

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS**

455 Golden Gate Avenue
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Report

TO: Members of the Judicial Council

FROM: Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee
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DATE: September 26, 2006

SUBJECT: Revisions to Base Allocations for Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program, Fiscal Year 2006–2007 (Action Required)

Issue Statement

The Judicial Council is required to annually allocate nontrial court funding, as described below, to local courts for the child support commissioner and family law facilitator program (Assembly Bill 1058 program). These funds pay the salaries and benefits of child support commissioners and support staff and associated operating expenses. The funds for this program are provided by a cooperative agreement between the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and the Judicial Council. Two-thirds of these funds are federal, and the remaining one-third are from the state General Fund (nontrial court funding).

DCSS has advised staff that funding available for the base allocations for fiscal year 2006–2007 will remain at the same level as that of the preceding fiscal year but that we can expect additional funds of approximately 3.1 to be available for distribution during the midyear reallocation process. Because these additional funds are not currently available for allocation, staff has recommended that the initial base allocations for fiscal year 2006–2007 remain the same for each court with the exception of additional allocations for two courts' child support commissioner programs. The additional allocations are recommended to cover underfunding of existing court staffing for one court and increased facilities costs for the other court, both of which need to be immediately available for the courts' use. The additional allocations will be covered by funds that have been traditionally held in reserve for midyear reallocation. The reserve

funds will not be needed because of the additional funds that DCSS will provide at midyear.

Recommendation

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 1, 2006:

1. Approve the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory, committee's recommended revised base allocations for the child support commissioner program for fiscal year 2006–2007, as set forth in attachment A; and
2. Approve the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory, committee's recommended revised base allocations for the family law facilitator program for fiscal year 2006–2007, as set forth in attachment B.

Attachments A and B are on pages 4–7.

Rationale for Recommendation

The Judicial Council in 1997 established staffing standards for child support commissioners under Family Code section 4252(b)(3). Staffing standards are based on the number of local child support agency cases that have established child support orders. Base allocations remained substantially the same from the inception of the program in 1997 until some reductions were made in FY 2003–2004 to adjust base allocations for courts that consistently did not use their full base allocations. Because of level funding, few permanent adjustments were made to the base allocations of courts whose program expenses consistently exceeded their base allocations until FY 2004–2005, when the Judicial Council approved some revisions.

Because funding available for immediate allocation remains level with the preceding fiscal year, no significant adjustments are being made to the base allocations at this time, with the exception of the two courts indicated above. During the midyear reallocation process, additional funds will be made available to adjust allocations on a court-by-court basis, taking into account spending histories, requests for additional funds, restoration of funding reductions from last fiscal year upon proof of increased need, and projected needs.

All courts, including those listed in Attachments A and B, can apply for additional funds through the midyear reallocation process. One of the goals of these recommended increases in base allocations is to allow the midyear reallocation process to return to its original intent—redistribution of excess funds for special projects and one-time expenses—rather than covering recurring program expenses.

Alternative Actions Considered

No alternative actions were considered as the Judicial Council is required to allocate funding for this legislatively mandated program.

Comments From Interested Parties

This proposal was not circulated for comment.

Implementation Requirements and Costs

None.

