

POLICY ON PAYMENT TO FOSTER CAREGIVERS

Foster caregivers are compensated for the board and care of all foster children. Agency staff research the compensation packages of several other counties and looks at the needs of the program to determine a reasonable compensation for providing care for foster children. Any compensation package is then approved by the Trumbull County Children Services Board, resulting in an approved board and care pay rate. The Agency will be paying one daily rate for foster children which will include both the Board and Care amount and the Clothing amount. The specific compensation rates are noted at the end of this policy. The Agency will pay foster caregivers the amount due for the month in the following month (For example, money due for May 2018 days of foster placement and clothing will be paid in June 2018). The approved board rate is also the rate paid to foster caregivers who provide respite care. Board and Care payment is usually received within one week after the monthly Children Services Board Meeting (3rd Tuesday). The Agency offers avenues for foster caregivers to voice their thoughts and questions regarding compensation for the board and care of foster children. Currently, the avenues available are through monthly meetings with the Executive Director and Resource and Out-of-Home Care Department staff, known as "Thursdays with Tim meetings" and the Foster Care Revisioning Committee and its sub-committees. These avenues may modify over time as new venues for change may present themselves in the future.

Foster caregivers will also be reimbursed for mileage at the Agency rate of the federal IRS reimbursement. All necessary transporting of foster children to medical, educational, therapeutic visits and for parent/child visitations, must be documented on an Agency mileage sheet and submitted by the 10th of the following month for timely processing in the accounting department. Late mileage requests will not be processed.

Stipend payments must be made to the foster caregiver within one hundred twenty calendar days of the completion of the training event for continuing training or within one hundred twenty calendar days after certification for pre-placement training. Training hour means sixty consecutive minutes of instruction and may include a break of no longer than five minutes per training hour when a training session is longer than one training hour in duration. Stipend payments may not be held or otherwise deferred pending reimbursement by ODJFS. Stipend payments shall be rendered for fractional hours in quarter hour increments. The stipend rate paid by recommending agencies shall be calculated as follows:

1. For pre-service training a lump sum payment shall be made in the amount of fifteen dollars per foster caregiver per training hour for all hours completed with an agency.
2. For continuing training, fifteen dollars per foster caregiver per training hour successfully completed within a training session that is a minimum of one training hour in duration.

Recommending agencies shall make stipend payments according to the following:

1. For pre-service training, the agency that certifies the family shall record the pre-service training in the statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) and shall be responsible for paying the stipend to the caregiver upon certification.
2. For continuing training, the caregivers' recommending agency shall be responsible for paying all stipends to the caregiver and shall enter all of the training sessions into SACWIS.
3. If the training is provided by a regional training center of the Ohio Child Welfare, the agency that enrolled the participant is responsible for paying the stipend to the participant.

BOARD RATE 2023
Effective 1/1/23

2023

Child Age 0-9 \$29.50

Child Age 10-18 \$34.40

Clothing/Initial Placement
(voucher-Foster Parent to select Gabe's or JC Penney or Burlington)

Child Age 0-2 \$120.00

Child Age 3-18 \$200.00

***Winter Clothing**

Child Age 0-3 \$ 60.00

Child Age 4-18 \$110.00

***Only given during September-February**

Christmas Gift Cards

Child Age 0-5 \$ 50.00

Child Age 6-10 \$ 80.00

Child Age 11-18 \$120.00

Activity Fee Reimbursement

Child Age 0-18 \$150.00/calendar year

Activity fees over \$150.00 require supervisory approval

Mileage Reimbursement

65.5 cents/per mile * subject to change according to Federal rate

Diaper Reimbursement

\$40 reimbursement per quarter

In addition to the quarterly diaper reimbursement, the Agency will allow \$60.00 of the clothing stipend per quarter to be used for diapers.

ADDITIONAL FOSTER CARE PAYMENT

The Agency will pay \$50.00 per diem for the first 30 days of placement as an incentive if a foster caregiver agrees to take the placement of a child stepping down from residential care or a paid placement.

An extra \$3.00/day will be provided to the foster caregivers(s) for a child with a prescription for a Nebulizer/breathing treatment, Apnea Monitor or Oxygen needed for medical care. The foster family's caseworker will obtain the appropriate documentation/prescription from the pediatrician via the foster caregiver, and submit it to the Accounting Department. A review of the foster child's need for the above-mentioned equipment will be held by the Foster Care Supervisor every three months from the original date of approval to determine the continuance of the additional foster care payment.

Note: Children eligible for special or exceptional needs payments must be placed in a treatment foster home through a contact agency.

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Revised September 2004 PJJ
Revised December 2004 PJJ
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