

Big Bend Community Based Care Policy & Procedure

Series: 700: Provider Network & Licensing

Policy Name: Foster Care Rates

Policy Number: 708

Origination Date: 03/09/2009

Revised: Board Meeting of 12/13/2018

Policy

It is the policy of Big Bend Community Based Care, Inc. (BBCBC), to provide standard levels of financial support to foster parents to meet the needs of children in care.

Procedure

A. Board Rates.

1. The foster care board rate will be initiated when the child is sheltered and placed in licensed out-of-home care.
2. The foster care board rate is intended to compensate foster parents for the cost of maintaining the child, given the standard cost of living in the community with respect to recreational, social and educational activities.
3. The foster care board rate is intended to contain a portion for allowance, incidentals and clothing.
4. Any enhanced rate will be approved by the BBCBC Placement Supervisor or Director.
 - a. At such time as it appears to the DCM or Placement Specialist that the child is exhibiting special needs, i.e., very challenging behaviors or medically complex issues that may require additional services and additional commitment on the part of the foster parent to secure or maintain the placement, the DCM or Placement Specialist may request a review of the board rate.
 - b. The DCM will contact the Placement Specialist who will investigate the child's needs.
 - c. The Placement Specialist will verify that the foster parent has an enhanced level of training or experience to meet the needs of the child.
 - d. Based on the documented behaviors, the Placement Specialist will seek approval.
 - e. Final decisions regarding rate approval rest with BBCBC.
 - f. The approved enhanced rate is based on the specific placement.
 - g. If the child moves to a different placement, the enhanced rate will be reevaluated.
 - h. The Placement Specialist will notify the foster parent of the rate change once it has been approved.
 - i. The enhanced rate will be evaluated on an ongoing basis to determine continued need.

B. Standard Rates.

1. The following standard rates apply:

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Age 0 - 5	\$14.75 Daily
Age 6 - 12	\$15.12 Daily
Age 13 - 17	\$17.70 Daily
Respite	\$13.15 Daily

- Included in the board rate is a percentage designated for the child's allowance, incidentals and monthly clothing. At a minimum:

	Age 0 - 5	Age 6 - 12	Age 13 - 17
Allowance	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$12.00
Incidentals	\$8.00	\$9.00	\$11.00
Clothing	\$35.00	\$36.00	\$43.00

- Contracted licensing counselors will train foster parents regarding their financial commitments to the children.
- If foster parents have any questions about their board rate, they will be instructed to contact the BBCBC Placement Supervisor.

C. Enhanced Rates.

1. Heightened Level of Care - \$20.00 Daily

Traditional or Therapeutic Parents who have received additional therapeutic training (documented), the child has increased needs as described above, and the child requires a heightened level of supervision and care by the foster parent.

2. Step-Up/Step-Down - \$33.00 Daily

Therapeutic Parents may receive this rate while awaiting a step-up to Medicaid funded Level 1 or Level 2 services, or once the child has successfully completed STFC Treatment and steps down, but remains in the same placement.

Traditional or Therapeutic Parents may also receive this rate for children dually diagnosed with development delay and mental health needs. The parent will have already completed behaviorally focused training or agrees to work closely with a Behavior Specialist.

3. STFC Providers - \$50.00 Daily

This rate is intended to support STFC providers and their Parents with children who cannot be maintained in a traditional setting but who do not quite meet the medical necessity criteria for Medicaid Funded STFC.