

Questions and Answers regarding MCAH, BIH, and AFLP Policy Alert Letters

MCAH

Are Local MCAH programs still required to have a Toll Free Telephone Line?

Yes. The Toll Free Telephone Line is a Title V State requirement. Local MCAH programs are still required to have a Toll Free Telephone Line. The Local MCAH program may choose to utilize an MCAH dedicated phone line; incorporate an MCAH phone line with a local 2-1-1 phone line; or some other telephone information service. A system to track and refer calls related to the MCAH population should be developed by the MCAH program if the MCAH program is using a non-dedicated MCAH phone line.

Are Local MCAH programs required to contact all parents/caregivers who experience a presumed SIDS death to provide grief and bereavement support services?

Yes. Local MCAH programs are required to contact all parents/caregivers who experience a presumed SIDS death to provide grief and bereavement support services. A contact may consist of a home visit, personal phone call or a personal letter to the parent/caregiver.

AFLP

Will AFLP agencies be penalized with a loss of allocated MOS in FY 2010-11 if they experience a decrease in the MOS during FY 2009-10?

No. MCAH Division recognizes the extraordinary hardship that the State budgetary crisis of FY 2009-10 has placed on the ability of local AFLP agencies to function efficiently. The MCAH Division is available to assist local AFLP agencies regain clients and increase their MOS over the remainder of FY 2009-10.

When should AFLP clients who fail to participate in the Program be discharged?

AFLP clients who fail to participate in the Program should be discharged after a maximum of 6 months of non-participation.

Are AFLP agencies allowed to use local agency funding to exceed their allocated MOS?

Yes. LHJs may contribute local agency funding to the AFLP budget to augment their current Title V allocation and exceed their allocated MOS. The contribution of non-federal local agency funds to the AFLP budget may be used to maximize the use of available matching federal funds claimable under Title XIX.

How will agencies retroactively include up to two MOS for outreach contact with an individual client who subsequently enrolls in AFLP?

The State, in conjunction with representatives from Branagh Information Group and AFLP Regional Representatives, will discuss changes to Lodestar programming and data collection to reflect retroactive outreach contact for AFLP clients.

Will Branagh Information Group be updating Lodestar forms to match AFLP policy changes?

Yes, the Lodestar system and forms will be updated to reflect AFLP policy changes. The State, in conjunction with representatives from Branagh Information Group and AFLP Regional Representatives, will discuss future changes to Lodestar programming and data collection. No changes have been made at this time.

Will Lodestar be set up to automatically track the end date for program participation or are agencies required to calculate the end date for each client?

The State, in conjunction with representatives from Branagh Information Group and AFLP Regional Representatives, will discuss future changes to Lodestar programming and data collection. No changes have been made at this time. In the interim, agencies must calculate client end dates.

BIH

Are BIH Programs allowed to consolidate their Program and funding with the MCAH Program?

No. BIH Programs will continue to operate with independent budgets, staff and SOW.

Will the current BIH SOW for FY 2009-10 remain unchanged?

No. The SOW for FY 2009-10 has been revised to reflect the loss of State General Funds in the BIH Program. The changes are as follows:

- Each LHJ will continue to implement the Prenatal Care Outreach and Care Coordination Model. The Case Management, Social Support and Empowerment, and Role of Men models may be implemented at the discretion of the LHJ.
- The requirement to identify a specific percentage of BIH clients to be served has been eliminated from the SOW