

POLICY 4.5.1

PROTECTED FUNDS (~~ADOPTED 1994, REVISED 1995, 1996, 1997~~)

4.5.1.1 Purpose

To provide guidance to local Children's Services Act (CSA) programs about the allocation and utilization of CSA-protected funds.

4.5.1.2 Authority

- A. Section [2.2-2648.D.3](#) of the Code of Virginia requires the State Executive Council to "provide for the establishment of interagency programmatic and fiscal policies developed by the Office of Children's Services, which support the purposes of the Children's Services Act (§ [2.2-5200](#) et seq.), through the promulgation of regulations by the participating state boards or by administrative action, as appropriate."

4.5.1.3 Definitions

"CSA State Pool" is the state appropriation to reimburse localities for eligible expenditures under the Children's Services Act.

"Local Expenditure and Data Reimbursement System (LEDRS)" means the required electronic system for reporting state CSA reimbursements and for data collection by local governments.

"Mandated Population" means children and youth for whom sum-sufficient funding must be appropriated and for specified services as defined in [§2.2-5211](#).

"Non-Mandated Population" means children and youth who meet the CSA eligibility criteria outlined in [§2.2-5211](#), but do not fall into one of the mandated populations.

"Protected Funds" means a specific amount of funds that can be used to serve youth who fall into the "non-mandated population."

"Sum Sufficient Funds" as defined in [§2.2-5211.C](#) means that the "General Assembly and the governing body of each county and city shall annually appropriate such sums of money as shall be sufficient to (i) provide special education services and foster care services for children and youth identified in subdivisions B 1 through 4 and 6 and 7 and (ii) meet relevant federal mandates for the provision of these services."

Adopted: 1994

Effective: 1994

Revised: 1997

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4.5.1.4 *Protected Funds*

Each year, localities may protect a specific portion of the state pool to provide services to ~~targeted non-mandated and other eligible~~ populations. The amount that each locality is permitted to protect is determined by formula and is in no case less than \$10,000. Each locality will be notified of *the amount of its protection level protected funds* prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. *Expenditure of protected funds is discretionary, and local CSA programs are not required to appropriate funds to serve children and youth in the non-sum-sufficient population utilizing protected funds.*

4.5.1.5 *Policy Review*

This policy will be subject to periodic review by the State Executive Council for Children's Services.