

# **State of Alaska FY2019 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Health and Social Services Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship Component Budget Summary**

**Component: Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship****Contribution to Department's Mission**

Facilitates permanent placements through adoptive or guardianship homes for the increasing number of children in state custody for whom special needs make them hard to place. Adoption is viewed as the most permanent placement for a child and is therefore the preferable option.

Guardianships are considered for children who cannot be considered for adoption, but for whom a reasonably permanent home can be provided through guardianship. This is often the best choice for children who cannot live with their parents, but continue to maintain an important emotional tie with their families that should not be severed.

**Core Services**

- Facilitate permanency through recruitment of homes for children who need permanent homes; home studies on potential adoptive and guardianship families; pre-adoption services for the child and family; and post-adoption services after the final adoption or guardianship court hearing.
- Provide for permanent homes to children that are in the custody of the state and who are unlikely to be adopted or placed in a guardianship without a subsidy.

**Major Component Accomplishments in 2017**

The Office of Children's Services continues to experience success in securing homes for children as they are simultaneously presented in the Northwest Adoption Exchange, AdoptUSKids, and Alaska Heart Gallery websites. These profile listing sites attract significant attention from families interested in adopting children, aiding in recruitment of adoptive homes. Alaska's Preparation for Adoption Readiness of Kids in Alaska Project focuses on intensive preparation of families who are seeking adoption of special needs children in foster care. Since 2010, 43 hard to place children with special needs have been placed with families who have graduated from the program. At the end of June 2017, there were 449 new adoptions and guardianships with 3,486 adoption and guardianship subsidy agreements continuing into FY2018.

**Key Component Challenges**

When children leave foster care, their special needs are reassessed to determine whether they will need continuing assistance through the Subsidized Adoption and Guardianship program. Virtually all children who exit state custody through adoption or legal guardianship are considered to have special needs and will continue to receive benefits through the subsidy programs.

Children that have been removed from situations of maltreatment and experienced physical, mental, or emotional disturbances continue to struggle even after being removed from their home. The Office of Children's Services has recognized for some time that the level of disturbance and complexity of problems for children in custody is increasing. These factors make it difficult to find permanent adoptive or guardianship homes without providing a subsidy. It is preferable and more cost-effective for the state to provide a means for children to be given a permanent home with a state-funded subsidy than for the state to continue being solely financially responsible for the child. The adoption or guardianship subsidy covers the costs of the child's special needs and is available to the family until the child reaches age 18.

**Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2019**

The subsidy program will continue to support adoption and guardianship families by helping to defray the costs of care and meeting the child's ongoing special needs. There has been an upward trend in the number of continuing and on-going subsidies.

### Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 25.23 Adoption  
AS 25.23.190-240 Subsidy for hard-to-place child  
AS 47.10.080 Judgments and orders  
7 AAC 53 Article 2 Subsidized Adoption and Subsidized Guardianship Payments  
Title IV-E of the Social Security Act  
42 USC 1305 Adoptions and Safe Families Act of 1997

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**Component Detail All Funds**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)  
**RDU:** Children's Services (486)

Formula Component

	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Conference Committee	FY2018 Authorized	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor	FY2018 Management Plan vs FY2019 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	139.8	526.3	526.3	494.7	177.7	-317.0	-64.1%
74000 Commodities	1.3	0.0	0.0	31.6	31.6	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	35,108.0	36,730.3	36,730.3	36,730.3	36,836.2	105.9	0.3%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>35,249.1</b>	<b>37,256.6</b>	<b>37,256.6</b>	<b>37,256.6</b>	<b>37,045.5</b>	<b>-211.1</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
<b>Fund Sources:</b>							
1002Fed Rcpts (Fed)	14,687.1	18,602.0	18,602.0	18,602.0	15,484.3	-3,117.7	-16.8%
1003G/F Match (UGF)	7,179.4	7,179.4	7,179.4	7,179.4	12,933.0	5,753.6	80.1%
1004Gen Fund (UGF)	13,382.6	11,475.2	11,475.2	11,475.2	8,628.2	-2,847.0	-24.8%
<b>Unrestricted General (UGF)</b>	<b>20,562.0</b>	<b>18,654.6</b>	<b>18,654.6</b>	<b>18,654.6</b>	<b>21,561.2</b>	<b>2,906.6</b>	<b>15.6%</b>
<b>Designated General (DGF)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>14,687.1</b>	<b>18,602.0</b>	<b>18,602.0</b>	<b>18,602.0</b>	<b>15,484.3</b>	<b>-3,117.7</b>	<b>-16.8%</b>
<b>Positions:</b>							
Permanent Full Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

**Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios with Descriptions**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)  
**RDU:** Children's Services (486)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
***** Changes From FY2018 Conference Committee To FY2018 Authorized *****												
<b>FY2018 Conference Committee</b>												
	ConfCom	37,256.6	0.0	0.0	526.3	0.0	0.0	36,730.3	0.0	0	0	0
1002 Fed Rcpts		18,602.0										
1003 G/F Match		7,179.4										
1004 Gen Fund		11,475.2										
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>37,256.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>526.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>36,730.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
***** Changes From FY2018 Authorized To FY2018 Management Plan *****												
<b>Align Authority with Anticipated Expenditures</b>												
	LIT	0.0	0.0	0.0	-31.6	31.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Additional authority is needed on the commodities line to support resource families in Alaska. Resource families have a unique and delicate role with the children and families served by Office of Children's Services.												
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>37,256.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>494.7</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>36,730.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
***** Changes From FY2018 Management Plan To FY2019 Governor *****												
<b>Replace General Fund with General Fund Match</b>												
	FndChg	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
1003 G/F Match		5,387.0										
1004 Gen Fund		-5,387.0										
Accurately reflect use of general fund authority as match to federal revenues based on prior year actual expenditures and revenue.												
<b>Transfer to Family Preservation for Title IV-E Claiming</b>												
	Trout	-3,117.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-3,117.7	0.0	0	0	0
1002 Fed Rcpts		-3,117.7										
Transfer to Family Preservation due to increased federal claiming potential for federal pass through Title IV-E agreements with the Department of Law and Tribes/Tribal organizations. The need for the federal authorization is due to receipt of approval of an amendment to the Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plan. The amendment increased the federal claiming potential for the Office of Children's Services. Additionally, the Family Preservation component receives part of the Social Services Block Grant Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, which covers a broad range of services that include prevention of abuse and neglect, child protection, and family reunification.												
<b>Align Anticipated Adoption Subsidy Payments</b>												
	LIT	0.0	0.0	0.0	-317.0	0.0	0.0	317.0	0.0	0	0	0
FY2019 adoption and guardianship expenditures are anticipated an increase of 3.3 percent. Payments for adoptions and guardianships increased 13 percent between FY2015 and FY2017.												

**Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios with Descriptions**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)  
**RDU:** Children's Services (486)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
<b>Transfer from Front Line Social Workers for Increased Adoption Need</b>												
	Trin	1,527.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,527.1	0.0	0	0	0
1003 G/F Match		366.6										
1004 Gen Fund		1,160.5										
FY2019 adoption and guardianship expenditures are anticipated an increase of 3.3 percent. Payments for adoptions and guardianships increased 13 percent between FY2015 and FY2017. Subsidized Adoptions and Guardianship requires additional authority to ensure compliance with requirements for federal reimbursement.												
<b>Transfer from Family Preservation for Increased Adoption Need</b>												
	Trin	1,379.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,379.5	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		1,379.5										
Transfers to align with anticipated adoption subsidy payments. FY2019 adoption and guardianship expenditures are anticipated an increase of 3.3 percent. Payments for adoptions and guardianships increased 13 percent between FY2015 and FY2017. Subsidized Adoptions and Guardianship requires additional authority to ensure compliance with requirements for federal reimbursement.												
<b>Totals</b>		<b>37,045.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>177.7</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>36,836.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Services**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

Line Number	Line Name	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
3000	Services	139.8	494.7	177.7

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
<b>3000 Services Detail Totals</b>			<b>139.8</b>	<b>494.7</b>	<b>177.7</b>

