

Permanent Connections

Providing permanent, safe and stable homes for children in the care of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services



PERMANENT CONNECTIONS COMPARISON CHART

| Eligibility and Benefits | PAID FOSTER CARE | ADOPTION ASSISTANCE | SUPPORTED PERMANENCY (TANF Funded) | TITLE IV-E SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP | STATE FUNDED GUARDIANSHIP |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| Eligibility and Bridge Resource Family Requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child is in the custody of OKDHS. - Family completed all requirements to be an approved OKDHS Bridge Resource Family. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parental rights have been terminated. - Child(ren) meets at least one of the eligibility requirements, which will be discussed by the assigned adoption worker. - Family completed all requirements to be an approved OKDHS Bridge Resource Family. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oldest Child must be at least 12 years of age, or 8 to 11 with CFSD Director approval. - Reunification and Adoption have been ruled out. - Family completed all requirements to be an approved OKDHS Bridge Resource Family - Child(ren) has resided in placement 4 of last 6 months. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oldest child must be at least 12 years of age, or approved by CFSD Director. - Reunification and adoption have been ruled out. - Family completed all requirements to be an approved OKDHS Bridge Resource Family - Family has received a Title IV-E payment for the child(ren) in placement for 6 consecutive months. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requires CFSD Director Approval. - Reunification and adoption have been ruled out. - Family completed all requirements to be an approved OKDHS Bridge Resource Family. |
| Difficulty of Care Supplement | Child must meet eligibility requirements | Same as foster care | None | Same as foster care | Same as foster care |
| Tax Credit | Contact CPA for requirements | Based on federal rate; contact CPA for requirements | Contact CPA for requirements | Contact CPA for requirements | Contact CPA for requirements |
| Relationship to Child | Not required | Not required | A relative as defined by TANF regulations (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) | A relative kinship by definition | Not required |
| Residence Requirement | None | None | Must Reside in Oklahoma | None | None |
| Monthly Payment | Based on current foster care rates. | Adoption assistance rates are negotiated based on the needs & circumstances of the family; not to exceed 90% of foster care rates. | Same as current foster care rates. | Title IV-E rates are negotiated and cannot exceed the rate the child would have received if in foster care. | State Funded rates are negotiated and cannot exceed the rate the child would have received if in foster care. |
| Oversight | OKDHS & Court | Annual review of Assistance Agreement | Once a year Periodic Eligibility Review; yearly court review, if applicable | Once a year Periodic Eligibility Review; yearly court review, if applicable | Once a year Periodic Eligibility Review; yearly court review, if applicable |
| Medical Coverage | Medicaid | Medicaid | Medicaid | Medicaid | Medicaid |
| Child Care | Must meet guidelines set in Foster Care policy; No family share co-payment | Age 0-5 years; Must meet guidelines set forth in Post Adoption Policy. | Applied for through TANF services (Once a year Periodic Eligibility Review.) | Applied for through Family Support Services in local county office. Guardian identified as legally, not financially, responsible in order for income not to be included in application. | Applied for through Family Support Services in local county office. Guardian identified as legally, not financially, responsible in order for income not to be included in application. |
| Child's Social Security Payment | Paid to foster parent, when appropriate, if eligible by SSA | Paid to adoptive parent if eligible by SSA. Payment is considered in post adoption assistance negotiations. | Paid to guardian, amount deducted from Funded Guardianship payment. If over payment, not eligible for funded guardianship. | Same as Supported Permanency (TANF) | Same as Supported Permanency (TANF) |

Independent Living & College Benefits for Child

| Independent Living Resources, Services and activities | College Tuition Waivers | Educational Training Vouchers |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •All youth that enter adoption or approved funded guardianship after the age of 16 are eligible. •Youth can receive all services except Housing Youth Development Funds or Medicaid for ages 18-21 | <p>All youth in OKDHS custody at least 9 months between the ages of 16 and 18 are eligible.</p> | <p>All youth in OKDHS custody at age 16 or after and are adopted, placed in guardianship, or age out in foster care are eligible.</p> |

These charts are provided for caretakers with information about options for permanent connections. They provide a comparison between paid foster care, Adoption Assistance and Supported Guardianships.

Contact OKDHS **Adoption Assistance** - 405-521-2475 and/or **Supported Guardianships** - 405-521-3778, for more information on these programs. For additional information contact the **Bridge Resource Support Center** - 1-866-612-2565.



OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



OKDHS Pub. No. 03-18 Revised 2/2011

This publication is authorized by the Oklahoma Commission for Human Services in accordance with state and federal regulations and printed by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services at a cost of \$55.00 for 550 copies. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. OKDHS offices may request copies on ADM-9 (23AM009E) electronic supply orders. Members of the public may obtain copies by contacting OKDHS Design Services at 1-877-283-4113 (toll free), by faxing an order to (405) 962-1740, or by downloading a copy at www.okdhs.org/library/pubs.