



**QUALIFIED
RESIDENTIAL
TREATMENT
PROGRAMS**

Family First Prevention and Services Act *P.L. 115-123*

- Limits Title IV-E foster care payments for placements that are not foster family homes
- Creates QRTPs - a category of non-family foster home settings
- Establishes requirements for QRTPs to receive IV-E payments
- Requires judicial review of QRTP placements

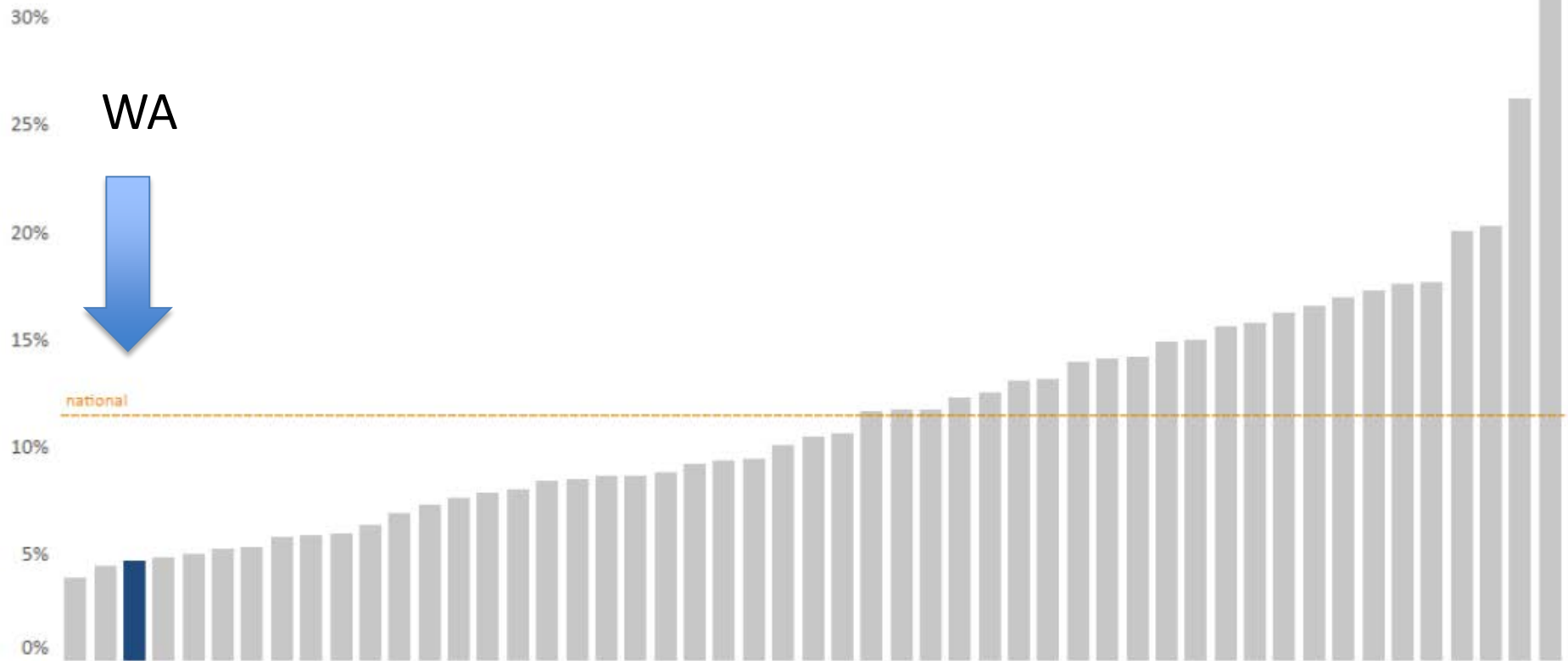
Foster Care Funding

- Title IV-E foster care payments limited to the following settings:
 - Licensed foster family home - 6 or fewer children
 - Child-care institution:
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)
 - Program for prenatal, post-partum, or parenting youth.
 - Supervised independent living for youth ages 18 and older
 - Residential care for youth found to be, or at risk of becoming, sex trafficking victims
 - Family-based residential substance abuse treatment facility

all other states
selected state

Percent of children in congregate care

of all children in care on 9/30/2018, what percent were placed in a group home or residential treatment facility?



