

**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
June 30, 2020**

PI 20-18

TO: Human Service Zones
Regional Representatives
Division of Juvenile Services
Tribal Social Services
Foster Care Providers (PATH, LSS, Youthworks, QRTP's, etc.)

FROM: Kelsey Bless, Permanency Administrator

SUBJECT: Family Foster Home Provider Increase July 1, 2020
Irregular payment - Emergency Rate increase

PROGRAMS: **Payment Rates 623-05-20-25**
Category 30 - Emergency Placements 623-05-30-15

RETENTION: Until Manualized

The 2019 ND legislative session approved a 2.5% foster care provider increase for the second year of the state biennium: effective **July 1, 2020**. The family foster care standard maintenance rate will increase to the below allocation for all homes licensed or approved by the ND Department of Human Services and the authorized licensing agent's; Human Service Zones, Tribes, Youthworks.

July 2020 ND Child Age	Basic Rate	Clothing & Incidentals	Avg. Monthly	Daily Rate
0- 4 years	\$ 745	\$ 55.00	\$ 800	\$ 26.65
5-12 years	\$ 851	\$ 65.00	\$ 916	\$ 30.55
13+ years	\$ 931	\$ 75.00	\$1,006	\$ 33.52

Note: The "monthly" rate is provided for your reference. The child's foster care reimbursement is paid at a daily rate, specific to the actual number of days in the service month. Reminder the clothing and incidentals are embedded into the rate to secure basic clothing upgrades and personal incidentals for the child. Irregular payments are not included on this chart and continue to be permitted with pre-approval, not to exceed the annual maximums notes in policy manual 623-05.

Additional policy changes:

Category 30 - Emergency Placements 623-05-30-15

Foster children placed in a licensed or approved (Tribal Affidavit) family foster home may be eligible for emergency expenditures as a result of a crisis. A family foster care

provider that incurs additional expenses or provides initial placement specialized care of a foster child with medical, mental health, or special needs, may be eligible for additional compensation for the first 15 days of the child's placement in foster care. The additional expenses cannot be covered under any other irregular payment category or under the daily standard maintenance payment. The foster care case manager is responsible to identify the needs of the child and foster parents. Approval of the emergency rate must be made by the foster care case manager or agency designee and provided to the eligibility worker for the file. The emergency rate is not an entitlement or a required supplement for initial placement into a family home.

Code under Category 30

31 – Emergency Foster Care Placement:

- This code is specific to and may only be applied when a child is initially placed in a licensed or approved (Tribal Affidavit) family foster home.
- The emergency payment will increase the daily foster care maintenance rate for a maximum of ~~\$35.00~~ \$38 per day to meet the additional extenuating expenditures as a result of the child's emergency placement.

This irregular payment is automatically calculated by subtracting the age appropriate standard maintenance rate from ~~\$35.00~~ \$38. The difference will be paid as an irregular payment for no more than 15 days. If care extends for more than 15 days, the age appropriate standard maintenance rate will apply beginning with the 16th day of placement.

This irregular payment must be approved by the custodian in order ~~for the financial county~~ to authorize the payment. If a child within the first 15 days of placement is moved from one family foster home to another the irregular payment must be approved and can be paid if the emergency need has not been resolved and 15 days has not lapsed. If a child is on a trial home visit and is in need of emergency placement during that time, code 31 may be considered upon return to placement in a family foster home.

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

Attached:

- ND FC Maintenance Rates
- Chart – Irregular Payment Categories & Codes (Family)
- Irregular Payment Approval Form