B Kinship Foster Care-FAA Responsibilities

REVISION 39 (12/01/15 - 01/31/16)

When the Department of Child Safety (DCS) has placed a child with a specified relative, a CA Kinship Foster Care application may be emailed from DCS or turned in to FAA by the specified relative. CA Kinship Foster Care provides special considerations in the application process, verification process, and CA and NA eligibility requirements.

When the CA Kinship Foster Care application is e-mailed from DCS to Certified Document Services (CDS), the application is annotated in the upper right corner with "KFC/DCS/P". This indicates the application is a child only Kinship Foster Care, Department of Child Safety Placement.

WARNING

When the child is in the custody of the State of Arizona and placed in the home of an unrelated foster care provider by DCS, the specified relative requirement is met. See DCS Placement Provider

CDS registers the application in AZTECS then uploads the application to OnBase.

Once the application is registered and uploaded to OnBase, CDS routes the FAA-1091A to the appropriate local office and adds the application to the local office phone tracker. This process will help ensure the applicant is contacted within the required five day time frame.

When the CA Kinship Foster Care application is received at the local office, FAA designated staff must ensure that all of the following apply to the Kinship Foster Care application:

- The dependent child is under the jurisdiction of DCS.
- The applicant is the specified relative.
- The application is for CA benefits for the child only.
- The budgetary unit is <u>Basic categorically eligible</u> for NA.

NOTE When the dependent child's parent or siblings are also living in the home they are not considered part of the budgetary unit. The child is a ward of the state in the custody of DCS.

When the specified relative chooses to be included in the CA case, process the application using time frames as outlined in <u>CA Application Time Frames</u>.

When the specified relative DOES NOT WANT to be included, process the CA application as a Kinship Foster Care child only application as follows:

- Stamp the first page of the <u>official FAA application</u> with the KF/KS/LP stamp. Circle KF. When the KF/KS/LP stamp is not available, write KF on the application.
- Register the application for the programs requested by the applicant.

The date of application is the date the application is received by FAA.

On REAP, key KF in the REFERRAL SOURCE field.

WARNING

The KF Referral Source Code must display next to the PI keyed OU in the PT field on SEPA, and next to the child for whom benefits are being requested.

When the REFERRAL SOURCE field is keyed on REAP, the Referral Source Code displays on RESE next to all participants. Remove the KF Referral Source Code on RESE that displays next to all participants NOT included in the Kinship Foster Care benefit, other than the PI.

When the Referral Source Code does not display on RESE, key the KF Referral Source Code on RESE next to the PI coded OU, and the child coded IN or BC in the PT field on SEPA.

NOTE

The specified relative may have a current CA case, or applies for their own children. When this occurs, the Kinship Foster Care child only case must remain separate from the specified relative's current CA case.

 Contact the Kinship Foster Care applicant as indicated on the TANF/CA Contact Form (FAA-1091A) within five calendar days of the application date. A face-to-face interview with the Kinship Foster Care applicant is NOT required at new application or at renewal. Offer the applicant the choice of a phone interview, home visit, or office interview. (See <u>Waiver of</u> Office Interview) Use the court order or minute entry as <u>verification of</u> relationship.

EXCEPTION

When the application is received from DCS and annotated in the upper right corner with "KFC/DCS/P" indicating the application is a child only Kinship Foster Care Department of Child Safety Placement, relationship is considered verified. See DCS Placement Provider

- Use the <u>A1 Need Standard</u> in the eligibility determination.
 Verification is not required.
- Complete the eligibility determination as soon as possible, but no later than 20 calendar days from the date the application is received by FAA. (See <u>Determining Eligibility</u>)
- Advise the Kinship Foster Care applicant to contact <u>Community Information and Referral</u> for other potential supportive services.

When the Kinship Foster Care family is authorized to receive <u>TANF</u> benefits or services(g) the family meets <u>Basic NA categorical eligibility</u> requirements.