

State of Alaska
FY2023 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Family and Community Services
Foster Care Base Rate
Component Budget Summary

Component: Foster Care Base Rate

Contribution to Department's Mission

Reimburse licensed foster parents for the basic needs of foster children in their care.

Core Services

- Reimburses foster parents for the basic and ongoing costs of raising a child.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2021

Provided foster care payments for a monthly average of 1,902 full-time equivalent children in foster care. "Full-time equivalent" is a methodology used to calculate foster care expenditures while compensating for the daily fluctuation of children moving in and out of the program. In recent years, children placed in foster care have more complex needs and issues, and foster parents are often required to have a greater level of specialized knowledge. The Office of Children's Services supplied foster parent training to provide the essential skills needed to successfully deal with the individual behaviors and special needs of the children in their care.

The department also continued to offer childcare to working foster parents as a foster parent recruitment and retention effort.

Key Component Challenges

The Office of Children's Services continues to explore recruitment approaches designed to target a specific child or sibling group in need of a foster home. The number of homes needed for older youth and children with complex medical and behavioral needs has outpaced the Office of Children's Services ability to recruit and retain foster parents. Not having enough appropriate placement options also increases the likelihood of multiple placements for children and is contrary to the best interests of a child, and the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

Foster care base rates are computed and reviewed on an annual basis to determine if established rates are sufficient for the daily care and supervision of a child in a licensed foster care placement. Considerations are given to the needs of children by age and geographic location to equitably compensate, recruit, and retain foster parents.

The New Alaska Background Check System (NABCS) was shut down due to a cyberattack. A paper process was implemented, which has caused delays for the Office of Children's Services in licensing foster homes. Background checks are necessary for licensure and Title IV-E federal match, which has resulted in an increasing number of foster care payments not eligible for federal match.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2023

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted foster parent recruitment. The division will adjust to the environment using news and social media for recruitment, as well as participation in community events and other outreach activities.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 47.05.065(3)	Legislative Findings Related to Children
AS 47.10	Children in Need of Aid
AS 47.14.020	Duties of Department
AS 47.14.100	Powers and Duties of Department Over Care of Child
AS 47.17	Child Protection
AS 47.40	Purchase of Services
7 AAC 53, Article 1	Child Foster Care Payment Rates and Difficulty-of-Care Augmentation

7 AAC 53, Article 3 Children in Custody or Under Supervision: Needs and Income

Titles IV-E of the Social Security Act

Contact Information
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Component Detail All Funds
Department of Family and Community Services

Component: Foster Care Base Rate (3315)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Formula Component

	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Conference Committee	FY2022 Authorized	FY2022 Management Plan	FY2023 Governor	FY2022 Management Plan vs FY2023 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
74000 Commodities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22,569.9	22,569.9	100.0%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Totals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22,569.9	22,569.9	100.0%
Fund Sources:							
1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6,336.6	6,336.6	100.0%
1003 G/F Match (UGF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5,172.3	5,172.3	100.0%
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5,461.0	5,461.0	100.0%
1005 GF/Prgm (DGF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5,600.0	5,600.0	100.0%
Unrestricted General (UGF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10,633.3	10,633.3	100.0%
Designated General (DGF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5,600.0	5,600.0	100.0%
Other Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6,336.6	6,336.6	100.0%
Positions:							
Permanent Full Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios with Descriptions
Department of Family and Community Services

Component: Foster Care Base Rate (3315)
RDU: Children's Services (486)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
Subtotal		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
***** Changes From FY2022 Management Plan To FY2023 Governor *****												
Executive Order Transfer from the Department of Health and Social Services												
Atrin		22,569.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22,569.9	0.0	0	0	0
1002 Fed Rcpts		6,336.6										
1003 G/F Match		5,172.3										
1004 Gen Fund		5,461.0										
1005 GF/Prgm		5,600.0										
Totals		22,569.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22,569.9	0.0	0	0	0

By Executive Order, the Department of Health and Social Services will be reorganized into two distinct departments: the Alaska Department of Health and the Alaska Department of Family and Community Services. This reorganization streamlines and improves the delivery of critical programs and services while creating more flexibility and responsiveness in both departments resulting in improved outcomes.

Line Item Detail (1676)
Department of Family and Community Services
Grants, Benefits

Component: Foster Care Base Rate (3315)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Management Plan	FY2023 Governor
7000	Grants, Benefits		0.0	0.0	22,569.9
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Management Plan	FY2023 Governor
		7000 Grants, Benefits Detail Totals	0.0	0.0	22,569.9
7002	Benefits	Reimbursement to foster care providers for the basic ongoing needs of a foster child. Costs include but are not limited to items such as; food, clothing, shelter, personal, and grooming items.	0.0	0.0	22,569.9

Revenue Detail (1681)
Department of Family and Community Services

Component: Foster Care Base Rate (3315)

Revenue Type (OMB Fund Code) Revenue Source	Component	Comment	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Management Plan	FY2023 Governor
5002 Fed Rcpts (1002 Fed Rcpts)			0.0	0.0	6,336.6
5019 Federal - Miscellaneous Grants		Title IV-E of the Social Security Act funding	0.0	0.0	6,336.6
5005 GF/Prgm (1005 GF/Prgm)			0.0	0.0	5,600.0
5115 Program Receipts Health & Human Svcs - Charges for Services		General fund program receipts ability to receive Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Administration and Child support	0.0	0.0	5,600.0