

LEVEL FEE

Policy no.: 3.27

Effective Date: October 1, 2013

Date Revised: August 18, 2014; March 28, 2018

Policy Cross References: Basic Foster Care Rate; Block Funding; Children's Special Allowance

Legislative References:

PURPOSE: To outline the process for determining the level fee that shall be provided to foster parents in recognition of their experience, skills and training.

POLICY:

1. Approved foster parents that have completed *PRIDE* Preservice Sessions and/or Specialized Foster Parent Training modules shall receive a monthly level fee in recognition of their experience, skills and training, as follows:
 - a) *Level 2*-Regular or Relative/Significant Other Foster Home: \$600 per month per child or youth placed in the foster home for whom the foster parent(s) is receiving the basic foster care rate; and
 - b) *Level 3*-Specialized Foster Home: \$1600 per month per child or youth placed in the foster home for whom the foster parent(s) is receiving the basic foster care rate.

PROCEDURES:

Level 2

1. A foster parent shall be eligible for a Level 2 level fee when the foster parent(s):
 - a) is approved as a relative/significant other foster home, interim approved regular foster home or approved regular foster home; and
 - b) has completed all *PRIDE* Preservice sessions.
2. A social worker shall approve the Level 2 level fee for each child or youth placed in an approved Level 2 foster home for whom the foster parent is receiving the basic foster care rate, in accordance with the rates identified above.
3. When a foster home is approved as Level 2, the social worker shall ensure the foster parent(s) signs the *Foster Parent Agreement (Level 2)* form.

Level 3

4. A foster parent shall be eligible for a Level 3 level fee when the foster parent(s) is granted conditional or final approval as a Level 3 foster home by a manager and a new child or youth in care is placed in their home.
5. A supervisor shall approve the Level 3 level fee for each child or youth placed in a Level 3 foster home for whom the foster parent(s) is receiving the basic foster care rate, in accordance with the rates identified above.
6. When a manager has approved a foster home as a Level 3 foster home, the social worker shall ensure the foster parent signs the *Foster Parent Agreement (Level 3)* form.

EXCEPTIONS

1. If a Level 3 foster parent(s) requests that they be matched with a child or youth whose needs would normally be matched to a Level 2 foster home rather than a Level 3 foster home, the foster parent(s) shall only be eligible to receive the Level 2 fee.
2. A foster parent(s) who is granted conditional or final approval as Level 3 foster home may be eligible for a Level 3 level fee on behalf of a child or youth who was placed in their home prior to their Level 3 approval where:
 - a) the child or youth is in the continuous custody of a manager;
 - b) the child or youth has highly complex needs requiring a level of service consistent with the competencies and expectations of a Level 3 foster parent(s); and
 - c) the manager approved Part A of the *Specialized Foster Home Assessment*.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS:

- *Foster Parent Agreement (Level 2)*
- *Foster Parent Agreement (Level 3)*