

From: DHS.FOIAOfficer DHS.FOIAOfficer@illinois.gov 
Subject: 25-FTS-8022 Meckler - Response
Date: September 2, 2025 at 5:01 PM
To: foia@aflegal.org



Dear Jacob Meckler:

This correspondence is in response to your request for public records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) received on August 25, 2025. Your request seeks the following:

Records of all expenditures from January 1, 2022 through August 1, 2025 used to provide services to children born to mothers who lacked a lawful immigration status in the United States or children where both parents lacked a lawful immigration status in the United States.

IDHS assigned your request to the Division of Early Childhood (IDHS-DEC) and the Division of Family & Community Services (IDHS-FCS). Upon receipt, IDHS-DEC confirmed that the Department does not independently track the requested information for the Home Visiting Program, the Early Intervention (EI) Program, or the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).

Likewise, IDHS-FCS confirmed applicants for Cash and SNAP benefits must be a U.S. citizen or must have a specific type of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) status to be eligible for those benefits. As a result, there are no responsive records showing total payouts to undocumented persons (ie: individuals without U.S. citizenship or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) status) for Cash or SNAP benefits. Please also note that Cash and SNAP benefits are issued to households, rather than individuals. While there is one food program that is issued to individual children (Summer EBT), immigration status for the parent is not part of the eligibility determination and is therefore not collected on the application.

Lastly, please be advised that that individuals without U.S. citizenship or USCIS status are only eligible for Medical Assistance in limited circumstances (e.g., pregnant women or children 18 years old and younger). Information about total payouts for medical assistance benefits is maintained by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS). Accordingly, IDHS does not have records or data responsive to this portion of your request.

In the event you are seeking data related to a program not listed in this response, please feel free to submit a separate FOIA request identifying the program or programs. For more information about IDHS programs offered through each Division, please visit [IDHS: Illinois Department of Human Services](#).

To the extent you consider this response to be an improper denial of your FOIA request, you have a right to seek review by writing to the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the following address:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706
Fax: 217-782-1396
E-Mail: Public.Access@ilag.gov

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this response when filing a Request for Review with the PAC. You also have the right to seek judicial review of this response. 5 ILCS 140/11.

Thank you for your interest in the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Sincerely,



Thomas Mulcrone (*he/him/his*)
FOIA Officer

Illinois Department of Human Services
Office of the General Counsel
69 W. Washington, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60602
e: DHS.FOIAOfficer@illinois.gov

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