

(3) The funds are to be used to improve and expand child abuse or neglect prevention or treatment programs; and

(4) The State is otherwise in compliance with these regulations.

(b) At the time of an award under this subpart, the amount of funds not obligated from an award made eighteen or more months previously shall be subtracted from the amount of funds under the award, unless the Secretary determines that extraordinary reasons justify the failure to so obligate.

[48 FR 3702, Jan. 26, 1983, as amended at 52 FR 3995, Feb. 6, 1987; 55 FR 27639, July 5, 1990]

#### § 1340.14 Eligibility requirements.

In order for a State to qualify for an award under this subpart, the State must meet the requirements of § 1340.15 and satisfy each of the following requirements:

(a) State must satisfy each of the requirements in section 107(b) of the Act.

(b) *Definition of Child Abuse and Neglect.* Wherever the requirements below use the term "Child Abuse and Neglect" the State must define that term in accordance with § 1340.2. However, it is not necessary to adopt language identical to that used in § 1340.2, as long as the definition used in the State is the same in substance.

(c) *Reporting.* The State must provide by statute that specified persons must report and by statute or administrative procedure that all other persons are permitted to report known and suspected instances of child abuse and neglect to a child protective agency or other properly constituted authority.

(d) *Investigations.* The State must provide for the prompt initiation of an appropriate investigation by a child protective agency or other properly constituted authority to substantiate the accuracy of all reports of known or suspected child abuse or neglect. This investigation may include the use of reporting hotlines, contact with central registers, field investigations and interviews, home visits, consultation with other agencies, medical examinations, psychological and social evaluations, and reviews by multidisciplinary teams.

(e) *Institutional child abuse and neglect.* The State must have a statute or

administrative procedure requiring that when a report of known or suspected child abuse or neglect involves the acts or omissions of the agency, institution, or facility to which the report would ordinarily be made, a different properly constituted authority must receive and investigate the report and take appropriate protective and corrective action.

(f) *Emergency services.* If an investigation of a report reveals that the reported child or any other child under the same care is in need of immediate protection, the State must provide emergency services to protect the child's health and welfare. These services may include emergency caretaker or homemaker services; emergency shelter care or medical services; review by a multidisciplinary team; and, if appropriate, criminal or civil court action to protect the child, to help the parents or guardians in their responsibilities and, if necessary, to remove the child from a dangerous situation.

(g) *Guardian ad litem.* In every case involving an abused or neglected child which results in a judicial proceeding, the State must insure the appointment of a guardian ad litem or other individual whom the State recognizes as fulfilling the same functions as a guardian ad litem, to represent and protect the rights and best interests of the child. This requirement may be satisfied: (1) By a statute mandating the appointments; (2) by a statute permitting the appointments, accompanied by a statement from the Governor that the appointments are made in every case; (3) in the absence of a specific statute, by a formal opinion of the Attorney General that the appointments are permitted, accompanied by a Governor's statement that the appointments are made in every case; or (4) by the State's Uniform Court Rule mandating appointments in every case. However, the guardian *ad litem* shall not be the attorney responsible for presenting the evidence alleging child abuse or neglect.

(h) *Prevention and treatment services.* The State must demonstrate that it has throughout the State procedures and services deal with child abuse and neglect cases. These procedures and services include the determination of

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social service and medical needs and the provision of needed social and medical services.

(i) *Confidentiality.* (1) The State must provide by statute that all records concerning reports and reports of child abuse and neglect are confidential and that their unauthorized disclosure is a criminal offense.

(2) If a State chooses to, it may authorize by statute disclosure to any or all of the following persons and agencies, under limitations and procedures the State determines:

(i) The agency (agencies) or organizations (including its designated multidisciplinary case consultation team) legally mandated by any Federal or State law to receive and investigate reports of known and suspected child abuse and neglect;

(ii) A court, under terms identified in State statute;

(iii) A grand jury;

(iv) A properly constituted authority (including its designated multidisciplinary case consultation team) investigating a report of known or suspected child abuse or neglect or providing services to a child or family which is the subject of a report;

(v) A physician who has before him or her a child whom the physician reasonably suspects may be abused or neglected;

(vi) A person legally authorized to place a child in protective custody when the person has before him or her a child whom he or she reasonably suspects may be abused or neglected and the person requires the information in the report or record in order to determine whether to place the child in protective custody;

(vii) An agency authorized by a properly constituted authority to diagnose, care for, treat, or supervise a child who is the subject of a report or record of child abuse or neglect;

(viii) A person about whom a report has been made, with protection for the identity of any person reporting known or suspected child abuse or neglect and any other person where the person or agency making the information available finds that disclosure of the information would be likely to endanger the life or safety of such person;

(ix) A child named in the report or record alleged to have been abused or neglected or (as his/her representative) his/her guardian or guardian ad litem;

(x) An appropriate State or local official responsible for administration of the child protective service or for oversight of the enabling or appropriating legislation, carrying out his or her official functions; and

(xi) A person, agency, or organization engaged in a bonafide research or evaluation project, but without information identifying individuals named in a report or record, unless having that information open for review is essential to the research or evaluation, the appropriate State official gives prior written approval, and the child, through his/her representative as cited in paragraph (i) of this section, gives permission to release the information.

(3) If a State chooses, it may authorize by statute disclosure to additional persons and agencies, as determined by the State, for the purpose of carrying out background and/or employment-related screening of individuals who are or may be engaged in specified categories of child related activities or employment. Any information disclosed for this purpose is subject to the confidentiality requirements in paragraph (i)(1) and may be subject to additional safeguards as determined by the State.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prevent the properly constituted authority from summarizing the outcome of an investigation to the person or official who reported the known or suspected instances of child abuse or neglect or to affect a State's laws or procedures concerning the confidentiality of its criminal court or its criminal justice system.

(5) HHS and the Comptroller General of the United States or any of their representatives shall have access to records, as required under 45 CFR 74.24.

[48 FR 3702, Jan. 26, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 14887, April 15, 1985; 52 FR 3995, Feb. 6, 1987; 55 FR 27639, July 5, 1990]

**§ 1340.15 Services and treatment for disabled infants.**

(a) *Purpose.* The regulations in this section implement certain provisions of the Act, including section 107(b)(10)