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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES

Jeffrey A. Meyers  
Commissioner

Maureen Ryan  
Director

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November 28, 2016

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan  
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 an annual membership fee to the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance, Washington, D.C. (Vendor #170420 B001) in the amount of \$5,000.00, effective January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, upon Governor and Executive Council approval. Funds are available in the following account:

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

<u>Class/Object</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Activity Code</u>	<u>SFY 2017</u>
026-500251	Organizational Dues	42105840	\$5,000.00

**EXPLANATION**

The above action is requested to renew the Division's membership in the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance. The purpose of this Association is to: connect 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?
  - A. 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?
  - A. 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?
  - A. 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)
  - A. Standard fee for all states.
5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?
  - A. 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.
  - A. 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.
  - A. 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.
  - A. 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.
- A. The Division has two representatives:
1. Lorraine Bartlett, Director of the Division for Children, Youth and Families
  2. Catherine Meister, Adoption Supervisor
10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.
- A. 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 who are 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: 50% Federal and 50% General Funds.

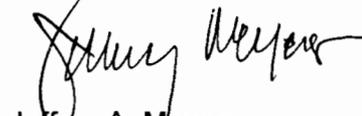
In the event that the Federal funds become no longer available, General funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Maureen U. Ryan  
Director

Approved by:



Jeffrey A. Meyers  
Commissioner



The Association of Administrators of the  
Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance, Inc.

## INVOICE

January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

**New Hampshire Annual Assessment  
Administration of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance**

These dues are an allowable title IV-E administrative cost and are subject to federal financial participation.

**TO:**

Catherine Meister  
Adoption Program Supervisor  
Division for Children, Youth and Families  
Dept. of Health and Human Services  
129 Pleasant St.  
Concord, NH 03301

**New Hampshire Assessment for January 2017– December 2017: \$5,000.00**

Payment Methods	
<b>Check</b>	
<b>Make check payable to:</b>	<b>AAICAMA</b>
	Association of the Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance
<b>Mail checks to:</b>	
	AAICAMA 1133 19 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW Suite 400 Washington, DC 20036
<b>Credit Card</b>	
	AAICAMA can accept payment by credit card. To receive an invoice to pay by credit card contact Robyn Bockweg at: <a href="mailto:rbockweg@aphsa.org">rbockweg@aphsa.org</a>
	AAICAMA has adopted this method of credit card receipt for the protection of the states. Payments made through this system allow the card holder to directly enter the card information into a secure database. No information is exchanged by email or phone. AAICAMA will not have access to the card number or expiration date.
	Federal I.D. Number: <b>52-1479559</b>



The Association of Administrators of the  
Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance, Inc.

*AAICAMA: 2012 Centennial Adoption Excellence Award Recipient*

November 16, 2016

Catherine Meister  
Adoption Program Supervisor  
Division for Children, Youth and Families  
Dept. of Health and Human Services  
129 Pleasant St.  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Ms. Meister:

AAICAMA thanks you for all you do to support permanency for children. I am writing on behalf the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (AAICAMA) to thank you for your unstinting support since the ICAMA was enabled in New Hampshire. Under the ICAMA every state is committed to support the work of its administrative association by payment of an annual assessment. The federal government is also committed to supporting AAICAMA's work by making this assessment eligible for federal reimbursement as a title IV-E administrative cost.

The assessment for CY2017 is \$5000.00.

ICAMA professionals in every state rely on their association to provide reliable, targeted legal guidance, technical assistance and training to administer the compact for the benefit of the children while increasing state efficiency and effectiveness.

In 2016, New Hampshire's dues helped support:

- AAICAMA's worksite and database. The data collected, tracking both national and state-specific data, is providing new perspectives on the interstate movement of children eligible for adoption as well as guardianship (GAP) assistance. The data that has been generated surprised ICAMA Professionals across the country. Some examples of this include:
  - ★ The total number of cases processed by the states exceeded expectations. From January 1, 2015 through November 1, 2015 almost 10,000 children moved to or were placed in a state outside their agreement state.
  - ★ KinGAP cases represent ~2.4% of all title IV-E cases administered by the ICAMA.
- Cyber Insurance. AAICAMA's serious commitment to protecting the confidential information of the children. Though every possible step has been taken to secure the database by purchasing 24/7, state-of-the-art technology, it has also insured the children against the possibility of breach by purchasing comprehensive cyber insurance. This insurance will provide notifications and credit monitoring for each child whose information may have been compromised, and full forensics in the event of breach to protect against future events.
- The National meeting, held in Oakland, California. ICAMA professionals received training on EPSDT, federal law and the title IV-E Adoption and KinGAP programs, Medicaid eligibility for non-title IV-E adoption assistance populations, and research results on effective support services for adoptive families.
- Technical assistance was provided on a range of issues including non-title IV-E adoption assistance eligibility and the provision of Medicaid, administrative practices and provision of Medicaid, and the effects of *Obergefell v. Hodges* on state practice

On behalf of the Association and all ICAMA signatories, thank you for your continued support of permanency through the AAICAMA. Please don't hesitate to contact the AAICAMA Program Director, Ursula Gilmore, at [ugilmore@aphsa.org](mailto:ugilmore@aphsa.org), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Adrian Owens*

Adrian Owens  
President, AAICAMA

enclosure: Invoice

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