

Par.1. **Material Transmitted and Purpose** – Transmitted with this Manual Letter are changes to Service Chapter 623-05, Foster Care Maintenance Payments manual.

Update payment rates for clothing and incidentals. Incorporated PI-14-05.

623-05-20-25. Payment Rates

The standard family foster care maintenance rate includes the cost of (and the cost of providing) food, clothing, shelter, daily supervision, school supplies, a child's personal incidentals, and liability insurance with respect to a child.

The family foster care maintenance rate is computed by month and includes an amount for clothing and incidentals. The rate effective July 1, ~~2013~~ 2014, is as follows:

AGE	BASIC RATE	CLOTHING AND INCIDENTALS	COMPUTED MONTHLY
0 – 4 Years	\$673.79	\$50.00	\$723.79
	<u>\$702.74</u>		<u>\$752.74</u>
5 – 12 Years	\$769.71	\$60.00	\$829.71
	<u>\$802.90</u>		<u>\$862.90</u>
13+	\$840.25	\$70.00	\$910.25
	<u>\$876.66</u>		<u>\$946.66</u>

Payments are made using the daily rate times the number of days in care.

AGE	COMPUTED MONTHLY	PAID DAILY
0 – 4 Years	\$723.79	\$23.80
	<u>\$752.74</u>	<u>\$24.75</u>
5 – 12 Years	\$729.71	\$27.28
	<u>\$862.90</u>	<u>\$28.37</u>
13+	\$910.25	\$29.93
	<u>\$946.66</u>	<u>\$31.12</u>

To the above rates the county social service board may, on the basis of individualized need, add the cost of irregular items allowed in foster care maintenance.

Updated the therapeutic rate for 2013. Incorporated PI-14-06.

Maintenance Rate – Therapeutic Foster Care 623-05-20-35

Professional Association of Treatment Homes (PATH)

When a child is placed in a PATH home, there are three options for payment. The rate effective July 1, ~~2013~~ 2014, is as follows:

- The PATH Therapeutic rate of ~~\$100.99~~ \$105.03/day will be paid for all children who are receiving treatment foster care services through PATH programs.
- A rate of ~~\$61.83~~ \$64.30/day will be paid for all children in the PATH regular foster care (PATH provides case management) and step-down programs. (This amount is separate from treatment costs, which are directly billed to Medicaid by PATH).
- The county age appropriate foster care rate will be paid in situations where siblings are placed in the same PATH foster home and one of the siblings does not need a therapeutic level of care. In this case the child's case manager will provide case management and supervise the placement.

PATH-ND (Professional Association of Treatment Homes)
1112 Nodak Drive, Suite 200
Fargo, ND 58103
Phone: 701-280-8545

Billing
Address:
PATH ND
2021 E Hennepin Ave, Ste 320
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Payments to PATH should not be authorized unless you have a billing statement for the appropriate month. "PATH and the Department of Human Services will review PATH foster care maintenance rates quarterly. Therefore it is possible that the daily rate will change on a quarterly basis."

The legal custodian and the youth's service team will evaluate the youth's progress to determine the appropriate level of care. If placement in the PATH Step Down option is appropriate, the legal custodian and PATH will sign the needed documentation at the team meeting. The County/DJS case manager will be responsible to notify the eligibility worker at the appropriate county.

For payment purposes the effective date for the PATH Step Down rate must be the first of the month. It will not be possible to pay for a partial month of care. The PATH Step Down rate will continue to be effective until the child leaves the PATH program, or eligibility staff is notified otherwise (e.g. escalation of child's behavior).

For PATH-ND, the PATH Therapeutic Rate, Step-Down Rate, and PATH Family Foster Care Rate includes all irregular payments with the exception of Category 70, Parent/Infant, and Category 50, Code 53, related to school transportation costs. PATH-ND bills the financial county for the Foster Care rate and PATH-ND pays the foster parents directly. The financial county authorizes the payment on CCWIPS with the above PATH-ND address as payee.

If a child is in a PATH Home paid at the standard family foster care rate, this child is eligible for irregular payments. Refer to CCWIPS Manual for technical assistance.

Refer to CCWIPS User manual for technical assistance related to entering PATH-ND foster care payments on the CCWIPS system.

Medicaid eligibility must be determined prior to referral of a child to PATH-ND. The treatment (rehabilitation) amount may be paid by Title XIX, or some other resource. IT CANNOT BE PAID THROUGH FOSTER CARE.

