

Hastings Children's Aid Society

Foster Care Rates

Definitions For:

Boarding Rate, Daily Care Allowance (DCA) & Reimbursable Expenses

Base Boarding Rate:

The *Base Boarding Rate* for each type of Foster Care (Regular, Specialized, Treatment, Emergency Receiving) include costs for:

Accommodation

- Lodging - including furniture, bedding, towels, appropriate sleeping, living and dining area for the approved number and age range of children;
- Safety features required for the home, e.g. smoke detectors, locks, etc.;
- All household cleaning items, including maintenance of clothing and home;
- Cost of extra heat, hydro, water, electricity;
- Adequate property, contents and car insurance;
- Costs to cover replacement or repair due to normal wear and tear on furnishings, etc.

Food

- Food appropriate to child's age, including infant formula and all meals away from the foster home for the foster child;
- Food or money for school lunches and / or school outings.

Transportation

The Boarding Rate provides for travel costs associated with meeting the routine day to day needs of the child including travel to:

Foster Family Outings	Day Camp within Foster Parent's home community
Prescription pick-ups, shopping for birthday gifts, admission clothing, travel for hair cuts	Recreational Activities including sports, Brownies, Cubs, Scouts, Sparks, YMCA, Youth Group within Foster Parent's home community
Social Activities such as movies, dances, parties, visiting friends	Public Transportation – bus passes, taxi fares

All travel costs to the Foster Parent's home schools including Fun Fair, parent / teacher interviews, missed buses, school suspensions, IPRC / IEP meetings, snow days, Grade 9 orientation, school sports, school pageants, graduation events.	Foster Parent Recognition Events
Babysitting Travel	Employment Travel within Foster Parent's home community
Church Travel within Foster Parent's home community	Licensed Day Care within Foster Parent's home community

DAILY CARE ALLOWANCE AND REIMBURSABLES:

The *Daily Care Allowance* is designed to be used in accordance with established guidelines listed in the DCA categories below.

No receipts are required for DCA expenses.

A *Reimbursable expense* is to be preauthorized by the Children's Service Worker / Resource Worker / Supervisor, prior to the expenditure of the monies in accordance with the established guidelines listed in the reimbursable categories below. Preauthorization will be recorded in the Children's Service / Resource Worker case notes in keeping with expenditure approval limits.

Receipts must be submitted with the monthly Foster Care Expense Sheet for reimbursable expenses.

CLOTHING:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance includes for the purchase of the foster child's wardrobe to an acceptable standard according to the Clothing Checklist and established guidelines:

- 0-5 years - \$46.60 per month
- 6-12 years - \$73.75 per month
- 13+ years - \$83.42 per month

Reimbursable:

Admission Clothing based on the child's specific need and established guidelines: based on the completion of a clothing checklist:

- 0-5 years - \$125.00
- 6-12 years - \$150.00
- 13+ years - \$175.00

Graduation clothing and shoes (Grades 8 and 12) will be reimbursed according to the established guideline of \$125.00. Graduation expenses related to hair styling, jewelry, accessories, are not reimbursable.

ALLOWANCES:

Upon admission to care, a child is to receive a spending allowance. Spending Allowance is provided for the purpose of teaching children money management and decision making skills. This allowance belongs to the child and the manner in which it will be disbursed should be discussed and agreed to by the child, Foster Parents and Children's Service Worker according to the child's age and development. The monies are not to supplement other allowances, nor are they to be used to offset the care of the child.

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance includes Spending Allowance, and it is expected the child is entitled to receive the amount allocated in the established guidelines. The child's allowance will be spoken to in the child's Plan of Care by the Children's Service Worker.

0 to 5 years of age - \$5.00 per month
6 to 12 years of age - \$30.00 per month
13+ years of age - \$50.00 per month

Birthday Gift Allowance is included in the Daily Care Allowance. This money is to be used for the purchase of a gift for the child according to the established guidelines:

0 to 10 years of age - \$70.00
11+ years of age - \$90.00

Birthday gifts for other family members / friends is included in the Daily Care Allowance.

