



## Department of Children and Youth Memo 25-013

**TO:** Children Services Stakeholders

**FROM:** Laura Graf, Director of Policy

**DATE:** March 4, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Title IV-E Federal Review

### **Background**

The Department of Children and Youth (DCY) Bureau of Children Services Policy and Supports, Title IV-E Section, is actively preparing Public Children Services Agencies (PCSAs) and Title IV-E Juvenile Courts (IV-E Courts) for Ohio's upcoming Title IV-E Federal Review (Federal Review). This critical process is conducted in accordance with 45 CFR § 1356.71 to monitor a Title IV-E agency's compliance with specific requirements of Title IV-E. The Federal Review is designed to achieve several key objectives:

1. Ensuring fiscal accountability.
2. Improving child welfare practices.
3. Supporting the goals of child safety, permanency, and well-being.

### **Purpose**

To ensure thorough preparation, DCY's Title IV-E section will be conducting preliminary reviews later this year. During these reviews, Title IV-E staff will be on-site to carefully examine child and provider case records, as well as payment documentation. The goal is to validate the accuracy of federal reimbursement claims for foster care maintenance payments. The preliminary reviews will serve to identify whether federal funds are being utilized correctly, recognize improper payments to the county, and provide necessary technical assistance and program improvement processes between the state and Title IV-E agencies.

In addition, DCY will begin preparing PCSAs and IV-E Courts for the preliminary review with a series of training sessions scheduled from March 2025 through June 2025. These training sessions are designed to cover all Title IV-E requirements comprehensively, explain what is expected from Title IV-E agencies, and guide agencies on how to prepare effectively for these



reviews. More detailed information will be shared as the date of the training sessions approaches, so stakeholders are advised to stay tuned for updates.

Title IV-E foster care funds enable states to provide foster care for children determined to be eligible for assistance from the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program under the state's approved title IV-A plan as in effect on July 16, 1996.

**Contact**

If you have any questions or concerns, contact [Patricia.Wilson01@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov](mailto:Patricia.Wilson01@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov) Section Chief, Title IV-E Unit.