

§ 629a. Definitions**(a) In general**

As used in this subpart:

(1) Family preservation services

The term “family preservation services” means services for children and families designed to help families (including adoptive and extended families) at risk or in crisis, including—

(A) service programs designed to help children—

(i) where safe and appropriate, return to families from which they have been removed; or

(ii) be placed for adoption, with a legal guardian, or, if adoption or legal guardianship is determined not to be safe and appropriate for a child, in some other planned, permanent living arrangement;

(B) preplacement preventive services programs, such as intensive family preservation programs, designed to help children at risk of foster care placement remain safely with their families;

(C) service programs designed to provide followup care to families to whom a child has been returned after a foster care placement;

(D) respite care of children to provide temporary relief for parents and other caregivers (including foster parents);

(E) services designed to improve parenting skills (by reinforcing parents’ confidence in their strengths, and helping them to identify where improvement is needed and to obtain assistance in improving those skills) with respect to matters such as child development, family budgeting, coping with stress, health, and nutrition; and

(F) infant safe haven programs to provide a way for a parent to safely relinquish a newborn infant at a safe haven designated pursuant to a State law.

(2) Family support services**(A) In general**

The term “family support services” means community-based services designed to carry out the purposes described in subparagraph (B).

(B) Purposes described

The purposes described in this subparagraph are the following:

(i) To promote the safety and well-being of children and families.

(ii) To increase the strength and stability of families (including adoptive, foster, and extended families).

(iii) To support and retain foster families so they can provide quality family-based settings for children in foster care.

(iv) To increase parents’ confidence and competence in their parenting abilities.

(v) To afford children a safe, stable, and supportive family environment.

(vi) To strengthen parental relationships and promote healthy marriages.

(vii) To enhance child development, including through mentoring (as defined in section 629i(b)(2) of this title).

(3) State agency

The term “State agency” means the State agency responsible for administering the program under subpart 1.

(4) State

The term “State” includes an Indian tribe or tribal organization, in addition to the meaning given such term for purposes of subpart 1.

(5) Indian tribe

The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 628(c) of this title.

(6) Tribal organization

The term “tribal organization” has the meaning given the term in section 628(c) of this title.

(7) Family reunification services**(A) In general**

The term “family reunification services” means the services and activities described in subparagraph (B) that are provided to a child that is removed from the child’s home and placed in a foster family home or a child care institution or a child who has been returned home and to the parents or primary caregiver of such a child, in order to facilitate the reunification of the child safely and appropriately within a timely fashion and to ensure the strength and stability of the reunification. In the case of a child who has been returned home, the services and activities shall only be provided during the 15-month period that begins on the date that the child returns home.

(B) Services and activities described

The services and activities described in this subparagraph are the following:

(i) Individual, group, and family counseling.

(ii) Inpatient, residential, or outpatient substance abuse treatment services.

(iii) Mental health services.

(iv) Assistance to address domestic violence.

(v) Services designed to provide temporary child care and therapeutic services for families, including crisis nurseries.

(vi) Peer-to-peer mentoring and support groups for parents and primary caregivers.

(vii) Services and activities designed to facilitate access to and visitation of children by parents and siblings.

(viii) Transportation to or from any of the services and activities described in this subparagraph.

(8) Adoption promotion and support services

The term “adoption promotion and support services” means services and activities designed to encourage more adoptions out of the foster care system, when adoptions promote the best interests of children, including such activities as pre- and post-adoptive services and activities designed to expedite the adoption process and support adoptive families.

(9) Non-Federal funds

The term “non-Federal funds” means State funds, or at the option of a State, State and local funds.

(b) Other terms

For other definitions of other terms used in this subpart, see section 675 of this title.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title IV, §431, as added Pub. L. 103-66, title XIII, §1371(a)(2), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 650; amended Pub. L. 105-89, title III, §305(b)(2), (c)(2), (d)(1), Nov. 19, 1997, 111 Stat. 2131, 2132; Pub. L. 106-169, title IV, §401(e), Dec. 14, 1999, 113 Stat. 1858; Pub. L. 107-133, title I, §102, Jan. 17, 2002, 115 Stat. 2415; Pub. L. 109-288, §11(c), Sept. 28, 2006, 120 Stat. 1255; Pub. L. 112-34, title I, §102(c), (d), Sept. 30, 2011, 125 Stat. 371, 372; Pub. L. 115-123, div. E, title VII, §§50721(a), 50751(a), Feb. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 245, 262.)

Editorial Notes**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 431 of act Aug. 14, 1935, was classified to section 631 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 100-485.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a)(2)(B)(iii) to (vii). Pub. L. 115-123, §50751(a), added cl. (iii) and redesignated former cls. (iii) to (vi) as (iv) to (vii), respectively.

