



Foster Parents

Everything you need to know, and more...



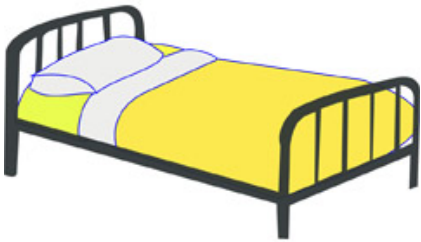
THE BASE RATE

as per the

Reimbursable/Per Diem Package

Age	Base Rate
BIRTH TO 5	\$ 32.58
6 - 11	\$ 38.03
12+	\$ 52.03

The Base Rate covers **Lodging**.....



- Appropriate sleeping, living, and dining area for the approved number and age range of children

- Adequate furnishings that meet safety standards for children, e.g. cribs, car seats, high chairs, etc.



- Required safety features for the home, e.g. smoke detectors, locked space for medication, documentation, training materials, etc.

More **Lodging** expenses covered by the Base Rate....

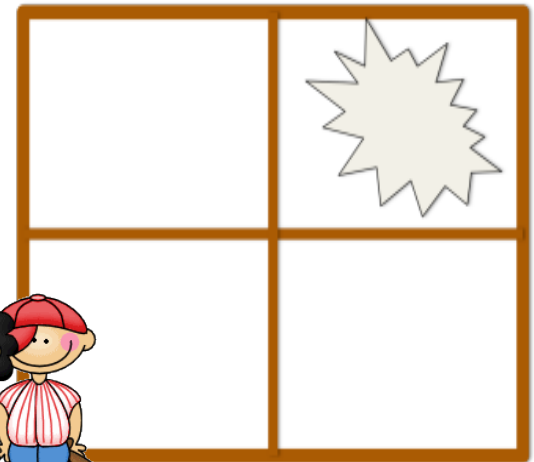


- All lodging expenses including campsite rentals, motel costs while on vacation, furniture, bedding, towels, etc.

- Adequate property, possessions and care insurance costs to cover

replacement due to accidental breakage or repairs due to

normal wear and tear on furnishings, doors, windows, and walls, and floor coverings, etc.

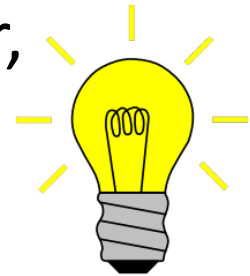


More **Lodging** expenses covered by the Base Rate....

- All household cleaning items and supplies



- Costs of extra heat, water, electricity



- Costs of maintaining telephone services to the home



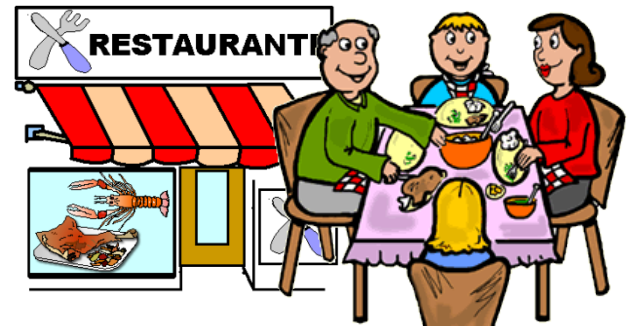
The Base Rate covers **Food**.....

- Food appropriate to child's age, including regular infant formula



- Food or food money for school lunches or school outings

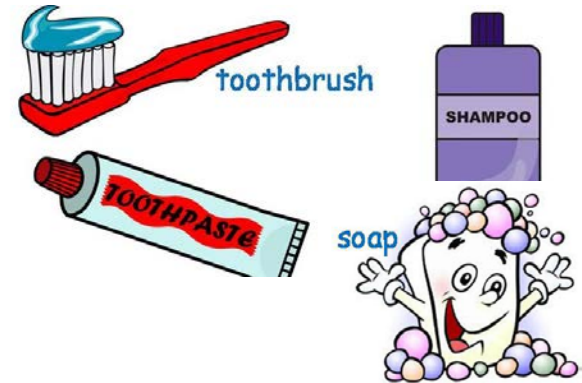
- Money to cover cost of occasional restaurant meals for the child when out with the foster family



- Groceries and meals when away from home with the foster family

The Base Rate covers **Personal Items**.....

- All personal hygiene items, e.g. shampoo, toothpaste and health supplies, over-the-counter medication, infant needs, etc.



- Medicine chest supplies, e.g. bandages, cough medicine, etc.

- Appropriate toys and recreational items for the home, e.g. play yard equipment, games, books, etc.



The Base Rate covers **Transportation**.....



Regular transportation for activities
such as parent/teacher interviews,
family outings, shopping and recreation.

Recognition for Experience

We give recognition to the experience levels of foster parents based on years of service and the number of days a child is placed in your home.

Foster Parent with:	\$ per Child per Day:
1 - 2 years	\$ 0.55
2 - 3 years	\$ 1.10
3 - 4 years	\$ 1.65
4 - 5 years	\$ 1.95
5+ years	\$ 2.20



INCENTIVES



Incentives are a way to recognize the support foster parents provide to children/youth placed in their home. The incentives have been informed by the research on resiliency for children as well as retention of foster parents. The amounts are set yearly based on the BGCFS budget.

