Update 2015-9: Foster Care
Completing The FC 8

Background
The “Federal Eligibility Certification for Adoption Assistance Program” (FC 8) is to be completed by the Foster Care (FC) Eligibility Worker (EW) when determining federal or non-federal eligibility for the payment of AAP benefits. The completed FC 8 is to be maintained in the FC case file and a copy is sent to the post adoption unit.

All County Letter (ACL) 10-08 introduced a new category of “Applicable Child”. The “Applicable Child” was established to provide an additional path to receive federal AAP benefits.

As a result of the AAP monitoring on February 24, 2015, the County of Santa Clara was cited for incorrectly completing the FC 8, relating to the “Applicable Child” criteria.

Policy
When determining the “Applicable Child” at least one of the following requirements must be met:

• Meets the age requirement any time before the end of the federal fiscal year (FFY). The FFY is from October 1st to September 30th; or

• The child was in foster care for at least 60 consecutive months; or

• The child is a sibling of an “applicable child”, if both are placed in the same prospective adoptive home.
The “Applicable Child” is determined by completing questions 7 through 7c of the FC 8.

- 7. The child meets the “Applicable Child” criteria: [Y/N].
  (This question can only be answered when questions 7a to 7c have been completed. If answers 7a to 7c are “N”, the answer must be “N.”).

- 7a. The child’s age is ________ in Federal Fiscal Year ______ [Y/N].
  (This is the age of the child when the adoption was finalized. This information must be provided, however, the [Y/N] will depend on the age chart, refer to Foster Care Handbook “Applicable Child,” page 37-16).

- 7b. The child has been in foster care under the care of Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) for 60 consecutive months [Y/N].
  (This can be either federal or non-federal foster care).

- 7c. The child’s sibling is an “applicable child” and is placed in the same prospective adoptive home of his or her sibling [Y/N].
  (The FC EW must review the sibling’s case to determine if the sibling meets the “applicable child” requirement).

**Note:**
For complete details regarding the “Applicable Child” refer to the Foster Care Handbook “Applicable Child,” page 37-14.

When the case is closed because the adoption is finalized, the FC EW sends the completed F8 to the FC EWS for review. The FC EWS must review the FC 8 to be sure it is completed correctly. The FC 8 is returned to the FC EW and a copy must be sent to the post-adoption unit and IDM.

**Implementation**
Effective upon receipt of this update the FC EWs must accurately complete the FC 8 and forward a completed copy to the FC EWS. After the FC EWS reviews the FC 8 it is returned to the FC EW and sent to IDM. A copy of the completed FC 8 must be sent to the post-adoption unit.

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