Reimbursable Allowances:

(1) Birthday Gift Allowance will be reimbursed if child's birthday falls within 60 days of the admission date.

(2) Christmas Gift Allowance will be an automatic payment according to established guidelines. This will be paid with the October payment, issued in November each year.

0 to 5 years of age - \$150.00
6 to 12 years of age - \$250.00
13+ years of age - \$300.00

NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICAL SUPPLIES:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance includes the purchase of over the counter health related items that do not require a physician's prescription. This would include such items as cough syrup, tylenol, tempra, midol, band-aids, cold remedies, creams (e.g. zincofax/penatin), lotions (e.g. calomine, baby oil) acne treatments, vitamins/baby vitamins, fluoride drops/chewables, ear plugs, eye patches.

Reimbursable:

- Prescription Medication
- Exceptional Medical Supplies not covered by the Assistive Devices Program
- Prescription Glasses
- Head lice medication, if the child was admitted to care with head lice
- Nutritional supplements, due to a physician's recommendation, and documented in writing

The cost of regular formula is included in the Boarding Rate. Cost of formula, beyond the regular amount, will be reimbursed, with a physician's recommendation in writing. The difference in cost will be reimbursed to the Foster Parent. Receipts are required to be submitted for approval.

PERSONAL CARE:

DCA:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance includes the purchase of personal grooming supplies and services that would include:

- Haircuts, tooth brushes, toothpaste, hair care items (e.g. shampoo, conditioner, spray, gel, deodorants, feminine hygiene products, baby wipes etc.).

Reimbursable:

- Routine Dental / Orthodontic Services

RECREATION ACTIVITY EXPENSES AND SUPPLIES:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance is to be used to allow a child to participate in activities in the community. The Foster Parents are responsible for the payment of the first \$300.00 of expenses in the fiscal year (April 1st to March 31st). Foster Parents must track this by keeping receipts and forwarding the receipts to Children's Service Worker for placement on the child's file. Activities include: fees for sports, music lessons, Scouts, YMCA membership, youth group.

Examples of supplies would be musical instruments, ball gloves etc.

Reimbursable:

Recreation costs exceeding \$300.00 per child within the fiscal year will be reimbursed, with prior approval, and submission of the first \$300.00 of recreation receipts.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES & RELATED LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance includes the purchase of necessary school supplies and would include such things as: school pictures, year books, paper, pens, binders, book deposits, back packs and spending money for school trips. All school trips that cost \$25.00 or less are included in the Daily Care Allowance.

Reimbursable:

Graduation pictures for Grade 8, and High School Graduation, will be reimbursed up to \$100.00.

For youth attending secondary school, an annual school registration fee, with a school issued receipt will be reimbursed.

Costs related to school trips will be considered for reimbursement. The cost of these trips must be pre-approved, and the cost difference beyond \$25.00 will be reimbursed.

Costs related to tutoring will be reimbursed with pre-approval.

CHILD CARE:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance includes the purchase of child care when Foster Parents need someone to care for their foster children, in order to do activities independently.

Reimbursable:

Child care required for foster children for the purposes of attending training, Foster Parent Association meetings, placement planning conferences, CSSP meetings, will be covered according to the established guidelines.

Meeting Duration	1-2 Foster Children	3-4 Foster Children
2 to 4 hours	\$20.00 per family	\$30.00 per family
5 to 7 hours	\$35.00 per family	\$50.00 per family
8 to 12 hours	\$50.00 per family	\$70.00 per family

Note: Twelve (12) hours per month per family is the limit. Exceptional circumstances that require additional hours per month are to be reviewed and approved by the Children's Service and/or Resource Workers and their respective Supervisors.

DIAPERS:

DCA:

- The cost of diapers is included in the DCA for children who have not celebrated their third birthday.

Reimbursable:

- The cost of diapers for children over 3 years of age will be reimbursed.

ENTERTAINMENT:

DCA:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance is used for activities that do not require enrollment that would include the following:

- Movies, bowling, movie rentals, admission to amusement parks i.e. Wonderland, Great Wolfe Lodge, share of hotel room etc.

