

Franklin County Kinship Caregiver Program – Program Overview:

Program Purpose: Funding for this program is to provide reasonable and necessary relief of child caring functions so that kinship caregivers, as defined in section 5101.85 of the Revised Code, can provide and maintain a home for a child in place of a child's parents. For this program “relief of child care functions” means services, programs, activities, resources and/or other assistance which eliminate or reduce barriers to maintaining the child in the kinship home and/or that support a kinship caregiver in providing pro-social opportunities for the kinship child. This may include, but is not limited to, covering the costs of child care, respite care and other necessary incidentals incurred when taking on the responsibility of caring for a child unexpectedly. These costs may be one-time purchases or non-current, short-term payments.

Eligibility Requirements: In order to be eligible each kinship child applicant must meet all the following criteria:

- Be a minor child living with a kinship caregiver as described in ORC 5101.85
- The applicant child must be living in a kinship home within Franklin County.
 - The applicant child shall be considered a PRC assistance group of one. A separate application must be submitted for each child;
- The income of the applicant child shall not exceed 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL):

200% FPL Standards 2019		
Family Size	200% Annual Gross Income	200% Monthly Gross Income
1	\$24,980	\$2,081.67

- The Kinship Caregiver/Family must complete a Home Assessment with FCCS. This assessment may be in the form of either of the following:
 - A Home Study completed by FCCS for kinship placements done by FCCS; or
 - A face-face or phone interview with a kinship caregiver who is not currently engaged with FCCS.

General Provisions:

- Program Effective Dates: May 6, 2019 – June 30, 2019
- Assistance Amount: \$1,500 per child

Allowable Services Include:

- Respite care for the kinship caregiver, including licensed child care and counseling;
- Family support services and activities that enable kinship caregivers to provide and maintain a home for a child placed in their care;
- Pro-social activities for the kinship child or family, counseling for child and/or family members;
- Other structured out-of-school programs, services and activities and associated fees, summer camp, etc.;
- Other programs and services to address developmental or other special needs of a child to promote their development and functioning (i.e. tutoring);
- General expenses to transition/maintain a kinship child in the home (e.g. school supplies/fees, other program/service fees, clothes, bedding, etc.);
- General household expenses related to transitioning or maintaining a kinship child (e.g. rent, utilities, food, bus passes);
- Crisis assistance (based on unique circumstances of the family);
- Costs and services related to employment, training, and job search and readiness focused around child care; and
- Any other kinship child caring costs and services not mentioned above that are identified by FCCS as a need, barrier, or other services included in FCDJFS' PRC plan.