



**ITN-ECA-C13-GAP-FY22
Official Response to Written Questions**

These are the official answers to written questions submitted in accordance with the conditions of the ITN		
Questions		Answers
1	How many hours of training will be required for Level 1 Foster Homes?	Administrative Code and DCF Operating Procedures have not been finalized; the number of hours required is unknown at this time.
2	Is Eckerd looking to contract with one or more organizations for this service?	In accordance with Section XV. Negotiation Process of this ITN, at least one, possibly two, agencies will be invited to negotiate for the contract.
3	What is the expectation for transportation support and who is responsible for determining the requirements?	Eckerd Connects is not prescribing the transportation support and would suggest recommendations to this process be included in written proposals submitted in response to the ITN.
4	For transportation, would ITN Awardee be permitted to utilize Family Support Workers (FSWs—i.e. non-certified staff) to transport youth and assist caregivers?	Eckerd Connects is not prescribing the transportation support or the position types outside if the required Certified Child Welfare Licensing Specialists and would suggest recommendations to this process be included in written proposals submitted in response to the ITN.
5	Are home visits required every 30 days or every 90 days, and who is responsible for determining which of the “select cases” would require Home visits.	Home visits are required per Florida Administrative Code, DCF Operating Procedures, and Eckerd Connects Operating Guidelines. Eckerd Connects is not prescribing the home visit support to Case Management in Level 1 Foster Homes and would suggest recommendations to this process be included in written proposals

		submitted in response to the ITN.
6	Would these Certified Child Welfare Case Managers (CWCMs) be responsible for all Home Visits for youth placed in relative/non-relative placements? Or is primary intent for CWCM's to license relative and non-relative homes and provide support to the caregivers?	The primary services to be provided through this ITN are the licensing and support of Level 1 Foster Homes. Eckerd Connects would suggest recommendations for home visit support to Case Management be included in written proposals submitted in response to the ITN.
7	If CWCMs need to be hired for this program and put through Pre-Service training, would that be an issue with the anticipated June 1 st rollout date?	The selected Provider would need to be staffed appropriately in order to begin the implementation of services on July 1, 2019. Funding for the preparation and implementation of services will begin June 1, 2019.
8	Is this ITN for Hillsborough County only or for the entire area?	This ITN is for Hillsborough County only. This would not include Pasco or Pinellas Counties.
9	Where does the 40% projection of participating families come from? How was this percentage determined? Please explain further the funding methodology.	DCF's assumption is that 40% of the current homes will be licensed; therefore they allocated funding for 50%. Should 60% of relative/non-relative homes become licensed, there is the potential of receiving excess federal earning. The expectation is to target 60%.
10	When will it be known if appropriate funding will be secured to support this ITN?	The funding methodology from the Department of Children and Families was included in Section II. Terms of Agreement and Estimated Contract Amount of this ITN.
11	Is the \$911k+ allocation an annual award or is this the total for the duration of the ITN (June 2019-June 2022)?	The funding amount identified in Section II. Terms of Agreement and Estimated Contract Amount of this ITN a total annual amount based on the Eckerd Connects fiscal year of July through June.

		<p>FY2019 \$75,936.00 FY2020 \$911,232.00 FY2021 \$911,234.00 FY2022 \$911,232.00</p>
12	Would ITN Awardee be permitted to diversify funding through Targeted Case Management (TCM) or other Medicaid Revenue?	Yes. The obtainment and utilization of outside funding in addition to the funding amount included in this ITN in order to expand services and support are highly encouraged.
13	Will the selected provider(s) have input in determining the criteria for deciding between the need for 30 day or 90-day home visits?	Home visits will be required per Florida Administrative Code, DCF Operating Procedures, and Eckerd Connects Operating Guidelines.
14	Who will have primary responsibility for maintaining placement stability or handling placement breakdowns?	The selected Provider will be expected to support placement stability. Eckerd Connects would suggest recommendations to this process be included in written proposals submitted in response to the ITN.
15	When a GAP closes, what level of support would the selected provider(s) be required to provide?	Once the case closes in Permanent Guardianship, the Provider would no longer be assigned to the case.
16	What will be the requirements for the redetermination process?	The redetermination process will be determined based on the finalization of Florida Administrative Code, DCF Operating Procedures, and Eckerd Connects Operating Guidelines.
17	Will this be a cost reimbursement contract? Are funds available for start-up and the implementation of services?	June 2019 will be cost reimbursed. The following fiscal years will be a combination for fixed and cost reimbursed. Monthly payments will be fixed at 1/12 payment. The contract will be reconciled and sured up at the end of the fiscal year. The provider will receive a fiscal year close-out letter.

18	What are the licensing requirements for relative care?	The licensing requirements are currently in draft form. Eckerd Connects Operating Guidelines will be finalized once the Florida Administrative Codes and DCF Operating Procedures are finalized.
19	What is the time requirement to complete the professional parenting class from the time the referral is received? The ITN reflects current Traditional CPA timelines for Level 2 foster homes. Level 1 homes are to be licensed within 60 days of referral; therefore, these timelines may need revision.	Licensure is expected within 60 days following notification a child has been placed with Relative, Non-Relative, or Fictive Kin
20	Will there be a process for determining exceptions/exemptions for non-safety related licensing requirements?	Eckerd Connects Operating Guidelines will be finalized once the Florida Administrative Codes and DCF Operating Procedures are finalized.
21	Who is responsible for determining when attendance in Court or staffings are necessary and/or appropriate?	Eckerd Connects is not prescribing the attendance in court or staffings and would suggest recommendations to this process be included in written proposals submitted in response to the ITN.
22	Is ITN Awardee expected to license foster homes and/or Relative/Non-Relative homes only?	The intent of the ITN is for Level 1 Foster Home licensing and support as well Guardianship Assistance Program Eligibility Determination.
23	How will Family Finders Program be integrated with this ITN? Or will ITN Awardee be tasked with Family Finding in addition to other requirements?	Family Finders will work to identify potential Relative and Non-Relative Caregivers for children in licensed care. Once identified, in coordination with Case Management, the family will be referred to the Provider to initiate the licensing process.
24	Provide a copy of Eckerd's GAP Readiness Assessment.	The GAP Readiness Assessment has not been finalized at this time.

25	How many Relative Caregiver homes were in Hillsborough for FY17/18 and FY18/19 YTD?	From July 1, 2017 through February 28, 2019: Relative Caregiver Homes-1,541 Non-Relative Caregiver Homes-599
26	The ITN makes reference to Professional Parenting class. However, level 1 relative foster homes will not be participating in PPT but rather an abbreviated class. Can Eckerd Connects revise this language? It is in draft code.	An addendum to revise the ITN language will be completed.
27	Should GAP licensed homes be entered into Care Match? If so, level 1 homes will not be accepting traditional foster children. Will there be a different category/section for them so that those homes don't artificially inflate capacity?	Yes. All licensed placements will be entered into Care Match. The details of the placement types and reporting development have not been finalized at this time.
28	ITN references the timeline to contact caregivers following a new placement. Level 1 homes are child specific; therefore, the homes would not be accepting new children unless a) they modify their license to Level 2 or b) another relative is placed in the home thereby requiring an addendum to the UHS and new license issued.	This requirement would include the initial placement of the child.