# Fostering Connections State Matrix

## Guardianship Assistance Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Pre-existing GAP</th>
<th>New/Proposed Legislation, Rules, Policies, Etc.</th>
<th>Key Features of Programs/ Changes to Pre-existing Programs</th>
<th>Licensing Requirements</th>
<th>Amended IV-E Plan</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| AL    | No               | HB 617 (enacted 4/22/10)                       | • Establishes kinship guardianship subsidy program in State Department of Human Resources  
Code of Alabama Sections 38-12-1 through 38-12-5 • Eligibility includes relatives within 1st, 2nd, or 3rd degree to parent • Payment amount not to exceed FC rate | Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications | Not submitted |  |
| AR    | No               | SB 351 (enacted 3/6/09)                        | Establishes subsidy payments for relative guardians | Same as for non-relative foster home | Not submitted |  |
| AZ    | Yes; Statute 8-814 | None required; working on IV-E state plan amendment | • Amount not to exceed Adoption Subsidy maintenance payment  
State will continue to fund non-relatives | Provisions for waiving non-safety licensing criteria on a case-by-case basis for relatives | Working on State plan amendment, not yet submitted |  |
| CA    | Yes (grand-parents only) | AB 12 (pending) | • Replaces previous Kin-GAP program with one consistent with Fostering Connections Act  
• Reduces required residency period from 12 months to 6 months | Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications | Not submitted | Bill Fuser, Policy Analyst, CA Dept. of Social Services, Kinship Care Policy and Support Unit (916) 657-1858 |
| CO    | Yes (grand-parents only) | SB 245 (enacted 6/4/09) | Establishes subsidy payments for relative guardians | Allows for non-safety waivers of licensing requirements for relatives | Submitted, pending approval | Mary Griffin, Foster Care Specialist (303)866-3546 |
| CT    | Yes; State-funded, Statute 17a-126 | No legislative action; IV-E State plan amendment | • Established subsidy payments for relative guardians  
• Amount equal to FC rate | Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications | Submitted, pending approval |  |
| DC    | Yes              | No legislative action; IV-E State plan amendment (3/31/09) | • Revised subsidy policies to align with federal statute  
• Modifies IV-E eligibility determination practices  
• Implements SACWIS modifications | Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications | Submitted; Pending Approval | Ritu Atwal, Child & Family Services Agency Subsidized Guardianship (202)727-3777 ritu.atwal@dc.gov |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>(Ex)</th>
<th>IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project</th>
<th>Rule 302.410</th>
<th>Revises previous program to be consistent with federal provisions; clarifies that State will continue to fund non-relative guardians</th>
<th>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</th>
<th>Approved</th>
<th>June Dorn, Guardianship Administrator, (312) 814-6858 <a href="mailto:june.dorn@illinois.gov">june.dorn@illinois.gov</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MD</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, state-funded; IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project</td>
<td>Submitting IV-E State plan amendment</td>
<td>Federal program will complement state’s program</td>
<td>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</td>
<td>In process of submitting</td>
<td>Debbie Ramelmeier, Director, Child Welfare Policy &amp; Practice <a href="mailto:dramelme@dhr.state.md.us">dramelme@dhr.state.md.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME</td>
<td>(Ex 9)</td>
<td>Yes; State-funded, Statute 22.4038-D</td>
<td>IV-E State plan amendment (1/20/09)</td>
<td>Current program provides guardian subsidy payments, not required to be relative; Payment amount not to exceed FC rate</td>
<td>Allows for waivers or modifications of non-safety requirements for relatives</td>
<td>Submitted; Pending Approval</td>
<td>Linda Brissette, Maine Bureau of child &amp; Family Services (207)624-7964 <a href="mailto:Linda.Brissette@maine.gov">Linda.Brissette@maine.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>(Ex 10)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Proposed Amendment of Regulations 110 CMR 7.303</td>
<td>Modifies the current Guardianship Subsidy regulations to include program under Title IV; Clarifies standards for DCF state funded guardianship subsidy</td>
<td>Allows for waivers or modifications of non-safety requirements for relatives</td>
<td>Submitted, Pending approval</td>
<td>Donna Reulbach, Dept. of Children &amp; Families <a href="mailto:donna.reulbach@state.ma.us">donna.reulbach@state.ma.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI</td>
<td>(Ex 11)</td>
<td>Yes, state-funded</td>
<td>SB 227 (enacted 4/9/09); SR 27 (pending)</td>
<td>State will continue to fund non-relative guardians; urges congress to revise requirements to allow residency to begin prior to licensing of home</td>
<td>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>Anita Peters, Adoption, Guardianship &amp; Permanency Manager (517) 241-8817 <a href="mailto:peter@mg.michigan.gov">peter@mg.michigan.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>(Ex 12)</td>
