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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

Marie Noonan
Director

129 PLEASANT STREET, CONCORD, NH 03301-3857
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November 25, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth, and Families to pay the annual membership fee to the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (Vendor #170420-B001), Washington, D.C. in the amount of \$9,500.00, effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, upon Governor and Executive Council approval. 100% Federal Funds.

**05-95-42-421010-29560000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, HEALTH AND HUMAN SVCS
DEPT OF, HHS: HUMAN SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTION, OFFICE OF DIRECTOR -
DCYF**

Fiscal Year	Class/Object	Job #	Class Title	Amount
2025	026-500251	42107403	Memberships	\$9,500

EXPLANATION

Approval of this request enables the State's continued participation in the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance. The purpose of this Association is connecting all states to facilitate medical and supportive services for children who are eligible for adoption assistance.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Executive Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?

In 1986, states which had passed legislation making the ICAMA (Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance) law in their states formed the Association of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (AAICAMA) to enhance the administration of the compact and strengthen protections for interstate adopted children or adopted children moving out of state.

AAICAMA is a nonprofit organization comprised of member states working with child welfare agencies, tribes, and adoptive parents to facilitate and support special needs adoption.

The association provides educational and technical assistance to enhance states' capacity to achieve timely permanency and needed services for adoption assistance-eligible children.

AAICAMA facilitates the effective and efficient administration of the compact, addresses issues related to the provision of medical and post-adoption services across state lines, and works to develop and implement sound interstate policy and practice for children eligible for adoption assistance. Through AAICAMA, members work jointly with special needs to find ways to enhance adoption opportunities for children.

AAICAMA members work together in committees to effect practical changes in the day-to-day administration of the compact. AAICAMA regularly provides training to state staff. The New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) has been a member of this organization since its implementation in 1986.

2. Is there any other organization, which provides the same or similar benefits, which your agency belongs to?

AAICAMA is the only organization that DCYF belongs to that provides these types of benefits.

3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?

All states are members. The NH Division for Children, Youth and Families is the only member for and from New Hampshire.

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc)

Standard fee for all states.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?

AAICAMA provides technical assistance to states and agencies on issues pertaining to the administration of the ICAMA. These issues include the provision of Medicaid to eligible children who move to or are placed in a new state, title IV-E and state-funded adoption assistance, and the effect of new federal legislation on the administration of the compact.

6. Are training or educational/ research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.

Training is one of the services provided to members by AAICAMA and all trainings and materials are included in the annual membership.

7. Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.

No, however, as a result of participation, NH DCYF has become aware of federal funds that are available for unique Child Welfare Initiatives.

8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership-supported trips.

The membership fee does not cover the costs of any travel related to this organization.

9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.
10. The Division has two representatives:
- Jennifer Gilroy, Permanency Administrator
 - Kaylynn Trombley, Permanency Supervisor
11. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.

Should Governor and Council not approve this request, it would hinder the ability for the Division to facilitate medical and supportive services for NH children eligible for adoption assistance when they move out of state. It is the responsibility of NH DCYF to promote practices and policies to ensure that all NH children who are eligible for adoption assistance receive uninterrupted supportive services in the state where they reside.

Geographic Area: Statewide

Source of Funds: 100% Federal Funds.

In the event that the Federal funds become no longer available, General funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully Submitted,



for:

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner



**The AAICAMA: The Association of Administrators of the
Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance**

From: AAICAMA National Offices; Washington, DC
To: New Hampshire State ICAMA Office
Re: ICAMA System Fee 2025

October 28, 2024

Dear New Hampshire ICAMA Office:

This state communication from the AAICAMA National Office is sent to provide notice of advancements in our services and a change in the Association's invoicing for the year 2025.

AAICAMA Assessments began in 1986 at \$3k per state and had increased by only \$2k in thirty-three years. Assessments at \$5k per state was unsustainable and an initiative was passed in 2019 and took effect in 2020 to increase Assessments by \$3.5k for the larger states, \$2.5k for the mid-sized states, and \$1.5k for the smaller states. This increase stabilized the Association, but did not address the ever-increasing costs and staffing of its key service to states- opening, transferring, and closing Medicaid for children and youth served by the Compact- that is achieved through the ICAMA System.

