

Special Revenue Account Annual Report: FFPSA Support and Development Grant Program

Report to the Legislature

September 2025

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Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 3.197, requires the disclosure of the cost to prepare this report. The estimated cost of preparing this report is \$500.

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I. Legislation

This report is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2024, Section 142A.45, Subdivision 3, which is reproduced below. This section of statute had previously been section 256.4793 before the program was transferred from the Department of Human Services (DHS) to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). This overall section of statute establishes a grant program to support prevention and early intervention services to implement and build upon the state's Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Title IV-E prevention services plan. Grant funding is to be used to: implement or expand FFPSA services or programs included in the state's prevention services plan, implement or expand proposed future FFPSA services or programs, implement or expand prevention of family service or programming, or evaluate any of these services or programs. As shown below, funding for this effort is held in a special revenue account and an annual report on the uses of the funding is required to be submitted to the legislature.

Subd. 3. Special revenue account established.

- (a) Funds appropriated under this section shall be transferred to a special revenue account. The commissioner shall retain federal reimbursement generated under this section. Federal reimbursement shall be transferred to the special revenue account and is appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of this section.
- (b) The commissioner must provide an annual report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance that identifies the amount of funds appropriated and transferred to this account under paragraph (a) and how the funds were used.

II. Report

DCYF staff are implementing policy changes to meet federal requirements of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). This allows for Title IV-E reimbursement for eligible candidates receiving approved prevention services. Department staff, in collaboration with key partners, develop and implement a five-year Prevention Services Plan that aims to improve outcomes for Minnesota's most vulnerable children and families.

FFPSA activities and services are currently being supported with federal Family First Transition Act (FFTA) funds, which expire on Sept. 30, 2025. Once those funds expire, the contracts supporting implementation of FFPSA with FFTA funds will transition over to state special revenue account funds.

During the 2023 legislative session (Chapter 70, Article 20, Section 2, subdivision 22, paragraph j), state funding of \$4.329 million in FY 2024 and \$4.1 million as a continuing annual base was appropriated for this program. Because the statute requires this funding to be transferred to special revenue account, it remains available beyond the end of the FY 2024-25 biennium. The state funds will continue to support evidence-based programming, including the expansion of Parents as Teachers (PAT). Once the department transitions to state funds, Title IV-E can be accessed to support this program. Prevention services are federally reimbursed at 50%.

The state funds will also support the Expanding Evidence on Replicable Recovery and Reunification Interventions for Families (R3) study. The R3 study will later be submitted to the FFPSA clearinghouse for review and possible inclusion in a future iteration of the state's prevention plan. The department is monitoring the use of funds through the Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) and fiscal reconciliation.

The department has been developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the remaining funds to further support the goals of FFPSA. This RFP will be used to implement or expand services for families to prevent children from child welfare involvement, including entering out-of-home placement. The responders will be expected to uphold these values:

- Improving the safety and well-being of families
- Reducing incidents of maltreatment and keeping children with their families
- Reducing initial entry and re-entry into foster care
- Responding to and eliminating the disproportionate number of American Indian/Alaska Native, African American/Black and children identifying as two or more races in the child welfare system
- Expanding service availability and array in a culturally responsive and coordinated way, and
- Creating an accessible and sustainable system of family preservation services that strengthens families and improves outcomes for children.

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