



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on: July 18-19, 2019

Title

Juvenile Law: Fiscal Year 2019-2020
Funding Allocations for Court-Appointed
Special Advocate Local Assistance

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected

N/A

Recommended by

Family and Juvenile Law Advisory
Committee
Hon. Jerilyn L. Borack, Co-Chair

Agenda Item Type

Action Required

Effective Date

July 18, 2019

Date of Report

May 24, 2019

Contact

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Executive Summary

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends approving Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program grant funding allocations for fiscal year 2019-2020. The State judicial branch budget for Judicial Council CASA Grants for 2019-2020 is \$2.713 million. The \$2.713 million includes a \$500,000 augmentation to support efforts to increase the number of foster children served. The recommended allocations were calculated based on the CASA funding methodology approved by the Judicial Council at its July 20, 2018 and September 21, 2018 business meetings.

Recommendation

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 18, 2019, allocate \$2,713 million for CASA local assistance grants to 46 CASA programs serving 51 counties using the council's funding methodology approved July 20, 2018 and September 21, 2018.

Relevant Previous Council Action

Legislation (Stats. 1988, ch.723) amended Welfare and Institutions Code section 100 et seq. to require the Judicial Council to establish guidelines encouraging the development of local CASA programs that assist abused and neglected children who are the subject of judicial proceedings. The legislation also called for the establishment of a CASA grant program to be administered by the Judicial Council and required CASA programs to provide local matching—or in-kind—funds equal to program funding received from the Judicial Council. At the February 9, 1999, meeting, the Judicial Council delegated approval of the allocation of the Judicial Council CASA grant funds to the Executive and Planning Committee (E&P).

In August 2003, at the recommendation of the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee, E&P approved a formula-based method for distributing Judicial Council CASA program funding to California CASA programs. The new funding approach replaced the previous competitive request-for-proposals process with predetermined program awards. When the allocation process transitioned to a formula-based method, the baseline awards were determined by averaging the amounts of the previous two years of funding. In 2011, E&P decided that the approval of budget allocations for CASA programs be made by the Judicial Council.

At its August 23, 2013, meeting, the Judicial Council approved a new funding methodology that is formula based and uses program data submitted by local programs to evaluate the efficiency and growth of those programs.¹ The two step funding approach with the first step establishing a base funding allocation and the second step awarding up to two (2) incentives at a fixed amount for each incentive that can be applied on top of the base funding allocation if the program qualifies. Programs are required, through both a contract and an evaluation process, to demonstrate that they meet a number of objectives, including compliance with rule 5.655 of the California Rules of Court and local rules of court, volunteer recruitment, volunteer training, board development, sound fiscal management, and other requirements as outlined in the National CASA Standards.

At its July 20, 2018 meeting, the Judicial Council adopted a revised methodology that provides a larger percentage of funds as base funding and replaced the two existing incentives with a growth incentive for those programs that are eligible.² The revised methodology made no changes to the four-tiered base funding portion of the methodology. At its September 21, 2018 meeting, the Judicial Council approved the allocation of \$500,000 to CASA programs as additional base funding for fiscal years (FY) 2018-19 and 2019-20, using the four-tiered base

¹ Judicial Council of California, Advisory Com. Rep., *Juvenile Dependency: Court Appointed Special Advocate Program Funding Methodology* (Aug. 23, 2013), www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jc-20130823-itemM.pdf (as of June 27, 2017).

² Judicial Council of California, *Judicial Council Budget: Court Appointed Special Advocate Funding Methodology and FY 2018-19 Allocations*, <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=6357571&GUID=C010F4D4-28C5-4868-871C-94B763688ACA>

funding methodology adopted at its 2013 and reaffirmed at the July 20, 2018 Judicial Council meeting.³

Analysis/Rationale

The state judicial branch budget for Judicial Council CASA grants for fiscal year (FY) 2019–2020 is \$2.713 million. The Budget Act of 2018, signed into law by the Governor, included an additional ongoing augmentation of \$500,000 for the CASA grant program. The Judicial Council at its September 20, 2018 meeting, approved allocation of the \$500,000 on a two-year funding plan using the four-tiered base funding methodology. Fiscal year 2019-20 is the last of the two (2) years applying the four-tier base funding methodology for allocation of the augmented funds as additional base funding to CASA programs. Judicial Council program staff is currently collecting data to develop and present a methodology to distribute the augmented funds and determine eligibility for continued funding beginning in FY 2020-21.

