

Region 3 CBC Kinship Options

Requirements

If Taking Permanent Legal Responsibility				If Caring for a Child in DFPS Conservatorship	
	Adoption	Permanent Managing Conservatorship (PMC) with Permanency Care Assistance (PCA) (Kinship foster home given custody)	Permanent Managing Conservatorship (PMC) without Permanency Care Assistance (PCA)	Unverified Kinship Placement (with approved home study) *	Verified Kinship Foster Home Placement
Background Checks	DPS/CPS check and FBI check	DPS/CPS check and FBI check	DPS/CPS check . If the guardian has lived in state for less than 3 years, a FBI check is needed.	DPS/CPS check. If the guardian has lived in state for less than 3 years, a FBI check is needed.	DPS/CPS check and FBI check.
Home requirements	Home study and approval for adoption.	Home study and verification as a foster home.	Home assessment/study	Home assessment/study	Home study and verification as a foster home
Training	None required	Initial training to become verified but not ongoing once custody granted.	None required	Pre-service training required	Pre-service training and 20+ hours annually required
Retain Attorney	Yes	Rarely	Rarely	No	No
Income Eligibility Test	No	No	300% of federal poverty level to receive flexible annual support payments for 3 years kin caregiver receives legal custody.	300% of federal poverty level to receive flexible support payments while DFPS has custody.	No

*This comparison assumes that the caregiver has an approved homestudy.

Benefits

If Taking Permanent Legal Responsibility				If Caring for a Child in DFPS Conservatorship	
	Adoption	Permanent Managing Conservatorship (PMC) with Permanency Care Assistance (PCA)	Permanent Managing Conservatorship (PMC) without Permanency Care Assistance (PCA)	Unverified Kinship Placement	Verified Kinship Foster Home Placement
Recurring payment	If eligible and approved for adoption assistance, up to \$400 - \$545/month. Eligibility requirements ¹	Upon eligibility, up to \$400 - \$545/month.	Upon eligibility, up to \$500/year reimbursement per child for child related expenses, up to 3 years post-custody granted or until the child turns 18, whichever comes first.	Up to 50% of the DFPS Basic Foster Care rate - currently \$12.67 per day per child for up to 12 months (May be extended for an additional 6 months, determined by DFPS.)	Currently based on service level need - basic current rate is \$27.07/day, \$812.10 for a 30-day month.
One-time payment	Up to \$1,200 reimbursable adoption related expenses.	Up to \$1,200 reimbursable legal costs or costs related to foster home verification.	None.	If the caregiver is a close relative, they may be eligible for the One-Time (TANF) for Relatives grant.	None.
Eligibility past 18 th birthday (until child turns 21) for recurring payment	Yes, if placed in adoptive placement at age 16 or older.	Yes, if PCA granted when child is age 16 or older.	No.	No.	Yes, if youth is participating in an activity that meets requirements. ²
Medicaid	Yes, if eligible through an Adoption Assistance agreement. If not eligible, there's a possibility that caregiver may qualify for other HHSC Medicaid programs. STAR Kids Medicaid if child has Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicare, or disability services in a waiver program.	Yes, if eligible through a PCA Agreement. STAR Kids Medicaid if child has SSI, Medicare, or disability services in a waiver program.	Yes, if financially eligible. STAR Kids Medicaid if child has SSI, Medicare, or disability services in a waiver program.	Yes, STAR Health.	Yes, STAR Health through age 21 (22 under certain conditions) if in extended foster care.
Education and training voucher	Yes, if adopted at 16 or older.	Yes, if PCA granted when child is 16 or older.	No.	Yes, if child ages out of care. (Turns 18)	Yes, if child ages out of care. (Turns 18)
Tuition and fee waiver	Yes, if adopted on or after 9/1/09 or has an Adoption Agreement that provides both monthly payments and Medicaid.	Yes, if PMC was granted on or after 9/1/09.	Yes, if PMC was granted on or after 9/1/09.	Yes, if the youth ages out of care or was eligible for adoption at or after the age of 14 or PMC granted on or after 9/1/09.	Yes, if the youth ages out of care or was eligible for adoption at or after the age of 14 or PMC granted on or after 9/1/09.

¹ Eligibility requirements are associated with both federal and state guidelines and can be found at: https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child_Protection/Adoption/adoption_assistance.asp

² Requirements are associated with education or employment activities and can be found at: https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/Transitional_Living/Extended_Foster_Care/default.asp