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 115-123, §50721(a)(1), substituted “Family” for “Time-limited family” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A). Pub. L. 115-123, §50721(a)(2), struck out “time-limited” before “family reunification”, inserted “or a child who has been returned home” after “child care institution”, and substituted “and to ensure the strength and stability of the reunification. In the case of a child who has been returned home, the services and activities shall only be provided during the 15-month period that begins on the date that the child returns home” for “, but only during the 15-month period that begins on the date that the child, pursuant to section 675(5)(F) of this title, is considered to have entered foster care”.

2011—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 112-34, §102(c)(1), amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term ‘family support services’ means community-based services to promote the safety and well-being of children and families designed to increase the strength and stability of families (including adoptive, foster, and extended families), to increase parents’ confidence and competence in their parenting abilities, to afford children a safe, stable, and supportive family environment, to strengthen parental relationships and promote healthy marriages, and otherwise to enhance child development.”

Subsec. (a)(5), (6). Pub. L. 112-34, §102(d), added pars. (5) and (6) and struck out former pars. (5) and (6) which read as follows:

“(5) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘tribal organization’ means the recognized governing body of any Indian tribe.

“(6) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian tribe’ means any Indian tribe (as defined in section 682(i)(5) of this title, as in effect before August 22, 1996) and any Alaska Native organization (as defined in section 682(i)(7)(A) of this title, as so in effect).”

Subsec. (a)(7)(B)(vi) to (viii). Pub. L. 112-34, §102(c)(2), added cls. (vi) and (vii) and redesignated former cl. (vi) as (viii).

2006—Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 109-288 substituted “1996” for “1986”.

2002—Subsec. (a)(1)(F). Pub. L. 107-133, §102(a), added subpar. (F).

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 107-133, §102(b), inserted “to strengthen parental relationships and promote healthy marriages,” after “environment.”

1999—Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 106-169 inserted “, as in effect before August 22, 1986” after “682(i)(5) of this title” and “, as so in effect” after “682(i)(7)(A) of this title”.

1997—Subsec. (a)(1)(A). Pub. L. 105-89, §305(c)(2)(A)(i), inserted “safe and” before “appropriate” in cls. (i) and (ii).

Subsec. (a)(1)(B). Pub. L. 105-89, §305(c)(2)(A)(ii), inserted “safely” after “remain”.

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 105-89, §305(c)(2)(B), inserted “safety and” before “well-being of children” and substituted “safe, stable, and supportive family” for “stable and supportive family”.

Subsec. (a)(7), (8). Pub. L. 105-89, §305(b)(2), added pars. (7) and (8).

Subsec. (a)(9). Pub. L. 105-89, §305(d)(1), added par. (9).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by section 50721(a) of Pub. L. 115-123 effective Oct. 1, 2018, subject to transition rules for required State legislation or tribal action, see section 50734 of Pub. L. 115-123, set out as a note under section 622 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2011 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-34 effective Oct. 1, 2011, and applicable to payments under this part and part E of this subchapter for calendar quarters beginning on or after such date, without regard to whether implementing regulations have been promulgated, and with delay permitted if State legislation is required to meet additional requirements, see section 107 of Pub. L. 112-34, set out as a note under section 622 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 109-288 effective Oct. 1, 2006, and applicable to payments under this part and part E of this subchapter for calendar quarters beginning on or after such date, without regard to whether implementing regulations have been promulgated, and with delay permitted if State legislation is required to meet additional requirements, see section 12(a), (b) of Pub. L. 109-288, set out as a note under section 621 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-133 effective Jan. 17, 2002, with delay permitted if State legislation is required, see section 301 of Pub. L. 107-133, set out as a note under section 629 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1999 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 106-169 effective as if included in the enactment of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-193, see section 401(q) of Pub. L. 106-169, set out as a note under section 602 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 305(b)(2), (c)(2) of Pub. L. 105-89 effective Nov. 19, 1997, except as otherwise provided, with delay permitted if State legislation is required, see section 501 of Pub. L. 105-89, set out as a note under section 622 of this title.

Pub. L. 105-89, title III, §305(d)(2), Nov. 19, 1997, 111 Stat. 2132, provided that: “The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] takes effect as if included in the enactment of section 13711 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-33 [103-66]; 107 Stat. 649).”

§ 629b. State plans**(a) Plan requirements**

A State plan meets the requirements of this subsection if the plan—

(1) provides that the State agency shall administer, or supervise the administration of, the State program under this subpart;

(2)(A)(i) sets forth the goals intended to be accomplished under the plan by the end of the