AB 1058 Timekeeping

22nd Annual AB 1058 Child Support Training Conference Anna L. Maves, AB 1058 Program Manager John Henzl, AB 1058 Attorney

Overview

Title IV-D Funding and Accountability

- DCSS Audit Results
- Reimbursable IV-D activities
- Hypotheticals (table discussion)
- Timekeeping techniques
- A glimpse into the future
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Title IV-D Funding and Me

- Social Security Act, Title IV, Part D, requires that every state to have a child support enforcement program.
- Judicial Council enters into a contract with DCSS for funding and to provide AB1058 services
- Judicial Council enters into a contract with each court (one for CSC and one for FLF) with flowdown requirements for compliance, services and to provide court funding
- All contracts require compliance with federal law

My Court Agreed To:

- Ensure all court employees working on the program complete timesheets specifically identifying time spent working on the grant,
- Only seek reimbursement for allowable expenses,
- Permit records related to performance and AB1058 billing to be audited, and

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Accept liability if the court fails to comply with federal/state law or regulations

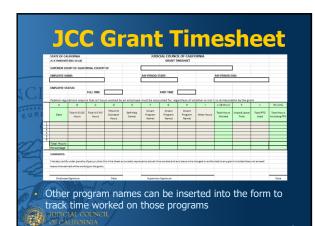
Requirement for Documenting Time

Courts can only be reimbursed for IV-D work

 Timesheet must reflect ALL time worked by staff, whether or not the time is spent on the IV-D program

 This is known as "100% positive reporting" and is required by federal regulations

Example: If a FLF works 5 hours in a day providing IV-D services and 3 hours providing non IV-D self-help services, all 8 hours must be provetracked on the timesheet





Tips for Keeping Track

- Contemporaneously document time
- Develop logs, scratch sheets, database, etc.
- Organize work in a way that is easy track

 If your court has an established practice for documenting time, this practice must be followed

- 15 minute vs. 6 minute increments
- Why is this important?

Federal regulations require that charges to grant must be based on records that are supported by a "system of internal control"

Why Are There AB 1058 Program Audits?



What Are Auditors Looking For?

Compliance with all Program accounting procedures, policies and regulations (Title IV-D and general Federal Grant provisions) Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Any federal guidance interpreting relevant CFR provisions Fiscal Provision Requirements of Program Contracts JCC-state DCSS Contract JCC-state DCSS Contract JCC-court Contracts Judicial Branch Fiscal Policies AB 1058 Grant Accounting Manual and Forms Instructions Judicial Branch Contracting Manual Trial Court Financial Policies and Procedures Manual

DCSS AB 1058 Program **Audits Update**

Department of Child Support Services Audit Update

Total of 18 on-site audits of the AB 1058 CSC and FLF court programs have been completed by DCSS and published by the Judicial Council from November 2016 through September 2018.

- 8 audits were completed and published since the last AB 1058 Conference.
- Where there have been audit findings, courts have submitted corrective action plans. DCSS reviews status of implementation of those corrective action plans within 6 months of the plan submission.
- DCSS has submitted a letter to the Judicial Council regarding Superior
- Court Audits-Corrective Action Plan. The Judicial Council is required to respond no later than December 31st.
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Significant Audit Findings

• Documentation of Time Working on the Grant

- Federal grant rules require that individuals working on the grant identify the <u>actual</u> time worked on the AB 1058 grant and only submit
- time worked for reimbursement. Most common finding was "court did not have sufficient support for

personnel expenses claimed". Court staff did not report <u>actual direct labor hours</u> worked in AB 1058 activities but instead used some other unauthorized method that included:

Filling out timesheet based upon proportion ceb method that include: Filling out timesheet based upon proportion of budget rather than actual hours (for example, if funding for FLF was 50% grant and 50% self-help just recorded ½ of hours to the grant). Filling out timesheets based upon what a manager "thought" or projected the AB 1058 workload to be. Reporting all hours worked as AB 1058 even though individual staff worked on both AB 1058 and other activities.

Corrective Action Plan

- Training: IV-D reimbursable or not
- Training: accurately reporting employee time
 - Standard contract template for contracted FLFs & CSCs
 - Ensure adoption of federal grant requirements

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The (2-part) Question

- 1. Was the activity IV-D reimbursable?
- 2. How much <u>time</u> was spent?

