

**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
April 29, 2019**

PI 19-11

TO: County Social Services
Regional Supervisors
Division of Juvenile Services
Tribal Social Services
PATH-North Dakota
Lutheran Social Services
Youthworks

FROM: Kelsey Bless, Permanency Administrator

SUBJECT: Foster Care – 18+ Secondary Placements

PROGRAMS: Foster Care Permanency 624-05-23
Foster Maintenance 623-05-20-30

RETENTION: Until manualized

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

North Dakota Department of Human Services, Children & Family Services Division has updated a portion of policy as it relates to 18+ Continued Care program placements and payment.

If you have questions, contact Kelsey Bless at kmbless@nd.gov or 701-328-3581.

Thank you.

18+ Continued Care 624-05-23

FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS:

All youth in 18+ Continued Care remain eligible for foster care maintenance payments. The process and items covered in the foster care maintenance payment are consistent with policy for foster youth under the age of 18. This 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 the child.

Secondary placements from one primary foster care provider to another, such as pre-placement visits in a family home, are not allowed in 18+

Continued Care. Payments are limited to the primary ~~caretaker~~ foster care provider only, as the 18+ Continued Foster Care Agreement (SFN 60) does not include any placement resource other than the primary foster care provider. If an 18+ Continued Care client must be hospitalized and the primary foster care provider agrees to remain engaged with the case and continues to offer support to the foster child during that time, the primary foster care provider is entitled to reimbursement per foster care policy 623-05-20-30 "absence from placement". An 18+ case that require hospitalization beyond 14 days will require the foster care case manager to staff options with the central office. **The data management system does not allow for a secondary placement to be entered for 18+ cases; hospitalization must be documented in case activity logs.

Absences from Placement 623-05-20-30

If a child is out of a placement for 14 days or less under a plan which meets the approval of the custodian, and the intention is for the child to return to that same provider, there will be no reduction in the standard maintenance payment. Placement must be ended on the date it is determined that the child will not or is unable to return to the same primary provider. Foster care payments cannot be made to the primary provider for any days exceeding the 14 days in which the child was absent from the placement.

An absence that extends past the 14th day will require a change in placement. For example; a child has a primary placement in a foster home, they become hospitalized. The case manager will enter a secondary placement of hospitalization. Once the 14th day passes, the primary and secondary placements must be closed and the "Non-foster care" hospitalization will become the primary placement.

18+ Cases: Secondary placements from one primary foster care provider to another such as pre-placement visits are not allowed in 18+ Continued Care. If an 18+ Continued Care client must be hospitalized and the primary foster care provider agrees to remained engaged with the case and continues to offer support to the foster child during that time, the primary foster care provider is entitled to reimbursement. An 18+ case that required hospitalization beyond 14 days will require the foster care case manager to staff options with the central office.