Updated the payments to facilities. Incorporated PI 14-01, PI 14-04, PI-14-07.

623-05-20-40. Payment to Foster Care Group Homes, Residential Child Care Facilities

Agencies have the right to set their own rates for care of children; the North Dakota Department of Human Services and county social service boards have the right to determine what services will be purchased. The foster care payment program is a resource to parents and county social service boards in meeting the cost, provided it has been determined by the county social service board and/or regional staff that a particular type of care is appropriate.

A group or residential care facility, as a free enterprise, may establish what rate it will charge for its services. The Department of Human Services, as a purchaser of services, may determine what rate it will pay. Refer to NDAC [75-03-15](#), "Rate Setting for Providers of Services to Foster Children Group Home and Residential Child Care Facilities." Since 1967, the rules of HHS have offered some degree of federal financial participation for certain identified cost items of group/residential care facilities. From time to time, the specific items for which there is federal financial participation have changed but the general rule is that in establishing rates of payment for group care only those items considered as care in family foster homes will be included for federal financial participation.

The foster care maintenance rates at child care facilities include board, room, care, clothing, personal supplies, education, and recreation. Telephone costs are not to be charged to foster care payments. The cost of social services and psychological evaluations are not chargeable to the maintenance payment for foster care.

To open foster care payments for group, residential, or therapeutic family foster care, an approval by the regional supervisor is required. This is now completed electronically on the FRAME system. The entire approval process is documented on the FRAME system (permanency planning, foster care court order with requisite foster care language, etc.) and the regional supervisor approves or denies electronically on the FRAME system.

In any situation where a hard copy is needed, please screen print the approval.

Administrative costs to facilitate reunification are available for reimbursement to eligible families as an irregular payment on CCWIPS for facilities. Note that this section applies to costs for the child's family, not the child. Examples of these costs are family expenses, meals, lodging, occasionally mileage, or commercial transportation to facilitate visitation or participation in family week with a child in foster care at a facility.

We will pay actual costs up to the amount of state per diem rates. Costs will be reimbursed based on North Dakota in-state rates, even if travel is to another state facility. Commercial transportation will be reimbursed at the actual rate. The facility and case manager are expected to seek the lowest possible rate when commercial transportation is required.

For foster care billing purposes, these costs are considered as a Reunification costs and entered as an irregular payment on CCWIPS, Category 50, Code 52. Refer to CCWIPS User Manual for technical assistance related to entering irregular foster care payments on the CCWIPS system.

Verification of expenditures are required and must be retained for audit purposes.

Daily Maintenance Rates -- Group and Residential Child Care Facilities

	EFF. DATE	DAILY RATE
Charles Hall Youth Services P.O. Box 1995 Bismarck, ND 58502-1995	<u>07-01-13</u>	<u>(F) 215.95</u>
Dakota Boys Ranch Assn. (Residential Child Care Facility) Box 5007, Minot, ND 58702-5007 Includes: (Fargo Youth Home)	<u>01-01-13</u> <u>01-01-14</u>	<u>(F) 307.25</u> <u>(F) 323.08</u>

(Does not include Dakota Boys Ranch Assn. PRTF) (Does not include DBR Fargo Safe Home)	01-01-13	362.90
DBR — Fargo Safe Home Closed 10/31/13		
Eckert Youth Homes Box 2291 Williston, ND 58802	07-01-13 07-01-14	(F) 249.89 (F) 236.95
Harmony House 406 4th Avenue Devils Lake, ND 58301	01-01-13 01-01-14	(F) 114.25 (F) 144.38
Home on the Range 16351 I-94 Sentinel Butte, ND 58654-9500	04-01-13 04-01-14	(F) 250.83 (F) 258.75
Prairie Learning Center 7785 St. Gertrude Avenue Raleigh, ND 58564-4103	07-01-13 07-01-14	(F) 204.19 (F) 234.18
Lake Oahe Group Home of Standing Rock Nation* P.O. Box 176 Fort Yates, ND 58538	04-01-12 02-1-14 07-1-14	(F) 129.96 (F) 134.83 (F) 196.12

Please note this is maintenance rate only. Service rehab rate is additional and billed separately. Effective July 1, 1997, the service rehab rate is billed directly to the Medical Services Division, North Dakota Department of Human Services.

* Approved facility for tribe.

D Desk Rate
F Final Rate