



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Administration on Children, Youth & Families | 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201  
[www.acf.hhs.gov/acyf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/acyf)

June 3, 2022

Dear state and tribal title IV-E agencies:

The Children's Bureau announces the release of a revision to the **AFCARS Technical Bulletin 23: Compliance & Data Quality**. This technical bulletin was originally released in June of 2021 sharing information on determining compliance, data errors, and file submission standards.

The AFCARS regulations were updated via the final rule published in May 2020 (85 FR 28410). Title IV-E agencies have until October 1, 2022 to prepare their data systems to collect and report AFCARS 2020 data. The first submission of AFCARS 2020 is due May 15, 2023. If a submitted file is deemed noncompliant, a penalty will be assessed.

This revision of the original technical bulletin:

- Provides an overview of the submission process into the National Child Welfare Data System.
- Identifies the funds from the CB-496 that are subjected to a penalty.
- Describes how to calculate the amount of the penalty; and
- Describes the process of notification and appealing the determination of noncompliance.

Please direct any questions about the technical bulletin to the AFCARS mailbox at [AFCARS@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:AFCARS@acf.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Aysha Schomburg  
Associate Commissioner  
Children's Bureau

Enclosure: AFCARS Technical Bulletin 23 ver 1.1