



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
Administration on Children, Youth and Families  
330 C Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20447

Dear Child Welfare Administrator:

This letter is to notify you of the National Institute of Health's Data Center migration to a new mainframe server that receives the States' Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) files.

The operation, maintenance, and support services for the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) are located at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Computer Center in Bethesda, Maryland. The NIH is migrating to a new mainframe computer called TITAN (not an acronym). One of the reasons for converting to the TITAN mainframe is its increased security features. TITAN requires a user identifier and a password for access.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) must migrate the AFCARS data file transmission process to TITAN by September 15, 2003. In order to meet this deadline, ACF intends to complete conversion by August 29, 2003. As of August 30<sup>th</sup>, all AFCARS data files must be transmitted to TITAN. Data files not received in TITAN will not be processed. Prior to full implementation, ACF will conduct testing with all States to ensure that connection and processing are operating correctly.

As a result of this migration, States will need to make two changes to their system in order to transmit AFCARS data files via CONNECT:Direct.

(1) The State must make a change to the "JCL" process by adding a user identifier and password, SNODEID=(userid, password). Adding the SNODEID specification should not be made until the State transmits to Titan. Also the SNODE identifier should be changed to reflect the TITAN NDM (C:D) nodename: NIH.STD.NDM.

(2) State Network Systems Administrators should add the CONNECT:Direct node definitions to their net map files and also add the VTAM definition to their VTAM tables.

The new network identifiers to connect to TITAN will be:

NDM (C:D) nodename:	NIH.STD.NDM
VTAM applid:	NIH4NDM
VTAM NET id:	NIH

Passwords will be given to States by ACF information technology staff at the time the State is scheduled to submit a test file.

The filename assigned to the AFCARS data file will not change. States are to continue naming the AFCARS file in accordance with the instruction in Technical Bulletin #2.

Enclosed with this letter is the AFCARS State Registration Form for File Transmission and the instructions for completing the form. States must complete this form and submit it to the Office of Information Services prior to testing. The form can be faxed to (202) 205-4582, ATTN: Alba Sierra.

State report file transmission testing will be conducted in three groups. Each State is assigned to a group and a time frame for testing. Contact Alba Sierra by email or telephone to notify her that a test file is being submitted. Ms. Sierra's email and phone number are: [asierra@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:asierra@acf.hhs.gov) and (202) 401-1462.

Group 1

Alabama	Alaska	Arizona	Arkansas
California	Colorado	Connecticut	District of Columbia
Delaware	Florida	Georgia	Hawaii
Idaho	Illinois	Indiana	Iowa
Kansas			

Group 1 States are to submit test files the week of July 28, 2003.

Group 2

Kentucky	Louisiana	Maine	Maryland
Massachusetts	Michigan	Minnesota	Mississippi
Missouri	Montana	Nebraska	Nevada
New Hampshire	New Jersey	New Mexico	New York
North Carolina	North Dakota		

Group 2 States are to submit test files the week of August 4, 2003.

Group 3

Ohio	Oklahoma	Oregon	Pennsylvania
Puerto Rico	Rhode Island	South Carolina	South Dakota
Tennessee	Texas	Utah	Vermont
Virginia	Washington	West Virginia	Wisconsin
Wyoming			

Group 3 States are to submit test files the week of August 11, 2003.

States may continue to submit AFCARS data files using the current method until the close of business on August 29, 2003. During the week of September 1<sup>st</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> the system will be shut down in order to complete the migration from the old mainframe to TITAN. States may resume submitting files on September 8, 2003 to TITAN. Any data files submitted to the old mainframe will not be processed.

Should you have any questions, please contact Alba Sierra of the Office of Information Services at (202) 401-1462.

Sincerely,

/s/

Susan Orr, Ph.D.  
Associate Commissioner  
Children's Bureau

Enclosure: AFCARS State Registration Form for File Transmission