



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201 | www.acf.hhs.gov

July 20, 2018

Dear Tribal Leader:

On February 9, 2018, the President signed into law Public Law 115-123 which included the Family First Prevention Services Act. This law made significant changes to federal child welfare programs authorized in titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act. One important change is the creation of a new optional program that will allow states and tribes operating the title IV-E program to use federal title IV-E funds to provide time-limited mental health and substance abuse treatment services and in-home parent skill-based programs to certain children, youth and families to prevent children from entering foster care.

The law authorizing this new funding also has requirements relating to research-based evidence standards that prevention services must meet, as well as numerous provisions relating to evaluation, performance standards and reporting requirements that title IV-E agencies will need to meet. However, the law also recognizes that tribes operating the title IV-E program may require greater flexibility to provide services and programs that are adapted to the culture and context of the tribal communities served.

The Children's Bureau within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is committed to providing tribes with maximum flexibility in implementing the program, consistent with the requirements of the law, and we seek the input of Tribal Leaders prior to developing implementing guidance. Therefore, we are requesting tribal consultation relating to the implementation of the new Title IV-E Prevention Services Program. This letter provides information on consultation that will be conducted by teleconference in August. ACF will also hold an in-person tribal consultation on September 13, 2018 that will provide an opportunity to consult on the Title IV-E Prevention Services Program, as well as issues affecting other ACF programs. Information on the September consultation will be provided separately.

To prepare for consultation, the Children's Bureau is offering a briefing webinar for Tribal Leaders and/or members of your staff. The briefing webinar will be an opportunity to learn more about the Title IV-E Prevention Services Program and to consider areas in which tribes may require additional flexibility to ensure effective implementation in tribal communities. Participation in this briefing may assist you and your staff by providing information and context that will allow for a more meaningful exchange during tribal consultation.

The briefing webinar to learn more about the Title IV-E Prevention Services program will be held on **Tuesday, August 14, 2018 from 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm (EDT)**. If you are interested in participating in this webinar, please register at: **Event Registration Page-**

<https://acf.adobeconnect.com/eu4bqszamz7m/event/registration.html>

Tribal Consultation seeking input on the implementation of the Title IV-E Prevention Services Program will be held through two teleconference calls on the following dates and times.

Monday, August 27, 2018 @ 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (EDT)

Please register here: **Event Registration Page-**

<https://acf.adobeconnect.com/eemxb5jfegn3/event/registration.html>

Wednesday, August 29, 2018 @ 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (EDT)

Please register here: **Event Registration Page-**

<https://acf.adobeconnect.com/eufrz7mdkfpm/event/registration.html>

For both consultations, the call-in number and passcode are: 877-917-3403, Passcode: 2498350
(Please note, if there are a small number of participants on the calls, the calls may end sooner than 2:30 pm)

Both tribal consultation teleconference calls are open to all Tribal Leaders or their designees and may address any aspect of the implementation of the Title IV-E Prevention Services Program and areas where you believe that tribes may require flexibility, consistent with the requirements of the law.

In addition to participating in the tribal consultation conference calls, Tribal Leaders may submit comments in writing. To ensure consideration of those comments prior to the issuance of federal guidance, comments must be submitted by **no later than Friday, September 28, 2018**. Comments may be sent to:

- Email: CBComments@acf.hhs.gov. Include “Tribal Title IV-E Prevention Services” in subject line of the message.
- Mail written comments to: Jerry Milner, Associate Commissioner, Children’s Bureau, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, 330 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20201, **ATTN:** “Tribal Title IV-E Prevention Services.” Please allow sufficient time for mailed comments to be received before the close of the comment period.

Additional Information on the Family First Prevention Services Act is provided in Information Memorandum [ACYF-CB-IM-18-02](#), issued April 12, 2018, which is posted on the Children’s Bureau’s website at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/im1802>. Please refer to Attachment B for a detailed summary of the provisions of the Title IV-E Prevention Services program. (For your convenience, a copy of Attachment B is also included with this letter.)

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If you have any questions regarding the upcoming briefing webinar or tribal consultation teleconference calls, please contact either Cheryl Speed or Carlette Randall of the Children's Bureau at Cheryl.Speed@acf.hhs.gov or Carlette.Randall@acf.hhs.gov. I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Milner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jerry Milner
Associate Commissioner
Children's Bureau

Enclosure:

- Summary of Title IV-E Prevention Services Program