



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**  
Division of Social Services

ROY COOPER • Governor  
MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary  
WAYNE E. BLACK • Director  
**CHILD WELFARE SERVICES**

June 21, 2018

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: Directors, Program Managers and Child Welfare Professionals**

**SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION REALLY IS POSSIBLE (TRIP) PROGRAM**

**REQUIRED ACTION:**  Information Only  Time Sensitive  Immediate

**PURPOSE / BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this letter is to provide county child welfare agencies with financial information, criteria updates, and promotional materials about the Transportation Really Is Possible (TRIP) program.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

*Revised Criteria*

The TRIP program criteria have been updated to clarify that young people do not have to incur driving-related costs to be eligible for assistance through TRIP. County child welfare agencies may pay for an eligible cost on behalf of the young person and receive reimbursement from the State. However, if a young person has incurred a cost for an eligible driving-related expense, they may request reimbursement from the county through the TRIP program.

*Financial Information*

The Division has reclassified \$25,057.30 of prior LINKS Transitional expenditures reimbursed to counties between July 1, 2017 and March 15, 2018 from LINKS Transitional Funds to TRIP. These expenditures were made on behalf of TRIP-eligible youth and young adults for TRIP-eligible costs such as vehicle insurance, driver's education, driver's license and permit fees, and vehicle history reports.

The reclassification and May reimbursements bring the TRIP program balance to \$44,220 as of June 15, 2018. From now until the end of the state fiscal year, June 30, 2018, be sure to utilize TRIP program funds for driving-related costs on behalf of eligible youth and young adults, instead of using LINKS Transitional funds for this purpose. Please note that the new state fiscal year begins July 1, 2018 and both program funds will renew at that time.

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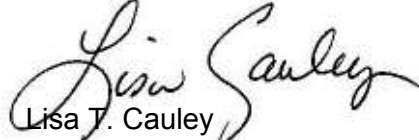
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

*Promotional Materials*

Attached to this letter are materials that counties may use to promote the TRIP program. These materials may be printed for display in county departments of social services and for distribution among youth in foster care, foster parents, Guardian ad Litem and other stakeholders. The .pdf file formats may be displayed or posted online. The .jpg file formats are for printing only.

Should questions arise regarding TRIP, please contact the State LINKS Coordinator, Erin Conner at (919) 527-6351 or [erin.conner@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:erin.conner@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,



Lisa T. Cauley  
Deputy Director for Child Welfare Services

cc: Michael Becketts, Assistant Secretary for Human Services  
Wayne Black, Director of Social Services  
Kristin O'Connor, Section Chief for Policy and Programs  
Betty Kelly, Policy Team Program Administrator

Attachments (5): Revised Transportation Really Is Possible (TRIP) Program Criteria  
Transportation Really Is Possible (TRIP) factsheet1.pdf  
Transportation Really Is Possible (TRIP) factsheet2.pdf  
TRIP\_facsheet1.jpg - PRINT ONLY  
TRIP\_factsheet2.jpg – PRINT ONLY

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