

## State-Tribal Relations Interim Committee Information Request

### Information provided by DPHHS – Child and Family Services Division, Jan 2015

#### TYPES OF PAYMENTS MADE TO FOSTER FAMILIES FOR CARE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN

(This RATE is for families only – placements in residential settings with multiple youth are paid at other rates)

Category	Rate
Family/Kinship Foster Care	\$ 18.70/day (Age 0-12)
Family/Kinship Foster Care	\$ 22.28/day (Age 13 and over)
Specialized Foster Care	\$ 26.77/day (Age 3-12)
Specialized Foster Care	\$ 28.29/day (Age 0-2)
Specialized Foster Care	\$ 30.71/day (Age 13 and over)
Therapeutic Family Foster Care	\$ 34.30/day (Paid to licensed Child Placing Agency who sets rate to pay family)

#### LIST OF ITEMS REIMBURSED FOR FOSTER FAMILIES (ALL APPROVED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS):

Category	Rate
Transportation Allowance - General	\$3.13 / day, up to \$87.50 / month
Transportation Allowance – Maintain school placement	\$0.54 / mile (Federal reimbursement 2016)
Clothing Allowance	\$200 / 6 months
Diaper Allowance	\$1.32 / day
Other support services (those services or goods needed by the foster family to prepare for or maintain placement, for example day care costs exceeding the state rate)*	Negotiated on a case by case basis
Foster Parent Liability Insurance Coverage*	Covers family for property damage or loss as a result of foster child actions

*\*These services are limited to placements made by State social services. Tribal-administered placements are eligible only for Federal Title IV-E allowable expenditures (identified in the table below). A limited amount of State funding is provided to Tribes to support foster care services not eligible for Title IV-E funding.*

#### FEDERAL TITLE IV-E REIMBURSEMENT IS PROVIDED FOR THE FOLLOWING FOSTER CARE SERVICES:

Category	Matching Rate – Children in State Custody (FMAP)	Matching Rate – Children in Tribal Custody (FMAP)
Foster Care Placement Costs (regardless of type of placement)	65.24 % Federal Match	83.00% Federal Match
Allowable transportation costs (includes transportation to school)	65.24 % Federal Match	83.00% Federal Match
Clothing Allowance	65.24 % Federal Match	83.00% Federal Match
Diaper Allowance	65.24 % Federal Match	83.00% Federal Match

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## ARE THERE ADOPTION SUBSIDIES FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE?

State subsidies are available for the adoption of a child in foster care if that child has special needs.

Pursuant to 42-10-103, MCA, a “child with special needs” means a child who is:

- a) diagnosed as having a physical, mental, or emotional disability;
- b) recognized to be at high risk of developing a physical, mental, or emotional disability;
- c) a member of a minority group;
- d) 6 years of age or older; or
- e) a member of a sibling group to be placed together for adoption.

A written subsidy agreement must be established before the final decree of the adoption is issued. A family that adopts a child with special needs is eligible for subsidy regardless of where they live at the time of adoption or thereafter.

Pursuant to 42-10-109, MCA, the amount, duration, and scope of the subsidy may vary with the needs of the child as well as the availability of resources to meet those needs. A subsidy may not exceed the monthly foster care payment (minus \$10) that would have been paid if the child were in foster care.

Pursuant to 42-10-108(2), MCA, the subsidy agreement continues until the child is 18 years of age or until 21 years of age for a child with a mental or physical handicap. Termination or modification of the subsidy agreement may be requested by the adoptive parents or the department at any time.

A medical subsidy is also available in addition to the adoption subsidy for children with high-cost medical needs. The medical subsidy covers actual services received, not to exceed \$2,600 annually.

The state may seek federal reimbursement for adoption subsidies for children who met the financial criteria to receive benefits under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. These children must have a medical condition or a physical, mental, or emotional handicap.

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## IS THERE A NO-COST ADOPTION OPTION?

One-time, nonrecurring expenses can be covered up to \$2,000, so there is no cost to the family to pay for the adoption itself. This amount covers the legal fees and DPHHS conducts the necessary home studies at no charge to the family. The state is eligible for federal reimbursement of these expenses in all adoptions regardless of whether the child’s case qualified for federal reimbursement of other foster care payments.

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## GUARDIANSHIP SUBSIDIES, COSTS, AND PAYMENTS

Guardianship is an option for children for whom returning home or being adopted are not appropriate permanency options.

The state may provide a financial subsidy to a guardian appointed pursuant to Title 41, chapter 3, part 4, if DPHHS determines a subsidy is in the best interests of the child. The amount of the subsidy is determined by DPHHS. It may not exceed the monthly foster care payment (minus \$10) that would have been paid if the child were in foster care.

The state may seek federal reimbursement for guardianship subsidies for kinship/relative guardians of children who met the financial criteria to receive benefits under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

The state will pay the total cost of nonrecurring expenses associated with obtaining legal guardianship of a child not to exceed \$2,000. The state may seek federal reimbursement of these costs for children who were eligible for benefits under Title IV-E.