Reimbursable:

Exceptional vacation costs, travel costs, and travel insurance costs, will be reimbursed with pre-approval, and negotiated on an individual basis.

LONG DISTANCE CALLS:

DCA:

- A portion of the Daily Care Allowance will cover the costs of occasional long distance charges to contact family and friends.

Reimbursable:

- If a child requires additional long distance contact with family or others, it should be discussed with the Children's Service Worker for pre-approval beyond occasional contact.

TRANSPORTATION:

Reimbursable :

Travel costs incurred for the following reasons will be reimbursed:

Admission Medical	Licensed Day Care (not in Foster Parent's home community)
Annual Medical	Access to Family
Discharge Medical	Orthodontic Appointments
Medical Appointments with Family and Specialist Physicians	Rep Team Sporting Events outside of foster home community with pre-approval
Dental Appointments	Society Case Conferences
Physiotherapy	Support Groups
Occupational Therapy	Relief
Play Therapy	Foster Parent Training
Counseling – Individual, Family, Tapp C	Foster Parent Association meetings
Speech Therapy	School Transportation (not in Foster Parent's home school district)
Court Attendance – Criminal Youth Justice and Family	Collateral Case Conferences
Dietician Appointments	Lawyer's Appointments
Optometrist – Ophthalmologist Appointments	Interviews with Foster Care Licencing Staff
	Probation Appointments
Psychometric Appointments	CSSP Meetings
Tutoring	Overnight Camp (not in Foster Parent's home community)
AWOL's (not in Foster Parent's home community)	Day Camp (not in Foster Parent's home community)

MISCELLANEOUS:

DCA:

A portion of the Daily Care Allowance is to cover other items that include such things as:

- life books, film and film processing, tote bags, recreational projects, recreational crafts, etc.

Reimbursable:

With pre-approval:

- Foster Parent training, parking, police checks etc.
- Foster Parent meals will be reimbursed with pre-approval should the Foster Parent need to travel for Society business related to a foster child or professional development.
- Passport Photos
- Driver's Education

- Bicycles

DAMAGES:

Reimbursable:

Damages will be reimbursed separately as per the Damage Claim Policy/Procedure.

CATORGIZATION of COMMON EXPENSES

	Daily Care Allowance	Reimbursable with Pre-Approval and Receipts	Yearly Special Payment
Routine Dental / Orthodontic Services		X	
Prescriptions		X	
Exceptional Medical Needs		X	
Special Diets prescribed by Dr		X	
Non Prescription Medical	X		
Personal Care Items	X		
Clothing - Admission		X	
Clothing Maintenance	X		
Seasonal Allowances	X		
Graduation Clothing (8 & 12)		X	
Prescription Glasses		X	
Graduation Photos (8 & 12)		X	
Spending Allowance	X		
Birthday Gift Allowance	X		
Birthdays Gifts for Others, Friends & Family	X		
Christmas Gift Allowance for the Child			X
Christmas Gifts for Others, Friends and Family	X		
Child Care - to attend training, placement planning		X	
Child Care – other	X		
Phone Calls / Local / Long Distance	X		
Disposable Diapers - 3 yrs and under	X		
Disposable Diapers - over 3 yrs		X	
School Supplies – pens, paper, binders	X		
School Pictures / Year Book	X		
Enrollment / Book Deposit	X		
School Registration Fees (Secondary)		X	

	Daily Care Allowance	Reimbursable with Pre-Approval and Receipts	Yearly Special Payment
School Trips under \$25.00	X		
Exceptional School Trips		X	
Mandatory School Uniforms (50% of the cost to a maximum of \$250.00)		X	
Tutoring		X	
Tote Bags	X		
Life Books / Film Processing	X		
Summer Camps – one week of overnight camp / two weeks of any camp		X	
Entertainment - movies/rentals	X		
Recreation - Registrations i.e. soccer, skating, up to a maximum of \$300.00 (runs April 1 st to March 31 st)	X	X (over \$300.00)	
Exceptional Vacation Costs i.e. travel costs		X	
Transportation - Routine Trips / Appointments	X		
Bus Passes	X		
Transportation (access, counseling, medical / dental appointments)		X	