

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

P.O. Box 419064, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9064



June 4, 2019

CSSP LETTER: 19-05

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

Reason for this Transmittal

- ☐ State Law, Regulation and/or Change
- ☒ Federal Law, Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order or Settlement Change
- ☐ Clarification requested by One or More Counties
- ☐ Initiated by DCSS

SUBJECT: FINAL RULE OPTIONAL PROVISIONS - FEDERAL FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AND EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

REFERENCE: 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §304.20(b)(3)(v), 45 CFR §304.20(b)(12), The Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs Final Rule (FEM Final Rule).

PURPOSE: To communicate statewide policy to local child support agencies (LCSAs) relative to the availability of Federal Financial Participation (FFP) for transportation and education and outreach activities as outlined in the FEM Final Rule.

POLICY: Each LCSA may, at their discretion, provide minor transportation assistance and education and outreach activities as prescribed in 45 CFR §304.20(b)(3)(v) and 45 CFR §304.20(b)(12) respectively.

BACKGROUND: The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) published the FEM Final Rule on December 20, 2016. The Final Rule changes federal child support regulations by requiring new mandatory provisions and allowing new optional provisions. This letter addresses optional provisions for:

- Transportation assistance for participation in the establishment and enforcement of support orders. LCSAs may determine when minor transportation expenses, (e.g., bus fare, taxi reimbursement, or other costs the LCSA deems appropriate), should be available to encourage child support customers to participate in child support proceedings.
- Educational and outreach activities intended to inform the public, parents, and family members, and young people who are not yet parents about the Child Support Program, responsible parenting and co-parenting, family budgeting, and other financial responsibilities when the parents are not living together.

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ACTION: Each LCSA may, at their discretion, provide minor transportation assistance costs as prescribed in 45 CFR §304.20(b)(3)(v). LCSAs may also conduct education and outreach activities as prescribed in 45 CFR §304.20(b)(12).

CONTACT: If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact the Policy and Program Branch at (916) 464-5883 or policy.branch@dcss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

o/s

VICKIE K. CONTRERAS
Deputy Director
Child Support Services Division