TRAINING INCENTIVES



Training provides an opportunity for Foster parents to develop skills and knowledge critical to caring for the children in their care. This can lead to foster parents feeling competent to care for the children in their home.

Foster Parent Association activities (other than support groups) and membership on conjoint committees will not be recognized for this incentive.

This incentive will be reimbursed in the last three quarters of the year. The First quarter will be incorporated into the reimbursement of the Second quarter.

Full Day Training Events	4 - 7 hours	\$ 100
Half Day Training Events	2½ - 4 hours	\$ 50
Other Training	1 - 2½ hours	\$ 20
First Aid Completion		\$ 100
CPI Completion		\$ 200
CPI Recertification		\$ 100
BGCFS Support Group		\$ 20
Evening of Dialogue		\$ 20



SURPRISE INCENTIVE



This incentive will change yearly and will be offered based on the annual budget of BGCFS. All incentives will be based on established research and based on factors that positively influence the child's development and future success. A one time meeting will be called each year in September to determine the incentive for the fiscal year. Representation from foster parents, staff and leadership will be invited to the meeting.



Well Water Testing



If the water supply in the Resource Care Provider home comes from a well or cistern that is not monitored by the municipality, well water checks must be done twice per year, in **April and October**. Foster parents who complete their check by April 30 and October 30 will have their names entered into a draw for a \$25 gift certificate.



is intended for



Clothing Allowance

Seasonal and School needs



Age	Amount
0 - 5	\$ 2.41
6 - 11	\$ 2.41
12+	\$ 4.05



Initial Clothing requirements or other exceptions such as growth spurts or special events require worker approval.

Children's Spending Allowance

Every child in care, 6 years of age and older will receive an allowance according to his/her age. The foster parent may save the money or a portion of it for the younger child; according to age appropriateness the child should be encouraged to save the money to go towards a larger item, i.e. bicycle, and/or spending it wisely on items of his/her choosing.



AGE	\$ PER DAY
BIRTH TO 5	\$ 0.00
6 - 11	\$ 1.00
12 - 15	\$ 1.65
16 +	\$ 1.90

Holiday Gift Allowance

An amount will be added to the foster parent's November board deposit, paid in December, to cover the cost of holiday gift giving . Consideration of amounts regarding ages with the following recommendations:



Age	Allowance	Spending
0 - 5	\$ 90.00	\$ 15.00
6 - 11	\$ 90.00	\$ 30.00
12+	\$ 120.00	\$ 60.00

Birthday Allowance

Each foster home will receive an additional amount added to their board payment in the month of the child's birthday.

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

AGE	AMOUNT
1 - 5	\$ 40.00
6 - 11	\$ 50.00
12 +	\$ 60.00

** OCBf funds may be used to support party activities to a maximum of \$ 30.00





REIMBURSABLE Initial Clothing

All Ages – Maximum \$200.00

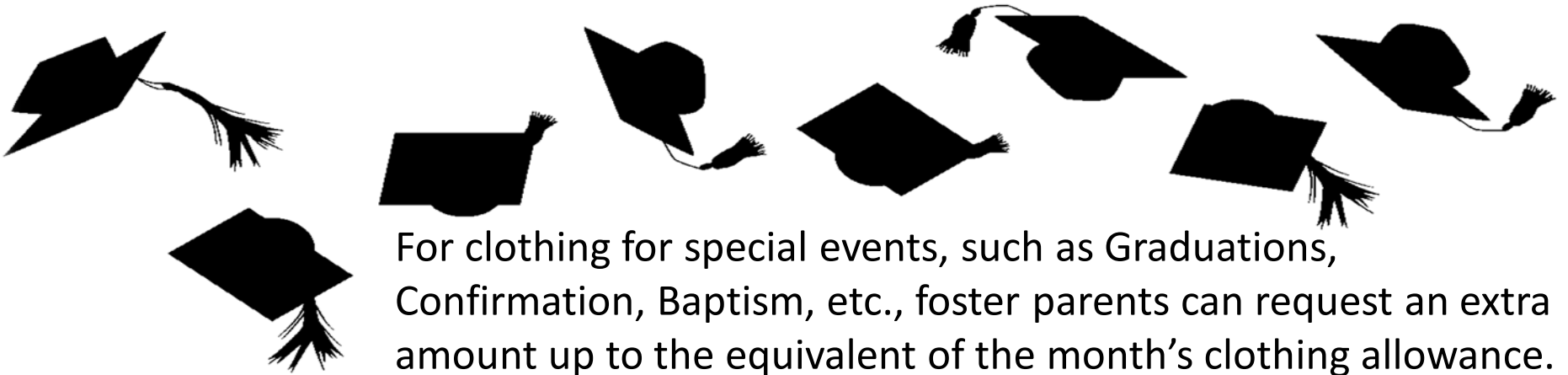
When a child is admitted to care, it is the responsibility of the admitting worker, where possible, to obtain from the primary family home the entire child's current clothing and personal belongings.