The ICAMA System is a cost-effective, interactive, electronic platform and database created and sustained entirely by AAICAMA. It was implemented in 2015, replaced in 2024, and has provided case management to states and ensured the interstate delivery of Medicaid to children and youth for nearly a decade. Before the ICAMA System, states transferred Medicaid for ICAMA cases via ICAMA Forms sent by mail. This method was slow and unreliable. Families were not well-served, children's health services were delayed, and confidential information was open to compromise.

The ICAMA System addresses these issues and saves time for both states and families. It is a valuable tool that reduces state administrative work and supports children's permanency in interstate placements and moves by ensuring the transfer of Medicaid to their new state of residence. AAICAMA provides training, education, and continuous support on the use of the ICAMA System to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

- The ICAMA System now provides an additional service to states- the ability to interface with other, state systems. This increases efficiency and reduces state staff time across departments. Several states are currently in the process of exploring an interface or in testing to go-live to integrate a state, child welfare-serving system with the ICAMA System housed on the eCare Vault platform. This advancement in the utility of the ICAMA System in service to state child welfare departments is exciting. It also represents additional time and work on existing AAICAMA staff and the need to expand the role of AAICAMA's IT Program Manager.
- The expenses of the ICAMA System have been supported by the annual AAICAMA Assessment general funds. However, it is clear that it is necessary to institute a fee in support of the ICAMA System, its ongoing development, and its enhancements in service to states and children.
- The AAICAMA Invoice for 2025 includes the annual AAICAMA Assessment, which remains constant from the fee set in 2019, and a newly instituted ICAMA System Fee. The ICAMA System Fee is tiered in the same manner as the AAICAMA Assessment. The ICAMA System Fee for larger states is \$5k, the fee for mid-sized states is \$4k, and the fee for smaller states is \$3k. The ICAMA System Fee is itemized with the annual Assessment in a single invoice and total for 2025.

Thank you for New Hampshire's support of the Association and the work of the Compact. Your support comes through state staffing of the Compact, state participation in AAICAMA events, and the annual AAICAMA Invoice that ensures the operation of the Compact for states and the seamless delivery of Medicaid benefits that youth adopted or in guardianship rely on for their wellbeing.

The AAICAMA and its National Office thank you for all that New Hampshire does for children and youth in support of their safety and permanency.

Sincerely,

Sharon McCartney

Sharon McCartney, Esq.

AAICAMA Director

AAICAMA and CWLA National Offices

Washington, DC

Carissa Decker, LMSW

AAICAMA President

Idaho Dept. of Health & Welfare

Boise, ID



October 28, 2024

Jennifer M. Gilroy, MSHS, Permanency/Adoption Program Administrator
Division for Children, Youth and Families
Dept. of Health and Human Services
129 Pleasant St.
Concord, NH 03301

INVOICE

January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025

2025 AAICAMA Annual Assessment and ICAMA System Fee
The Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on
Adoption and Medical Assistance

*These fees are an allowable, Title IV-E administrative cost subject to Federal Financial Participation (FFP.)

TO: New Hampshire ICAMA
Adoption Program; Division for Children, Youth and Families
Dept. of Health and Human Services
129 Pleasant St.
Concord, NH 03301

INVOICE TOTAL: AAICAMA Invoice total for January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025: **\$9,500.00**
Invoice Number: # 25NH1043

- New Hampshire AAICAMA Assessment for January 2025 – December 2025: \$6,500.00
- New Hampshire ICAMA System Fee for January 2025 – December 2025: \$3,000.00

Note: Please remit by check to the AAICAMA address below or contact AAICAMA for ACH options.

AAICAMA: Payment Methods
Check or ACH
ACH: Please contact the national, AAICAMA Office.
Check: Please make check payable to:
AAICAMA Association of the Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance
Mail checks to:
Attn: Sharon McCartney, Director, AAICAMA
AAICAMA and CWLA Offices 727 Fifteenth Street NW, 12 th Floor Washington, DC 20005
Federal I.D. Number: 52-1479559