The committee recommends that the methodology adopted at the Judicial Council meetings of July 20, 2018 and September 21, 2018, be applied, providing CASA programs and those programs that are eligible for the financial incentives with a baseline allocation. These funding allocations are available in Attachment A.

Policy implications

The committee has no policy implications to present this fiscal year.

Alternatives considered

The committee has no alternatives to present this fiscal year.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

There are no fiscal and operational impacts other than the estimated \$2.713 million state judicial branch funding to be distributed to CASA programs.

Attachments and Links

1. Attachment A: *Proposed Allocation for FY 2019-20 Judicial Council Local Assistance at pages 1-2*

³ Judicial Council of California, *Judicial Council Budget: Allocation of Augmented Funding for Court Appointed Special Advocate Grant Program*, <http://jcc.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?m=l&id=/matter.aspx?key=2133>

Attachment A:
Proposed Allocation for FY 2019-20 Judicial Council Local Assistance

Local CASA Programs by County(ies)	Base Allocations*	15% Base Increase	Allocation of \$500,000	Total Base Allocations	Growth Incentive	Total JC Local Assistance Grant
Alameda	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$0	\$71,327
Amador /Calaveras	\$39,000	\$5,850	\$10,785	\$55,635	4,955	\$60,590
Butte/Glenn	\$51,000	\$7,650	\$14,104	\$72,754	\$0	\$72,754
Contra Costa	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$4,955	\$76,282
Del Norte	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$4,955	\$42,045
El Dorado	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
Fresno/Madera	\$75,000	\$11,250	\$20,741	\$106,991	\$4,955	\$111,946
Humboldt	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$4,955	\$42,045
Imperial	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
Inyo/Mono	\$39,000	\$5,850	\$10,785	\$55,635	\$0	\$55,635
Kern	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$4,955	\$76,282
Kings	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$0	\$48,503
Lassen	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$0	\$37,090
Los Angeles	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$0	\$71,327
Marin	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
Mariposa	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$0	\$37,090
Mendocino/Lake	\$51,000	\$7,650	\$14,104	\$72,754	\$4,955	\$77,709
Merced	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
Modoc	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$0	\$37,090
Monterey	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$4,955	\$64,870
Napa	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
Nevada	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$0	\$37,090
Orange	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$0	\$71,327
Placer	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$4,955	\$64,870
Plumas	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$0	\$37,090
Riverside	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$4,955	\$76,282
Sacramento	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$4,955	\$76,282
San Benito	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$0	\$37,090
San Bernardino	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$4,955	\$76,282
San Diego	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$4,955	\$76,282
San Francisco	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$4,955	\$64,870
San Joaquin	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$0	\$59,915
San Luis Obispo	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
San Mateo	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$0	\$59,915
Santa Barbara	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$4,955	\$64,870
Santa Clara	\$50,000	\$7,500	\$13,827	\$71,327	\$0	\$71,327

Attachment A:
Proposed Allocation for FY 2019-20 Judicial Council Local Assistance

Santa Cruz	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
Shasta/Tehama	\$51,000	\$7,650	\$14,104	\$72,754	\$0	\$72,754
Siskiyou	\$26,000	\$3,900	\$7,190	\$37,090	\$4,955	\$42,045
Solano	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$4,955	\$64,870
Sonoma	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$0	\$59,915
Stanislaus	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$4,955	\$64,870
Tulare	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$4,955	\$64,870
Ventura	\$42,000	\$6,300	\$11,615	\$59,915	\$0	\$59,915
Yolo	\$34,000	\$5,100	\$9,403	\$48,503	\$4,955	\$53,458
	\$1,808,000	\$271,200	\$499,995	\$2,579,195	\$133,785	\$2,712,980

Total Local Assistance Grant	\$2,213,000
Total Base Amounts	\$2,579,195
Incentives Awards for Top 27 Programs (Small 13 & Large 14)	\$133,785
Total Allocations = Base + 27 incentives	\$2,712,980

**Base Allocations are based on the four-tier methodology.*

The CASA Methodology specifies \$5,000 for incentives. After allocating funds to the base according to the methodology, \$4,955 per qualified program was available for incentive funding.