

NYS Office of Children and Family Services

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Overview

The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), was enacted as part of the federal Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123) on February 9, 2018. FFPSA reforms federal financing to prioritize family based foster care over residential care by limiting federal reimbursement for certain residential placements. The law permits states to use title IV-E funds for evidence based prevention services for families at risk of entering the child welfare system. In addition, FFPSA provides new federal funding opportunities for kin navigator programs.

The timeline of key actions for FFPSA contains federal and state programmatic deliverables, data collection, and reporting along a timeline based on federal legislative and program requirements. This timeline is updated on a regular basis to reflect New York State's implementation of key provisions for FFPSA.

Moving toward implementation of the FFPSA requires OCFS, Districts and Voluntary Agencies to review and refine removal and placement protocols, increase recruitment and retention of kin and non-kin foster parents, conduct a critical assessment and redesign of congregate care system, explore QRTP accreditation and the assessment process, and enhance prevention services array.

Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) Resources

Letters of Interest were received from licensed clinicians who responded to a request from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) to carry out the function as a Qualified Individual (QI) for the purpose of conducting assessments of youth in foster care in accordance with the federal Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) and corresponding New York State standards.