<td>Yes, IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project; state-funded, Statute 257.85</td>
<td>Plans to implement, pending new legislation</td>
<td>Restructure current program and create new GAP consistent with federal provisions</td>
<td>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</td>
<td>Not submitted</td>
<td>Connie Caron (651)431-4665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO (Ex. 13)</td>
<td>Yes, state-funded, Statute 453.072</td>
<td>Submitted IV-E State plan amendment (03/2009)</td>
<td>Added 6-month residency requirement, but otherwise state program is very similar to federal provisions</td>
<td>No licensing waivers currently being utilized, but reviewing non-safety requirements to determine if waivers should be allowed</td>
<td>Submitted; Pending Approval</td>
<td>Amy Martin, Program Development Specialist (573) 526 8040</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT (Ex. 14)</td>
<td>Yes, IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project; state-funded, Statute 41-3-444</td>
<td>Submitted IV-E State plan amendment</td>
<td>Proposes an expanded definition of kin that includes non-relatives and emphasizes importance of clan membership for tribal children</td>
<td>Allows for waivers or modifications of non-safety requirements for relatives</td>
<td>Submitted; Pending Approval</td>
<td>Jackie Stoeckel, Foster Care Program Manager, DPHHS - Child &amp; Family Services - Program Bureau (406) 841-2402; <a href="mailto:JStoeckel@mt.gov">JStoeckel@mt.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Yes, state-funded</td>
<td>No legislative action</td>
<td>• State program does not require guardian to be a relative</td>
<td>Allows for waivers or modifications of non-safety requirements for relatives</td>
<td>Submitted, some corrections required; recently re-submitted, pending approval</td>
<td>Margaret Bitz, Div of Human Svcs <a href="mailto:Margaret.Bitz@nebraska.gov">Margaret.Bitz@nebraska.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| OR (Ex. 15) | Yes, IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project | OAR Policy # I-E. 3.6.2 | • Establishes rules for eligibility & receipt of guardianship assistance  
• Broadly defines relative to include a person who the child had an emotionally significant relationship with prior to entering state custody | Allows for modified training (not yet codified) | Submitted, pending approval | Beth Englander 503-947-5358 |
| PA (Ex. 16) | Yes, state-funded, Policy #3130-09-02, 3140-09-01 | No legislative action required; Submitted IV-E State plan amendment | • Refined guardianship agreement  
• Had to implement 6-month residency req.  
• Federal program uses stricter definition of relative than state program  
• Non-IV-E eligible still funded by state prog. | Allows for waivers of non-safety requirements on a case-by-case basis | Initially Approved; ACF sent follow-up questions and document requests | Cindi Horshaw (717) 783-7287 |
| RI (Ex. 17) | Yes; was revising when FC Act became law | DCYF Policy 700.0045 | • Defines kinship broadly to include godparents, close family friends, neighbors, etc.  
• New rule provides procedures for | Allows for waivers or modifications of non-safety requirements for relatives | Approved | Diane Savage, Permanency Services Unit (401)528-3676 diane.savage@dcyf.ri.gov |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assistance Details</th>
<th>Approval Status</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Subsidy available whenever financial constraints hinder guardianship, Excludes children under 12 and who have not been in FC for 6 months, Medical coverage not provided</td>
<td>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</td>
<td>Submitted, pending approval</td>
<td>Stacy Nemec, Program Specialist for Foster Care, ICPC, Kinship &amp; Guardianship (605) 773-3227 <a href="mailto:stacy.nemec@state.sd.us">stacy.nemec@state.sd.us</a> Virgena Wieseler, Division Director (605)773-6834 <a href="mailto:Virginia.Wieseler@state.sd.us">Virginia.Wieseler@state.sd.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN (Ex. 18)</td>
<td>Yes, IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project</td>
<td>DCS Policy 16.39</td>
<td>Converted from IV-E Waiver Demonstration, State continues to fund non-IV-E eligible children, Applies broad definition of kin to include anyone with a close relationship to the child, i.e. godparents and close family friends</td>
<td>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>Odessa Krech, Program Director (615)253-6906 Daphne Billingsley, IV-B Program Manager (615) 532-5539 <a href="mailto:Daphne.Billingsley@state.tn.us">Daphne.Billingsley@state.tn.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX (Ex. 19)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>HB 1151, Ch. 1118 (enacted)</td>
<td>Permanency Care Assistance Program, Kinship defined as a relative or someone with a longstanding &amp; significant relationship to the child, Payment amount not to exceed FC rate</td>
<td>Allows for waivers or modifications of non-safety requirements for relatives</td>
<td>Not submitted</td>
