

(h) The [Director] SECRETARY may apply for, receive, and spend grants-in-aid by the federal government or any of its agencies or any other federal funds made available to the [Agency] DEPARTMENT for use in carrying out the powers and duties of the [Director] SECRETARY or the [Agency] DEPARTMENT.

(i) (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, the [Director] SECRETARY shall pay all money collected by the [Agency] DEPARTMENT under this article into the General Fund of the State.

(2) (i) With the approval of the Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Planning, the [Agency] DEPARTMENT shall accept, on behalf of this State, a conditional or unconditional gift or grant.

(ii) The [Agency] DEPARTMENT shall pay all funds collected under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph into a special fund of the State Treasury and use the special fund to carry out the provisions of this article.

(j) The [Director] SECRETARY shall carry out and enforce the provisions of this article, the rules and regulations of the [Agency] DEPARTMENT, and any other provisions of law that relate to the [Director] SECRETARY or the [Agency] DEPARTMENT.

(k) The [Director] SECRETARY is responsible for the development, implementation, and maintenance of a comprehensive client information system, including an individual current record on each child, that is integrated in and accessible to the various segments of the [Agency] DEPARTMENT. The [Director] SECRETARY shall undertake efforts to link the system to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of Human Resources for the purpose of allowing the exchange of information on clients being served by [both the Agency and by] each department. Employees using the information shall protect the confidentiality of client records.

(L) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT LAWS UNDER THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

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(a) The Attorney General is legal advisor to the [Agency] DEPARTMENT.

(b) The Attorney General shall assign to the [Agency] DEPARTMENT the number of assistant attorneys general authorized by law to be assigned to the [Agency] DEPARTMENT and any additional ones, as provided in the budget, necessary to give effective legal advice and counsel. The Attorney General also shall designate an assistant attorney general as counsel to the [Agency] DEPARTMENT.