Limitations on Non-Family Foster Home Placements

Family First Prevention Services Act



IV-E Foster Care





child(ren) removed from home and enter foster care



foster care maintenance payments and administrative payments

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IV-E Prevention





family situation comes to the attention of child welfare

- mental health services
- substance abuse prevention and treatment
- in-home parent skill-based programs

family remains together

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Foster Care Placement Settings

Foster	Residential Family-	Child-Care
Family Home	Based Treatment	Institution
 Licensed by state Provides 24-hour substitute care Adheres to the prudent parenting standard Maximum of six children in foster care* *Flexible: may exceed to accommodate certain situations (siblings, parenting youth, etc.)	 Treatment for substance use disorder Time limited (12 months) Specified in case plan prior to placement Provides parenting education and skills training, and individual and family counseling Setting is trauma informed 	 Licensed/ approved by state Maximum of 25 children Includes supervised independent living settings Excludes settings operating primarily for detention of children determined to be delinquent

Residential Family-Based Treatment

- Not a child-care institution (licensing/ background check requirements do not apply)
- States may also claim IV-E administration costs (for case management, not for facility)
- Child is under placement care and responsibility of IV-E agency



Non-Family Foster Home Placements

Current Law

Children in foster care have the right to be placed in the "least restrictive" setting relative to their needs.

Evidence

Children do best in a family-like setting.

When a child cannot be safely placed in a family-like setting there should be treatment options available to meet their needs.

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Allowable Child-Care Institutions

After first two weeks of placement, foster care maintenance payments will **continue for** children/ youth in:

Programs Supporting Prenatal, Postpartum, or Parenting Supports for Youth

Supervised Independent Living Programs for Youth 18 Years Old or Older

Settings for Youth Who Are or Are At Risk of Becoming Victims of Sex Trafficking

Qualified Residential Treatment Programs

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Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs)

A QRTP placement is a specific category of a nonfoster family home setting, for which title IV-E agencies must meet detailed assessment, case planning, documentation, judicial determinations and ongoing review and permanency hearing requirements for a child to be placed in and continue to receive title IV-E FCMPs for the placement.

Trauma-informed treatment model	Registered or licensed nursing and other licensed clinical staff onsite, consistent with treatment model, and available 24-7	Facilitates outreach to the child's family members and their participation in the child's treatment program
Provides discharge planning and family- based aftercare supports for at least six months after the child is discharged	Licensed in accordance with the state standards for child-care institutions providing foster care	Accredited

Family & Permanency Team

The State shall assemble a Family & Permanency Team for any child placed in a QRTP.

Teams consist of:

- All appropriate biological family members, relative, and fictive kin of the child
- Professionals who are a resource to the family of the child (teachers, medical or mental health providers who have treated the child, or clergy), as appropriate for the child
- Two members from child's permanency planning team, selected by child, who are not the child's foster parent or the caseworker (children who have attained age 14)

QRTP Assessment

Within **30** days of the start of each QRTP placement, a qualified individual shall:

 Work with Family & Permanency Team to assess the strengths and needs of the child using an ageappropriate, evidencebased, validated, functional assessment tool approved by HHS.



Develop a list of childspecific short- and long term mental and behavioral health goals.

*Assessment can be completed prior to placement in a QRTP

Qualified Individual

- Trained professional or licensed clinician
- Not an employee of the State agency
- Not connected to, or affiliated with, any placement setting in which children are placed by the State

HHS may waive any of these requirements so long as objectivity in placement determination is maintained.

30 day requirement may not be waived.

QRTP Assessment

Assessment completion is:	Foster care maintenance payments:	IV-E admin payments:	QRTP/CCI admin payments:
Within 30 days	Can claim entire	Can claim for entire	Can claim for entire
	duration of placement,	duration of placement,	duration of placement,
	including two week	including two week	including two week
	grace period.	grace period.	grace period.
After 30 days	Cannot claim for any	Can claim entire	Cannot claim for any
	length of time,	duration of placement,	length of time,
	including two week	including two week	including two week
	grace period.	grace period.	grace period.

QRTP Assessment

Assessment completion is:	Foster care maintenance payments:	IV-E admin payments:	QRTP/CCI admin payments:
Example A: Charlie is 17 years old and is in a family foster home. A qualified clinician completes an assessment of Charlie and recommends a QRTP placement.	Charlie's assessment was completed prior to the first day in the QRTP placement, so Charlie is eligible for FCMPs for the entire duration in the QRTP.	The agency can claim IV-E admin for Charlie's caseworker and other allowable costs that pertain to Charlie's foster care case.	The QRTP is a CCI and is eligible for payments for administration of the QRTP, since Charlie is eligible for FCMPs.
Example B: Erin is 14 years old and is placed in a QRTP. A qualified clinician completes an assessment 35 days after Erin's first day in the QRTP.	Erin's assessment was not completed within 30 days of the first day in the QRTP placement, so Erin is not eligible for FCMPs for any time spent in the QRTP.	The agency can claim IV-E admin for Erin's caseworker and other allowable costs that pertain to determining a placement for Erin.	The QRTP is not eligible for payments for administration of the QRTP, since Erin is not eligible for FCMPs.
Example C: Casey is 16 years old and is in a family foster home. Casey is moved into a CCI that is not an allowable setting under IV- E. Since the placement is not a QRTP, Casey does not have an assessment completed at all.	Casey is eligible for FCMPs for the first two weeks of the placement. This is the two week grace period. If Casey continues to stay in this placement after two weeks, FCMPs end.	The agency can claim IV-E admin payments for Casey's caseworker and other allowable costs that pertain to Casey's case.	The CCI is not an allowable IV-E placement setting, so even though Casey is eligible for FCMPs, the CCI will not be able to claim admin payments.

Judicial Determination

Within 60 days of the start of each QRTP placement, a family or juvenile court or another court (including a tribal court) of competent jurisdiction, or an administrative body appointed or approved by the court, independently, shall review assessment, determination, and documentation, and <u>approve or disprove</u> the QRTP placement.

APPROVED WITHIN 60 DAYS

Child remains in QRTP for duration specified in treatment plan; eligible for FCMPs for entire length of stay in QRTP placement.

APPROVED AFTER 60 DAYS

Child remains in QRTP for duration specified in treatment plan; eligible for FCMPs for first 60 days in QRTP placement.

DISPROVED WITHIN 60 DAYS

State has 30 days to transition to transition child to appropriate placement; eligible for FCMPs for time spent in QRTP and time spent in transition (up to 30 days from date of determination)

DISPROVED AFTER 60 DAYS

State has 30 days to transition to transition child to appropriate placement; eligible for FCMPs for first 60 days in QRTP and time spent in transition (up to 30 days from date of determination)