All Court Staff FLF Only • Required training • Bar dues

- Active child support case with LCSA, AND it's related to:
 - Child Support
 Parentage

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- Companion Spousal support
- Health insurance
 Health insurance
 Hubicital council
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- **NO** active case with LCSA \rightarrow outreach re:
 - Providing info, brief explanation of court process & referrals (i.e. triage)
 - Distributing court forms
 - Some Workshops* (* See next slide)

FLF Workshops

- 1. Must be delivered to more than one person,
- 2. Time billed to the grant must be limited to time spent on the following issues:
- Child support
- Establishment of parentage
- Health Insurance issues
- Title IV-D services, AND
- The workshop must provide information about the availability of Title IV-D services
 - Practice pointer: Create workshop script or video
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Reimbursability Principles

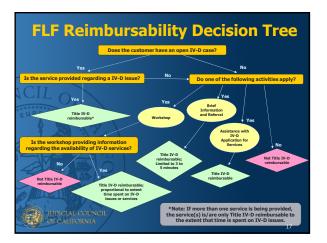
- No "magic wand"
- Proportionality
- Reasonableness/Balance

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Transparency

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Documentation



Reimbursability Hypos

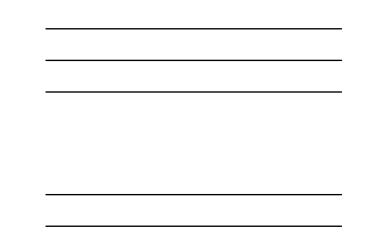
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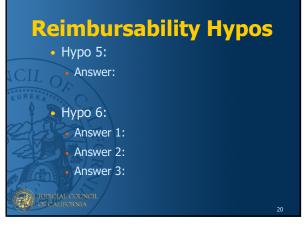
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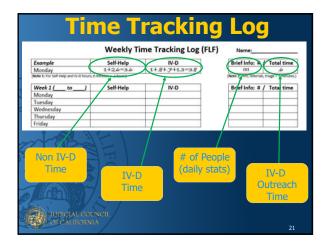
Hypo 2:Answer:

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Reimbursabil	ity Hypos
 Hypo 3: 	
Answer 1:	
• Answer 2:	
• Hypo 4:	
Answer:	
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Proportionality

 If an expense benefits more than one program, the costs must be shared proportionally to each program

> Example: A CSC travels from one court location to another location to handle a court calendar. If $\frac{3}{4}$ of the time is spent hearing IV-D cases and $\frac{1}{4}$ of the time hearing non IV-D cases, the travel time and expenses must be billed $\frac{3}{4}$ to the IV-D program and $\frac{1}{4}$ to the other program

This rule also applies to shared equipment.

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42	Total Non IV-D Time	45 min.					
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	Date	Title IV-D CSC Hours	Ticle IV-D FLF Hours	Title IV-D Outreach Hours	Self-Help Center	(Insert Program Name)	(Insert Program Name)	(Insert Program Name)	Other Hours	Total Hours Worked	Unpaid Leave Time	Total PTO Used	Total Hou Including
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ł	06/21/18 06/22/18	6.00							2.00	8.00			8
t	06/23/18									4.44		8.00	8
	Total Hours	20.25							11.75	32.00		8.00	40
t	Percentage	63.28%							36.72%	80.00%		20.00%	100.0
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## It's About Time...

Bill to the grant based on time
 L spent on IV-D work rather than
 the number of encounters

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Example: One morning, FLF assists 10 people in total: 5 litigants with IV-D issues (1 hour) and 5 with non-IV-D issues (3 hours). Even though half of the customers had IV-D issues, only 1 hour can be billed to the grant based on the actual time spent

### It's About Time...

### Bill to the time, not to the budget

Example: Court hires new commissioner to be 0.5 CSC, with rest of funding coming from trial court funds to hear general family law matters. One month the commissioner hears 20% IV-D matters and 80% non-IV-D. The next month, she hears 70% IV-D matters and 30% non-IV-D...

Month 1: Only **20%** of time can be billed to grant Month 2: Up to **70%** of time can be billed to grant, **if approved** by the court **and** AB 1058

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### Alternative Timekeeping Methodologies

• New federal regulations allow grant recipients to implement new timetracking methods

 Judicial Council is currently considering an alternative timekeeping methodology to simplify for courts

Goal to implement in FY 2019-2020*



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