3000	Education Services	Training services and conference costs	1.1	1.0	1.0
3004	Telecommunications	Miscellaneous audio/video conference costs	0.7	1.0	1.0
3006	Delivery Services	Postage and freight	0.0	1.0	1.0
3007	Advertising and Promotions	Recruitment postings, media campaigns, and notices necessary to meet legal requirements.	0.0	20.0	20.0
		Copying/printing costs for recruitment postings, media campaigns, and notices necessary to meet legal requirements.			
3009	Structure/Infrastructure/Land		0.4	0.0	0.0
3011	Other Services	Provide Assistance to adoptive children and families to include pre-adoptive services and post-adoption services following the final adoption or guardianship.	121.0	421.7	104.7
3024	Inter-Agency Legal	E&ED - Department-wide	0.3	0.0	0.0
3024	Inter-Agency Legal	Law - Department-wide	16.0	50.0	50.0
		RSA: Department of Law, Civil Division, Permanency Placement (Project Succeed). Fund legal services to promote and identify permanent placements for those children who have been in state custody for extended periods. Includes case costs such as travel,			

**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Services**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
<b>3000 Services Detail Totals</b>			<b>139.8</b>	<b>494.7</b>	<b>177.7</b>
		outside contracts, and transcription services.			
3038	Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Subsidized Adoptions/Guardians (1962)	0.3	0.0	0.0



**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Commodities**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
4000	Commodities		1.3	31.6	31.6
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
<b>4000 Commodities Detail Totals</b>			<b>1.3</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>31.6</b>
4000	Business	Business supplies.	25.5	31.6	31.6
4002	Household/Institutional		5.0	0.0	0.0
4022	Commodity Transfer		-29.2	0.0	0.0

**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Grants, Benefits**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

Line Number	Line Name	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
7000	Grants, Benefits	35,108.0	36,730.3	36,836.2

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
<b>7000 Grants, Benefits Detail Totals</b>			<b>35,108.0</b>	<b>36,730.3</b>	<b>36,836.2</b>

7001	Grants	Grants to support foster care, and adoption services	1,675.3	1,700.0	1,700.0
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7002	Benefits	Fund adoption and guardianship subsidies to facilitate permanent placements in adoptive homes, or stable guardianships for children in state custody whose special needs make them hard to place. Federal guidelines for Title IV-E federal adoptions define a hard-to-place child as a "minor who is not likely to be adopted or to obtain a guardian by reason of physical or mental disability, emotional disturbance, recognized high risk of physical or mental disease, age, membership in a sibling group, racial or ethnic factors, or any combination of these conditions."	33,432.7	35,030.3	35,136.2
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Grant to outside vendor (Northwest Resources Associates) to recruit adoptive families that reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of the children served by OCS. Costs include training and support of resource families designed to improve the safety of children in care, streamline procedures, and avoid delays. \$575.0

**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Grants, Benefits**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

**Revenue Detail (1681)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

Revenue Type (OMB Fund Code) Revenue Source	Component	Comment	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
<b>5002 Fed Rcpts (1002 Fed Rcpts)</b>			<b>14,816.4</b>	<b>18,602.0</b>	<b>15,484.3</b>
5019 Federal - Miscellaneous Grants		Title IV-E Non Vol FC Title IV-E of the Social Security Act Social Services Block Grant	14,816.4	18,602.0	15,484.3
<b>6004 Gen Fund (1004 Gen Fund)</b>			<b>11.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
6046 General Fund - Prior Year Reimbursement Recovery			11.1	0.0	0.0

**Inter-Agency Services (1682)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship (1962)

	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
<b>Component Totals</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>50.0</b>
With Department of Education and Early Development	0.3	0.0	0.0
With Department of Law	16.0	50.0	50.0
With Department of Health and Social Services	0.3	0.0	0.0

<b>Object Class</b>	<b>Servicing Agency</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	FY2017 Actuals	FY2018 Management Plan	FY2019 Governor
3024 Inter-Agency Legal	E&ED - Department-wide		0.3	0.0	0.0
3024 Inter-Agency Legal	Law - Department-wide	RSA: Department of Law, Civil Division, Permanency Placement (Project Succeed). Fund legal services to promote and identify permanent placements for those children who have been in state custody for extended periods. Includes case costs such as travel, outside contracts, and transcription services.	16.0	50.0	50.0
3038 Inter-Agency Management/Consulting	H&SS - Subsidized Adoptions/Guardians (1962)		0.3	0.0	0.0