<td>Amendments to Texas Family Code, Sections 264.852 to 264.855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT (Ex. 20)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>HB 507</td>
<td>Modifies permanent guardianship law to comply with federal provisions</td>
<td>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</td>
<td>Submitted, pending approval</td>
<td>Diane Dexter, Adoption Chief (802)241-2142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA (Ex. 22)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>RCW 13.34</td>
<td>Add new section on relative guardianships</td>
<td>Same as for non-relative foster parents; does not allow waivers or modifications</td>
<td>Submitted, pending approval</td>
<td>Dinah Martin, DSHS Program Manager <a href="mailto:MADI300@dshs.wa.gov">MADI300@dshs.wa.gov</a>; Pam Kramer, Children's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DSHS P&amp;P 43401</td>
<td>Establishes Relative Guardianship Assistance Program (R-GAP)</td>
<td>Not available for non-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Extending Foster Care to Age 21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Previously in Place</th>
<th>New/Proposed Legislation</th>
<th>Key Features/Changes</th>
<th>Amended IV-E Plan</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| AK    | No                  | HB 126 (enacted 6/16/10) | • May petition for child to remain in state custody up to age 21 if it is in the child’s best interest, granted as 1-year extensions  
• Former foster youth may resume state custody | Not submitted | Pam Kramer, Administration, Adoption Services Program Manager, (360) 902-7968, pam.kramer@dshs.wa.gov |
| CA    | No                  | AB 12 (pending)          | Will extend FC to age 21, going into effect 1/1/12 | Not submitted | Bill Fuser, Policy Analyst, CA Dept. of Social Services, Kinship Care Policy and Support Unit, (916) 657-1858 |
| DE    | No                  | SB 40 (pending)         | • Extends FC up to age 22  
• May request to re-engage foster care, up to age 22  
• Allows court to extend jurisdiction over a youth at the age of 18, at least 6 months prior to 21st b-day  
• Extended jurisdiction may continue until age 21 | Not submitted | June Dorn, Guardianship Administrator, (312) 814-6858, june.dorn@illinois.gov |
| IL    | Yes                 | HB 4054 (enacted)       | • Extends foster care to age 21  
• Allows former foster youth to re-engage system | Approved | Donna Reulbach, Dept. of Children & Families, donna.reulbach@state.ma.us |
<p>| KY    | Yes                 | None – will be able to claim federal reimbursement for current program | None necessary | None submitted | None necessary |
| MA    | No                  | SB 40                   | Amends subsection f of Ch. 119, Section 23 of the General Laws to state that the Department will maintain responsibility for youth age 18 up to age 22, contingent upon their express written consent | Submitted, pending approval | None specified |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>HB Number</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Approval Status</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>HB 123, Section 4</td>
<td>Amends Section 9A of Ch. 118E of General Laws to state that children who have aged out of foster care will be eligible for benefits until age 21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>SB 666 (enacted)</td>
<td>Ensures continued foster care benefits for youth up to age 21 who have received FC payments for at least 6 consecutive months prior to turning 18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>No amendment necessary</td>
<td>A youth may stay in foster care up to age 21 if the family team makes a recommendation to the court and the court is in agreement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>HB 2297</td>
<td>Allows for extension of foster care to 21 for educational or vocational programming, or employment of a minimum of 80 hrs/month.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>HB 1151, Ch. 1118 (enacted)</td>
<td>Department will continue to provide foster care to child past age 18 if engaged in educational programming or is employed minimum of 80 hrs/mo, or cannot do so due to medical condition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| WA    | HB 1961, Ch. 235 (enacted) | • Youth who remain eligible for placement services or benefits may continue to receive services until age 21  
• Must be enrolled in educational program or engaged in minimum employment of 80 hrs/mo. or cannot do so due to medical condition |
|       |            | Submitted, pending approval | Submitted, pending approval | Jackie Stoeckel, Foster Care Program Manager, DPHHS - Child & Family Services - Program Bureau (406) 841-2402 JStoeckel@mt.gov |
|       |            | Submitted, pending approval | Submitted, pending approval | Amy Martin, Program Development Specialist (573) 526 8040 |
|       |            | Approved | Approved | Cindi Horshaw (717) 783-7287 |
|       |            | Not submitted | Not submitted | Dinah Martin, DSHS Program Manager MAD1300@dshs.wa.gov; Pam Kramer, Children's Administration, Adoption Services Program Manager (360) 902-7968 pam.kramer@dshs.wa.gov |
ATTACHMENT A– Children’s Bureau Regional Program Managers

