

agreement with another court for AB 1058 services) be funded at no less than their current levels for FY 2019–20 and FY 2020–21.

With these new child support commissioner program base allocations, courts were directed to reassess their federal drawdown funding need and request a federal drawdown amount for FY 2020–21 by responding to a questionnaire distributed to the courts. The council adopted the joint subcommittee’s recommendation that federal drawdown funds be allocated proportionally to each court based on the new funding allocations up to the amount that a court requests and can match. The council further determined that if the request for federal drawdown funds exceeds the amount available to allocate, these funds should be allocated in proportion to a court’s base funding. This proportional allocation is continued until all drawdown funds are allocated to those courts that are willing and able to provide the matching funds.

The committees recommend that courts be allocated base and federal drawdown funding for the child support commissioner program for FY 2020–21 following these methodologies, as shown on Attachment C.

Family law facilitator program funding allocations, FY 2019–20

Per the historic funding allocation methodology, a questionnaire is sent to each court requesting the information needed to evaluate appropriate funding levels for the family law facilitator base funds and family law facilitator federal drawdown funds. The committees recommend that courts be allocated base and/or federal drawdown funding, less any amount a court indicated that it wishes to relinquish, for the family law facilitator program as in FY 2019–20, but that each court requesting increased base funding, federal drawdown funding, or both be allocated additional funding in proportion to overall funding available for program funding.

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee reviewed the allocation of base funding for the Child Support Commissioner and the Family Law Facilitator Program, and the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee reviewed the allocation of the federal drawdown funding for the Child Support Commissioner and the Family Law Facilitator Program, as directed by the Judicial Council. The committees recommend adopting the base funding and federal drawdown allocations for FY 20120–21 as shown on Attachments C and D.

Policy Implications

Approval of these recommendations allows for the continued funding of the Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program, supporting courts in meeting their mandates under Family Code sections 4251 and 10002 to hire sufficient child support commissioners and family law facilitators, respectively, to provide AB 1058 services to the public. Approval of these recommendations also fulfills the requirements of the contract between the Judicial Council and DCSS.

Comments

This proposal did not circulate for public comment; however, a detailed funding questionnaire was completed by all 58 courts and used to develop the allocation recommendations.