Attachments

Child Support Commissioner Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2005–2006	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2006–2007	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2006–2007
Alameda	\$ 1,201,672		\$ 1,201,672
Amador	162,225		162,225
Butte	414,000		414,000
Calaveras	130,000		130,000
Colusa	52,350		52,350
Contra Costa	1,154,364		1,154,364
Del Norte	55,000		55,000
El Dorado and Alpine	235,000		235,000
Fresno	1,773,040		1,773,040
Glenn	135,000		135,000
Humboldt	140,000		140,000
Imperial	186,401		186,401
Inyo	83,000		83,000
Kern	734,908		734,908
Kings	253,440	59,473	312,913
Lake	179,432		179,432
Lassen	83,410		83,410
Los Angeles	5,798,149		5,798,149
Madera	245,000		245,000
Marin	171,048		171,048
Mariposa	87,000		87,000
Mendocino	196,946		196,946
Merced	624,295		624,295
Mono	50,870		50,870
Monterey	422,619		422,619
Napa	204,865		204,865
Nevada and Sierra	378,920		378,920
Orange	2,585,850		2,585,850
Placer	417,943		417,943
Plumas	106,700		106,700
Riverside	1,101,932		1,101,932
Sacramento	1,174,766		1,174,766
San Benito	155,111		155,111
San Bernardino	1,898,168	198,784	2,096,952
San Diego	2,015,061		2,015,061
San Francisco	1,015,000		1,015,000
San Joaquin	784,818		784,818
San Luis Obispo	257,000		257,000
San Mateo	450,718		450,718
Santa Barbara	524,674		524,674
Santa Clara	1,944,087		1,944,087
Santa Cruz	209,661		209,661
Shasta and Trinity	481,960		481,960

Child Support Commissioner Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2005–2006	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2006–2007	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2006–2007
Siskiyou	265,538		265,538
Solano	596,635		596,635
Sonoma	555,687		555,687
Stanislaus	754,205		754,205
Sutter	222,353		222,353
Tehama	105,000		105,000
Tulare	584,088		584,088
Tuolumne	183,410		183,410
Ventura	641,254		641,254
Yolo	219,991		219,991
Yuba	226,320		226,320
Total	\$ 34,630,884	\$ 258,257	\$ 34,889,141
Total amount to be allocated			\$ 34,889,141

Family Law Facilitator Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2005–2006	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2006–2007	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2006–2007
Alameda	\$ 416,096		\$ 416,096
Butte	116,867		116,867
Calaveras	134,620		134,620
Colusa	59,000		59,000
Contra Costa	342,770		342,770
Del Norte	56,065		56,065
El Dorado and Alpine	118,897		118,897
Fresno	440,347		440,347
Glenn	85,000		85,000
Humboldt	100,000		100,000
Imperial	50,000		50,000
Inyo	64,120		64,120
Kern	396,356		396,356
Kings	60,000		60,000
Lake	66,120		66,120
Lassen	68,044		68,044
Los Angeles	2,109,379		2,109,379
Madera	92,530		92,530
Marin	111,867		111,867
Mariposa	52,130		52,130
Mendocino	69,120		69,120
Merced	113,000		113,000
Modoc	52,130		52,130
Mono	54,000		54,000
Monterey	134,937		134,937
Napa	69,120		69,120
Nevada and Sierra	133,240		133,240
Orange	602,355		602,355
Placer	100,494		100,494
Plumas	64,120		64,120
Riverside	667,668		667,668
Sacramento	345,528		345,528
San Benito	69,120		69,120
San Bernardino	409,650		409,650
San Diego	516,516		516,516
San Francisco	275,000		275,000
San Joaquin	245,519		245,519
San Luis Obispo	75,000		75,000
San Mateo	145,633		145,633
Santa Barbara	190,515		190,515
Santa Clara	497,252		497,252
Santa Cruz	82,960		82,960

Family Law Facilitator Program			
County	Base Allocation FY 2005–2006	Recommended Change to Base Allocation for FY 2006–2007	Total Recommended Allocation for FY 2006–2007
Shasta and Trinity	180,600		180,600
Siskiyou	85,494		85,494
Solano	148,241		148,241
Sonoma	154,615		154,615
Stanislaus	251,599		251,599
Sutter	74,120		74,120
Tehama	28,130		28,130
Tulare	314,983		314,983
Tuolumne	64,120		64,120
Ventura	282,855		282,855
Yolo	85,494		85,494
Yuba	73,500		73,500
Total	\$ 11,596,836	\$ -	\$ 11,596,836
Total amount to be allocated			\$ 11,596,839