Region I - Boston
Bob Cavanaugh
bob.cavanaugh@acf.hhs.gov
JFK Federal Building Rm. 2000
Boston, MA 02203
(617) 565-1020

States
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Region II - New York City
Junius Scott
junius.scott@acf.hhs.gov
26 Federal Plaza Rm. 4114
New York, NY 10278
(212) 264-2890

States and Territories
New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

Region III - Philadelphia
Lisa Pearson
lisa.pearson@acf.hhs.gov
150 S. Independence
Mall West—Suite 864
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3499
(215) 861-4000

States
Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia

Region IV - Atlanta
Ruth Walker
ruth.walker@acf.hhs.gov
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street SW Suite 4M60
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 562-2900

States
Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee

Region V - Chicago
Carolyn Wilson-Hurey
carolyn.wilson-hurey@acf.hhs.gov
233 N. Michigan Avenue
Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 353-4237  
**States**  
Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin

**Region VI - Dallas**  
June Lloyd  
june.lloyd@acf.hhs.gov  
1301 Young Street Suite 945  
Dallas, TX 75202  
(214) **767-8466**  
**States**  
Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas

**Region VII - Kansas City**  
Rosalyn Wilson  
rosalyn.wilson@acf.hhs.gov  
Federal Office Building  
Room 276  
601 E 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106  
(816) 426-3981  
**States**  
Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

**Region VIII - Denver**  
Marilyn Kennerson  
marilyn.kennerson@acf.hhs.gov  
Federal Office Building  
1961 Stout Street 9th Floor  
Denver, CO 80294-3538  
(303) 844-3100  
**States**  
Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

**Region IX - San Francisco**  
Sally Flanzer  
sally.flanzer@acf.hhs.gov  
90 7th St., 9th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(415) 437-8400  
**States**  
Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Outer Pacific—American Samoa

**Region X - Seattle**  
John Henderson
john.henderson@acf.hhs.gov
2201 Sixth Avenue Suite 300, MS-70
Seattle, WA 98121
(206) 615-2482

States
Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington