

AFCARS ASSESSMENT REVIEW IMPROVEMENT PLAN: General Requirements

State: Indiana

Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2007 - September 30, 2007 (2007B)

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Task	Estimated Completion Date	Notes
Foster Care Population						
1	<p>Must include all children in foster care for whom the State title IV-B/IV-E agency has responsibility for placement, care, or supervision (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)).</p> <p>All children in foster care under the responsibility of the State agency administering or supervision the administration of the title IV-B Child and Family Services State plan and the title IV-E State plan; that is, all children who are required to be provided the assurances of section 422(b)(8) of the Social Security Act (the Act) (Appendix A – SECTION II).</p>	2	<p>1a) The State is incorrectly not including children in which the child is on a runaway status at the time the agency received responsibility for care and placement.</p> <p>b) The State is incorrectly including the records of children whose only placement while under the agency’s responsibility for care and placement is a locked facility or a hospital.</p>	<p>1a) Modify the program code to include children/youth that are on runaway status at the time the agency receives responsibility for care and placement, and who are still runaways at the end of the report period.</p> <p>b) Modify the program code to exclude records of children/youth whose only placement is a either a locked facility or a hospital.</p>		<p><u>State Response 8/08:</u> These changes will be made with the redesign of Service Case Management.</p>
2	<p>All children supervised by or under the responsibility of another public agency with which the title IV-B/E agency has an agreement under title IV-E and on whose behalf the State makes title IV-E foster care maintenance payments (Appendix A - SECTION II).</p>	2	<p>The courts will order a youth into a placement and the youth is under the court’s jurisdiction. In these situations the court issues an order to the county child welfare office to pay for the placement. The State claims title IV-E on behalf of these youth if they are eligible and includes them in the AFCARS reporting population. However, it appears the State is also</p>	<p>1) The State needs to exam the code and ensure that they are reporting only those youth that are receiving title IVE funds.</p>		<p><u>State Response 8/08:</u> The JDJS children included in our AFCARS reporting are those recorded as IV-E FC-eligible ‘Payment Only’ children and a very few Supervision and Service children. We are still researching this issue to see if extraction code changes are needed.</p>

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			including youth that are not eligible for title IV-E and the placement is paid for only by county funds.			
5	Includes all children who have been in foster care at least 24 hours (Appendix A - SECTION II).	2	The State incorrectly reports records of children whose removal episode is 24 hours or less.	Modify the program code to not include records of children/youth in foster care for 24 hours or less.		<u>State Response 8/08:</u> This change is being included in redesign of Service Case Management.
8	Includes youth over the age of 18 if a payment is being made on behalf of the child (Child Welfare Policy Manual, Section 1, AFCARS).	3	The State does not claim title IV-E funds for youth over age 18. The State is incorrectly including youth over the age of 18 in its AFCARS reporting population. See the findings for foster care elements #56 and #58.	1) Make modifications noted in foster care elements #56 and 58. 2) If the State does start claiming title IV-E funds for these youth, they must include them in the AFCARS reporting population up to their 19 th birthday, or sooner if title IV-E eligibility ends.		
Adoption Population						
9	Data are required to be transmitted by the State on all adopted children who were placed by the State title IV-B/IV-E agency, and on all adopted children for whom the State agency is providing adoption assistance (either ongoing or for nonrecurring expenses), care or services directly or by contract or agreement with other private or public agencies. (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(3)).	3	The State was incorrectly reporting certain types of adoption cases. The extraction code has been corrected.	The Federal team will review resubmitted 2007B, 2008A, and the regular 2008B files.	January 2009	

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	<p>Report on all children adopted in the State during the reporting period and in whose adoption the State title IV-B/IV-E agency has had any involvement. All adoptions after 10/1/94 that meet the criteria below must be reported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children who had been in foster care under the responsibility and care of the State child welfare agency and who were subsequently adopted whether special needs or not and whether subsidies are provided or not (Appendix B – Section II, paragraph (a)). 					
11	For children adopted out-of-State, the placing State reports the adoption data (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(3)).	3	The State was incorrectly reporting records with a case type of “AAP, out of State.” The extraction code has been corrected to not include these records.	The Federal team will review resubmitted 2007B, 2008A, and the regular 2008B files.	January 2009	
Technical Requirements						
Appendix D, 45 CFR 1355 Foster Care and Adoption Record Layouts						
21	Provide data for all children who were discharged from foster care at any time during the reporting period, or in the previous reporting period, if not previously reported (Section A.1.b(5)).	3	1) The State has had problems with “dropped records.” The number of dropped records has significantly reduced over the past report periods.	1) The State is to ensure that there are no missing records from one report period to the next.		<u>State response 8/08:</u> We are still reviewing and testing code to eliminate this problem.

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			2) There are some issues with the methodology used in ICWIS to record discharge information.	2) See findings for foster care elements #56 and #58 for the problems and proposed solutions.		
Data Quality - Subsequent Submissions						
26	The data must be reflective of the time period being submitted, not new information applying to a different time frame.	2	The State is incorrectly reporting subsequent files.	Modify the extraction code to ensure that the child-specific data to be transmitted must reflect the data in the information system for the report period being resubmitted.		<u>State Response 8/08</u> : We are still reviewing code to assure only data present at the end of the report period are included in subsequent submissions.