



SISKIYOU COUNTY

Health and Human Services Agency

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December 31, 2013

The following reflects the Foster Care Specialized Care Rates and Clothing allowance policy for Siskiyou County.

SPECIALIZED CARE RATES

Level I	\$289.
Level II	\$336.
Level III	\$395.

See additional pages for Specialized Care Rate criteria.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE – This is issued one time only at the request of the Social Worker for children in foster family homes, guardianships and foster family agencies.

<u>AGE</u>	<u>RATE</u>
0-6	\$106.
7-12	\$142.
13-20	\$176.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Employment and Temporary Assistance Services
818 South Main Street
Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 841-2700 / Fax (530) 841-4399

Adult and Children's Services
2060 Campus Drive
Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 841-4200 / Fax (530) 842-6277



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SPECIALIZED CARE RATE

Introduction:

The Specialized Care Rate Program (herein after referred to as SCR) in Siskiyou County is meant to enable children to be placed or remain in the least restrictive level of care available. Our intent is to avoid, as much as possible, extensive out-of-county placements and to keep children in a family setting as close to their own families as possible.

Siskiyou County will pay county-licensed foster parents, relative caretakers, and non-relative guardians a certain amount above the monthly basic rate for the time period that the child has the special need. The SCR program has three levels of care, based not on age, but on severity of behavioral problems and special needs including medical care, transportation, and supervision.

The SCR program will not pay for the following:

- 1) Medical equipment, prosthesis, or special furniture;
- 2) Prescriptions;
- 3) Doctor, hospital or physical therapy;
- 4) Mental Health or other counseling services;
- 5) Respite Care;
- 6) Home tutoring;
- 7) Babysitter for foster parents or minor mother's child;
- 8) Transportation for school, job, training;
- 9) Unusual/extreme wear tear on the home.

Eligible Children:

In order for the child to be eligible for the SCR there must be a court order from the Juvenile Court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 300 or Section 600 or the Probate Court placing the child in the foster home, with a relative, or with the non-relative guardian.

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Level 1: Specialized Care..... \$289 above basic rate

- A. In order to be eligible for this level, a child must have a medical condition such as asthma, epilepsy controlled by medication, enuresis, encopresis, failure to thrive, need for medication monitoring, substance exposed infants with no major medical problems, heart murmur, diabetes, special diet, or need for physical therapy at least twice a month.
- B. The child must have behavior problems requiring more than normal supervision and structure by foster parent i.e.:
 - 1) Hyperactivity;
 - 2) Aggression towards others;
 - 3) Destructive behaviors;
 - 4) Sexually acting out behavior in younger children;
 - 5) Weekly therapy outside the foster home.

Level II: Intermediate Care..... \$336 above basic rate

- A. In order to be eligible at this level a child must have a medical problem such as cerebral palsy and other conditions that limit mobility of child, presence of a colostomy, apnea monitor, ventilator, IV therapy or external feeding tube, acute juvenile diabetes, HIV positive with no symptoms, uncontrolled seizures, physical therapy once a week or more, not toilet trainable. Or
- B. The child has behavioral problems such as:
 - 1) Sexually active teenager;
 - 2) Pregnant minor;
 - 3) Anti-social behavior such as stealing, runaway, truancy, assaultive towards others, vandalism;
 - 4) Self-mutilation or history of prior suicidal behavior;
 - 5) History of substance abuse.

Level III: Intensive Care..... \$395 above basic rate

- A. In order to be eligible at this level, the child must have a severe medical problem such as non-mobile, non-ambulatory over 30 pounds, physical therapy daily, HIV positive with symptoms, ambulatory developmentally disabled or autistic child requiring constant adult supervision during waking hours. Or
- B. The child has behavioral problems such as:
 - 1) A recent suicide attempt and ongoing ideation;
 - 2) Fire-setting;
 - 3) Conditions requiring psychotropic medication.

CARE PROVIDERS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SCR:

The SCR will be paid only to County-licensed foster family homes, relative caretakers who are not guardians, and non-relative guardians. These caretakers will be paid the SCR only when the Court has placed a child who meets the above criteria for specialized care in the caretaker's home.

In order to be eligible to receive the SCR, foster parents, relative caretakers, and non-relative guardians must attend a minimum of 30 hours of foster parent training through College of the Siskiyous and/or Shasta Community College and must be certified by the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Adult & Children's Services, to care for medically fragile children, substance exposed infants, and/or children with behavioral and emotional problems.

APPROVAL PROCESS:

The placement worker or caretaker of the child may initiate a request for SCR.

Written documentation of the need for SCR shall include, but not be limited to the following, if applicable:

Reports by attending physicians, reports by hospital staff, psychological evaluations, reports by Mental Health counselors, minutes of an IEP, recommendation of a Public Health Nurse, written statement of a caretaker.

This documentation shall be part of the child's Human Services file. It will be placed on the eligibility insert under a separate tab labeled SCR. The documentation of the caretaker's training will be placed under the tab as well as in the licensing file for the County-licensed homes.

The placement worker shall complete the SCR Authorization Form SCWD SCR-1 (example Attached). The completed form, along with the appropriate documentation is to be submitted to the supervisor for approval. If levels II or III are being requested, the forms must also be submitted to either the Program Manager or the Chief Probation Officer for approval.

If approval is granted, the placement worker must change the SOC 158a by adding the amount of the SCR only, not the sum of the basic rate and the specialized care rate to Box J4. The SOC 158a, the SCWD SCR-1 and supporting documentation are to be given to the Eligibility Worker, and place the SCWD SCR-1 and documentation in the eligibility insert under a tab marked SCR.

The placement worker will note the length of time for which the Specialized Care is approved and will ensure that a review of the SCR will take place every six months.