## AB 1058 Timekeeping

22<sup>nd</sup> 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

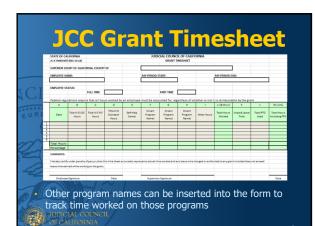
### **Requirement for Documenting Time**

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
   Oreallifornia
- **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**

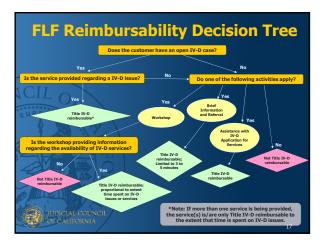
- No "magic wand"
- Proportionality
- Reasonableness/Balance

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Transparency

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Documentation



# **Reimbursability Hypos**

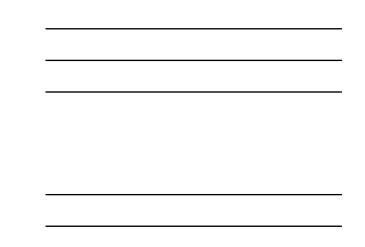
### Hypo 1:

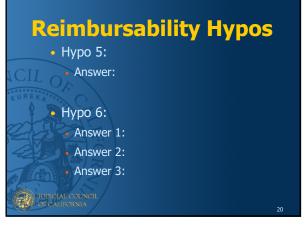
Answer: Bonus Q: How many STARS entries?

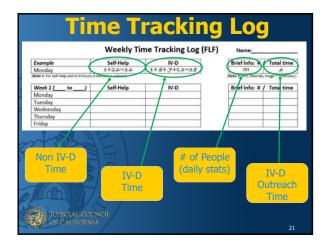
# Hypo 2:Answer:

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Reimbursabil	ity Hypos
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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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İ	06/20/18	6.00							8.00	8.00			8
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
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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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