



Fiscal Justification & Statement of Cost Sharing

On an annual basis, the CFPIC PACT Team partners with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Child Trafficking Response Team to host the PACT Convening. This event serves as a statewide learning opportunity for local child trafficking response programs and their multidisciplinary partners.

A significant portion of the event costs are covered by the PACT Contract, funded through CSEC Program SB-855 Funding. As the Convening has grown and inflation has increased event expenses, we have adopted a cost-sharing approach. Even so, we remain committed to keeping registration costs as low as possible to ensure equitable access for local leaders and network members. Scholarships are also available for counties that would otherwise be unable to send at least one county representative.

We recognize that counties are navigating one of the most challenging budget seasons in recent years. However, we strongly believe that dedicated, in-person learning is not only impactful — it is essential. The Convening ensures that local programs have access to the most current evidence-based practices and emerging information to strengthen service delivery and coordination across California.

Historically, the Convening has generated meaningful and lasting impact. Examples include:

- Launching Harm Reduction Training education, which significantly influenced practice approaches in serving youth impacted by commercial sexual exploitation.
- Introduced tools enabling counties to access and implement locally led training through recorded training videos.
- Most importantly, relationship building, cross-county innovation, and collaborative problem-solving occur when county leaders are in the same room. This depth of connection and learning cannot be replicated in a virtual environment.

Fiscal Justification Notice

For those seeking fiscal approval to attend, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has provided the following statement for PACT Members. You may also reference [ACL 21-142](#) .

CDSS Statement:

Per [WIC 16524.7](#), CSEC Program funds may be used for training costs. Relevant excerpts include:

(2) The department, in consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association of California, shall develop an allocation methodology to distribute funding for the program. Funds allocated pursuant to this section shall be utilized to cover expenditures related to the costs of implementing the program, prevention and intervention services, and training related to children who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

(3)(A) Funds shall be provided to counties that elect to participate in the program for the provision of training to county children's services workers to identify, intervene, and provide case management services to children who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking, and to foster caregivers for the prevention and identification of potential victims.

Per CDSS interpretation, this includes registration and travel costs associated with conferences such as the PACT Convening.

If you have further questions regarding approval of fund use, please contact the Child Trafficking Response Team inbox: CSECProgram@dss.ca.gov.