

To: DCF Area Administrators
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Group Home Providers
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove 
Administrator

Re: Basic Maintenance Foster Care Rates & Kinship Care Rates for CY 2016 & 2017

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to inform counties of the Basic Maintenance rates for foster care and the payment for Kinship Care as provided in the 2015-17 biennial state budget (2015 WI Act 55).

BACKGROUND

The Basic Maintenance rate for foster care and the payment for Kinship Care are the required amounts to be paid per state statute.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

As provided in the biennial budget (2015 Wisconsin Act 55), the Basic Maintenance for Foster Care and Kinship Care for CY 2016 and 2017 are unchanged from CY 2015 and are as follows:

	Rate Effective January 1, 2016	Rate Effective January 1, 2017
Kinship Care (child of any age)	\$232	\$232
Foster Parent Certified at Level 1 (child of any age)	\$232	\$232
Foster Parent Certified Above Level 1 (based on age of child)	See Below	See Below
Child Age 0-4	\$384	\$384
Child Age 5-11	\$420	\$420
Child Age 12-14	\$478	\$478
Child Age 15-18	\$499	\$499

These are also the Basic Maintenance rates to be reimbursed in Adoption Assistance and Subsidized Guardianship payments in CY 2016 and 2017.

Funds

Counties can use funding provided in the annual Children and Family Allocations to fund foster care rate payments. Counties should use funding in the annual Kinship Care Allocation of the DCF/County contract to fund kinship care payments.

The revised brochure entitled "Understanding the Uniform Foster Care Rate" is attached below and includes information on the rates and initial clothing allowance.

ACTION SUMMARY

Agency staff should be made aware of the updated publication to share with foster parents and Kinship Care providers for placements remaining or occurring after January 1, 2016.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care
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Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care
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Attachments [DCF-P-PFS0142](#): Understanding the Uniform Foster Care Rate
Effective for 2016-2017