

# Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee

WORKGROUP FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

JANUARY 6, 2020





# Essential Rate Workgroup

## Recommended Essential Rate

Page 5

Nebraska Foster Parent **Proposed** Essential Rates compared with current daily and annual rates effective July 1, 2019. The increases are proposed to span 2020 until 2025.

<b>AGE</b>	<b>DAILY</b>	<b>PROPOSED DAILY</b>	<b>ANNUAL</b>	<b>PROPOSED ANNUAL</b>
<b>0-5</b>	\$20.40	\$22.26	\$ 7,446.00	\$8,124.72
<b>6-11</b>	\$23.46	\$27.06	\$ 8,562.90	\$9,876.57
<b>12-18</b>	\$25.50	\$28.73	\$ 9,307.50	\$10,485.87



# Essential Rate Workgroup

---

## Adoption Assistance Pilot Recommendations

Pages 16-18

1. The workgroup agrees with the Department's initiative to implement a standardized process which is equitable and fair across jurisdictions as this did not exist before the pilot.
2. 65% of the maximum foster care reimbursement rate for those children whose responsibility level is essential is an acceptable minimum offer for children who do not present with a guarded prognosis and whose caregiving responsibility level is "essential."
3. **The workgroup recommends updates to the Nebraska Administrative Code 479, Chapters 7 & 8 specific to the Guardianship and Adoption Assistance programs increase request and appeal process. The Administrative Code should be updated to clarify that all assistance agreements (adoption and guardianship), regardless of funding source (federal or state), must have a means to provide each caregiver the ability to request a maintenance rate increase and the ability to appeal the determination by DHHS, in accordance with the Administrative Appeals Act.**



# Level of Responsibility and Treatment Family Care Rate Workgroup

---

## **Tiered Level of Responsibility Rate Recommendations**

Originally, the tiered incremental increase between Essential, Enhanced and Intensive was \$7.50/day.

As of July 1, 2019, that incremental increase changed to \$7.65/day.

\*\*\*

**The Rate Committee must make a decision to either retain the current \$7.65/day incremental increase or choose another amount, such as \$7.50/day.**



# Tiered Rate Recommendations

## Option A: \$7.65/day

Nebraska Foster Parent reimbursement rates for tiered caregiving responsibilities according to age and need of children. The table below compares the current daily rates (effective July 1, 2019) with the proposed daily rates. Each column increases by \$7.65/day consistent with current tiered rate distribution.

AGE	ESSENTIAL	PROPOSED ESSENTIAL	ENHANCED	PROPOSED ENHANCED	INTENSIVE	PROPOSED INTENSIVE
<b>0-5</b>	\$20.40	\$22.26	\$28.05	\$29.91	\$35.70	\$37.56
<b>6-11</b>	\$23.46	\$27.06	\$31.11	\$34.71	\$38.76	\$42.36
<b>12-18</b>	\$25.50	\$28.73	\$33.15	\$36.38	\$40.80	\$44.03



# Tiered Rate Recommendations

## Option B: \$7.50/day

---

AGE	ESSENTIAL	PROPOSED ESSENTIAL	ENHANCED	PROPOSED ENHANCED	INTENSIVE	PROPOSED INTENSIVE
0-5	\$20.40	\$22.26	\$28.05	\$29.76	\$35.70	\$37.26
6-11	\$23.46	\$27.06	\$31.11	\$34.56	\$38.76	\$42.06
12-18	\$25.50	\$28.73	\$33.15	\$36.23	\$40.80	\$43.73



# Specialized Rate Recommendation

Pages 11-12

The Proposed Specialized Rate is based on the \$7.65/day incremental increase.

This rate is much lower than the existing “market rate.”

## *NEW* Specialized Level of Responsibility Rate for Foster Parent Caregiver

<b>AGE</b>	<b>PROFESSIONAL FOSTER CARE*</b>	<b>PROPOSED SPECIALIZED</b>
<b>0-5</b>	\$75 to \$80/day	\$45.21
<b>6-11</b>		\$50.01
<b>12-18</b>		\$51.68



# Treatment Family Care Rate Recommendations

Pages 13-15, Handout 7.

RECOMMENDED SERVICE COMPONENT	(SERVICE DURATION= 4 MONTHS)	MEDICAID RATE	OCCURRENCE	FREQUENCY	TOTAL	
INITIAL DIAGNOSTIC INTERVIEW (CHILD)		\$ 125.52	1	per year	\$ 31.35	(divided by 4 r service duratio
CERTIFIED TREATMENT AIDE	6 hours at 15 minute increments	\$ 11.98	24	per week	\$ 287.52	
INDIVIDUAL THERAPY SESSION (CHILD)	twice weekly	\$ 112.08	2	per week	\$ 224.16	
FAMILY THERAPY SESSIONS	twice weekly	\$ 90.42	2	per week	\$ 224.16	
CLINICAL CONSULTATION*	2 hours/ month	\$ 87.25	2	month	\$ 38.77	(divided by 4.5

\*CLINICAL CONSULTATION \$42.31 - \$87.25/HR MEDICAID RATE



# Level of Responsibility Workgroup

---

Revised Nebraska Caregiver Responsibility Tool, including the *NEW* Specialized level of responsibility. (Handout 8)

Agency Expectations for Tiered Levels of Responsibility (Handout 9)

**The workgroup recommends DHHS and Administrative Office of Probation and the Courts adopt and implement the use of the revised Nebraska Caregiver Responsibility Tool.**

- Replace professional foster care service contracts, letters of agreement, and vouchers with the use of the NCR.
- Implement the use of the NCR at DHHS, Saint Francis and Juvenile Probation.
- Develop revised training curriculum for the most recent version of the NCR for case managers, supervisors and field officers.



# Agency Administration & Support Rate Workgroup

Pages 12-13; Handout 10.

## Recommended Daily Rates

LEVEL OF RESPONSIBILITY	AGENCY SUPPORT RATES		PROPOSED AGENCY SUPPORT RATE
	EFF. 7/1/19	JUVENILE PROBATION*	
ESSENTIAL	\$22.20		\$26.92
ENHANCED	\$28.73		\$32.16
INTENSIVE	\$39.54	\$38.76	\$41.73
<b>SPECIALIZED</b>		\$80.00	\$78.70