.gov/resources/fiscal-reference/>

VI. Contacts

Questions pertaining to the allocations may be directed to:

Shonna Clinton, (518) 474-2812
Bureau of Budget Management
Shonna.Clinton@ocfs.ny.gov

Questions pertaining to the FFFS Plan and Fiscal Claiming may be directed to the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance:

FFFS Plan:
Emily Maher, (518) 474-9313
Emily.Maher@otda.ny.gov

Automated Claiming System:
Regions 1-5: Justin Gross
(518) 474-7549
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/s/ Sharon Devine

Issued by:

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