Washington State HB 1900

- Effective October 1, 2019
 - Applies to all QRTP placements made on and after Oct 1
- Defines QRTP
 - Program licensed as group care facility
 - Qualifies for Family First funding
 - Trauma-informed treatment model
 - Meets treatment needs identified by individualized assessment
- Redefines “social study” requirements for children placed in QRTP
 - Include individualized assessment of child’s needs
 - Provide updates for court review of placement

Washington State HB 1900

- Establishes court oversight requirements
 - Hearing required within 60 days of QRTP placement
 - Review assessment
 - Approve or disapprove placement
 - Ongoing review of child's status in QRTP with written findings at every review and permanency planning hearing

QRTP Requirements for IV-E Funds

- Trauma informed treatment model
- Provides treatment identified by individualized QRTP assessment
- Nurse and clinical staff on site 24/7
- Licensed and nationally accredited
- Family participation in treatment
- Maintain family contact, including siblings
- Discharge planning and aftercare supports

QRTP Assessment

- Assessed within 30 days placement in QRTP
- Conducted by a “Qualified Individual”
 - FFPSA - trained professional or licensed clinician who is not a state employee or affiliated with any placement setting
 - DCYF – requested waiver by HHS to allow Regional BRS Managers to serve as Qualified Individuals
- Assessment tool
 - Age appropriate, evidence-based, validated
 - WA uses Children’s Functional Assessment Rating Scale (CFARS)

QRTP Assessment

- Assessment includes
 - Strengths and needs of child
 - Determination re: where child's needs can best be met
 - Document whether or not a family or foster home can meet needs – if not, identify which setting will provide most effective and appropriate level of care
 - Least restrictive environment
 - Consistent with child's permanency plan

QRTP Assessment

- If QRTP is not appropriate
 - State has 30 days to transition child to a placement that can better address the child's needs
 - If it takes longer or state chooses to continue the placement, the state forgoes federal foster care maintenance funding for duration of that placement

Federal Assessment Requirements

- Assessment must be conducted in conjunction with child's family and permanency team, including:
 - All appropriate bio family members, relatives, fictive kin
 - Professionals who are a resource for the family (teachers, medical and mental health providers, or clergy)
 - If child is 14 or older s/he may select 2 people to serve on team

Qualified Individual Report

- Report includes

Results of the Children's Functional Assessment Rating Scale ("CFARS")

- Courts should only see QRTP Assessment reports with a score of 60 or higher.
- Narrative written by the Qualified Individual
 - describing why QRTP is the best setting to meet the youth's current level of needs

QRTP Timeline

Day 1 - Child placed in group care facility (“BRS facility”).

Within 30 days – Assessment per RCW 13.34.420.

Between 30-60 days (and beyond) – Social Study to include the Assessment, and additional information to enable court determinations. RCW 13.34.430(4)

QRTP Timeline

By 60 days – per RCW 13.34.425 the court:

- Considers Assessment and related documentation
- Determines whether placement in foster care can meet the child's needs or if placement in another available placement setting best meets the child's needs in the least restrictive environment; and
- Approve or disapprove the child's placement in the QRTP.

On-Going Agency & Court Oversight

At each Review (RCW 13.34.138(2)(c)(iv) and Permanency Planning RCW 13.34.145(4)(c) hearing thereafter, court must make findings related to the ongoing need for QRTP placement

- As long as the child remains in QRTP over 60 days, assigned social worker must update social study
- At every status review and permanency hearing court must make **written findings**

The child remains placed in a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.

Ongoing assessment of the child's strengths and needs continues to support the determination that the child's needs cannot be met through placement in a foster family home.

The child's placement provides the most effective and appropriate level of care in the least restrictive environment.

The placement in a Qualified Residential Treatment Program is consistent with the child's short and long term goals as stated in the child's permanency plan.

The Qualified Residential Treatment Facility will meet the treatment or service needs of the child, as follows:

_____ months days is the expected time the child will need the treatment or services provided by the Qualified Residential Treatment Program.

The Department has made the efforts to prepare the child for return home or placement with a relative, legal guardian, adoptive parent, or foster family home, as follows:

Forms

Two new forms

- Motion for Court Approval of Placement in Qualified Residential Treatment Program (JU 03.0450)
- Order on Motion for Court Approval of Placement in Qualified Residential Treatment Program (JU 03.0460)

Changes to two existing forms

- Order after Hearing: First Dependency Review / Dependency Review / Permanency Planning (JU 03.0500)
- Legally Free – Order after Hearing Dependency Review Hearing Order / Permanency Planning Hearing Order (JU 03.0560)