



Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Commissioner

Jaime Masters, MS, MFT

September 1, 2022

Dear Kinship Caregiver:

DFPS is changing how much it reimburses eligible kinship caregivers. Historically, the daily reimbursement rate was \$11.55 per day, per child. Starting September 1, 2022, eligible caregivers will receive a payment of \$12.67 per day, per child. This new rate would provide a reimbursement of \$380.10 for a 30-day month.

Eligible caregivers will receive the increased payment starting in October 2022 since this is a reimbursement for the previous month.

You must meet all these conditions to receive the kinship monthly reimbursement:

- CPS has conservatorship of the child in your care.
- CPS approved your home through the home-assessment process.
- You are not a verified foster home or group home receiving maintenance payments.
- You previously signed and are abiding by the Kinship Caregiver Agreement.
- Your total household income is not more than 300% of the federal poverty limit. Total family income must include all household members. This includes parents and anyone who moved in on or after the child was placed in your home.
- You have started the kinship training.

DFPS can reimburse for up to 12 months. You could get an extension of up to six months if the agency finds good cause. Good cause exceptions include:

- Trying to find a previously absent parent of the child.
- Waiting for appeal process in a termination of parental-rights case.
- Allowing more time for you to complete the approval process for verification or adoption of the child.
- Awaiting approval of a child's placement from another state.
- A delay in finding out the child's Indian Child status or waiting for the Indian Child's Tribe to approve.
- Any other situation in which DFPS finds the need for an extension.

Also, if you get Permanent Managing Conservatorship of a child and meet eligibility requirements you can request the \$500 annual reimbursement for child-related costs. DFPS can reimburse you for up to three years or until the child turns 18, whichever comes first.

If you become a verified kinship foster parent, you are eligible to get the full foster care rate which is currently set at \$27.07 per day, per child. Once verified, you could also receive Permanency Care Assistance (PCA) if the child is not eligible to reunite with their family or be adopted and you obtain Permanent Managing Conservatorship. PCA monthly payments continue until the child turns 18 (or until the child turns 21 if they are 16 or older when PCA is granted.)

Please contact your Kinship Development Worker for more information or if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Anna Mcartor/Stephen Martinez
Kinship Program Specialists