After admission to a foster home, the Family Based Care worker will ensure that the foster parent and where appropriate the child, has developed an inventory of the child's clothing and has determined his/her initial clothing needs. When necessary, approval can be requested from the Resource Worker's Supervisor to purchase initial clothing to top up the child's clothing to a reasonable standard. Initial clothing purchases will be added to the child's inventory list, as well as all purchases of clothing made by the foster parent or child while the child is in their care. Receipts must be kept, for future audits. Upon replacement, the foster parent will give a copy of all clothing lists to the placement worker along with all the accumulated clothing and personal possessions.

The organization expects the foster parent to budget according to the monies provided in the Personal Care Allowance.

REIMBURSABLE

Special Clothing Needs



For clothing for special events, such as Graduations, Confirmation, Baptism, etc., foster parents can request an extra amount up to the equivalent of the month's clothing allowance.

NOTE: Foster parents will be reimbursed for Special Clothing Needs by submitting receipts on the child's monthly reimbursable form, indicating the event for which it was purchased.



REIMBURSABLE

Travel

Mileage: \$0.52 per km

The organization will pay mileage to foster parents who incur mileage according to the travel procedure. The rate is set by the Collective Agreement.

Bus Passes: Youth needing bus passes for public transit transportation can submit receipts through their foster parent's reimbursable monthly statements labeled as an OCBe expense.



Parking: Parking costs related to frequent visits to specialized services will be reimbursed by submitting the receipts through their foster parent's reimbursable monthly claim. If the special needs of the child require ongoing treatment, a parking pass may be more economical and should be purchased. This too will be reimbursed.

REIMBURSABLE

Special Diets, Formulas, Special Treatments

Only special diets and formulas as prescribed by a medical practitioner will be reimbursed.



Note: The difference in cost to regular formulas and special diet formulas may be billed with receipts and reimbursed. Treatment as directed by a medical practitioner – i.e. Special products required to meet a child's unique needs, beyond the average expectations - recurring lice infestations, severe eczema, etc. Approval from the Family Based Care worker is required.

Diapers & Formula for children over 3 years of age

Diapers and/or formula required for a child with special needs can be claimed with receipts as a reimbursable for children over the age of 3 years.



Requires prior approval by the worker and supervisor.

REIMBURSABLE

Child's Personal Belongings

Children are often admitted to care depleted of any personal toys, books, etc. In such exceptional situations, a special item may be purchased which would become the personal property of the child and move with the child. Purchases must be approved by the worker and will be reimbursed as billed with receipts.



Requires prior approval by the worker and supervisor.

REIMBURSABLE Telephone

A maximum of \$10.00 per month in long distance charges related to the foster child and his/her birth parents can be charged as a reimbursable with the receipts. The foster child is required to cover the cost from his allowance or savings for personal calls to friends. We encourage foster parents to have a \$20.00 unlimited long distance plan. Foster parents and foster children are reminded to use the toll free number: 1-877-552-4453 when calling the Society.



Requires prior approval by the worker and supervisor.

REIMBURSABLE

Equipment or Supplies

Required in an emergency, to accommodate the placement of a child, above the home's approved capacity but within Ministry's standards; or, outside the approved age range.

Theft or Damages

Theft or damage intentionally caused by the foster child. Accidental breakage and wear and tear on furniture and bedding, walls and flooring are not included in this claim. These costs are covered by procedure RC-045 Boarding Rates & Allowances.



Requires prior approval by the worker and supervisor.

REIMBURSABLE

Formal Home Supports

The organization will cover the costs of additional supports that are agreed upon as part of the families' requirements to meet a child's needs.

Major Medical Supplies, Prescription Drugs, Regular Dental costs

These costs are covered by the agency through our Kare Plan.

All foster parents will receive a card from Greenshield which can be used to pay for prescriptions and dental care.



Major Dental, Orthodontics



Major Dental and/or Orthodontic work, including the consult, must be approved in advance by the Society. These costs require prior approval by the worker and supervisor/director.

REIMBURSABLE

Alternate Care Givers

Foster parents may submit receipts, provided by the Society for alternate care giver (babysitter) costs incurred by them as a result of their involvement in the following tasks:

- BGCFS business - court, access visits, BGCFS/school conferences, appointments, etc. for the child
- Training

A description of the expense must be included in the reimbursable document.



REIMBURSABLE

Life Books & Memory Boxes

Costs related to the development of life books and/or memory boxes can, with receipts, be claimed as a reimbursable, including school photos. This expense is covered by the OCBe budget.



Requires prior approval by the worker and supervisor.

REIMBURSABLE Recreation



It is expected that all children are encourage to participate in recreational activities. These should be discussed with the worker at Plan of Care meetings. Expenses require prior approval by the worker and supervisor are will be covered in a separate document related to OCBe (Ontario Child Benefit equivalent) spending.

Per Diem Relief

Age	Per Diem
0 – 5	\$ 2.12
6 – 11	\$ 2.48
12 +	\$ 3.42

The equivalent of two days of relief are included on your monthly cheque, as per the table to the left.

REIMBURSABLE Approved Extra Relief

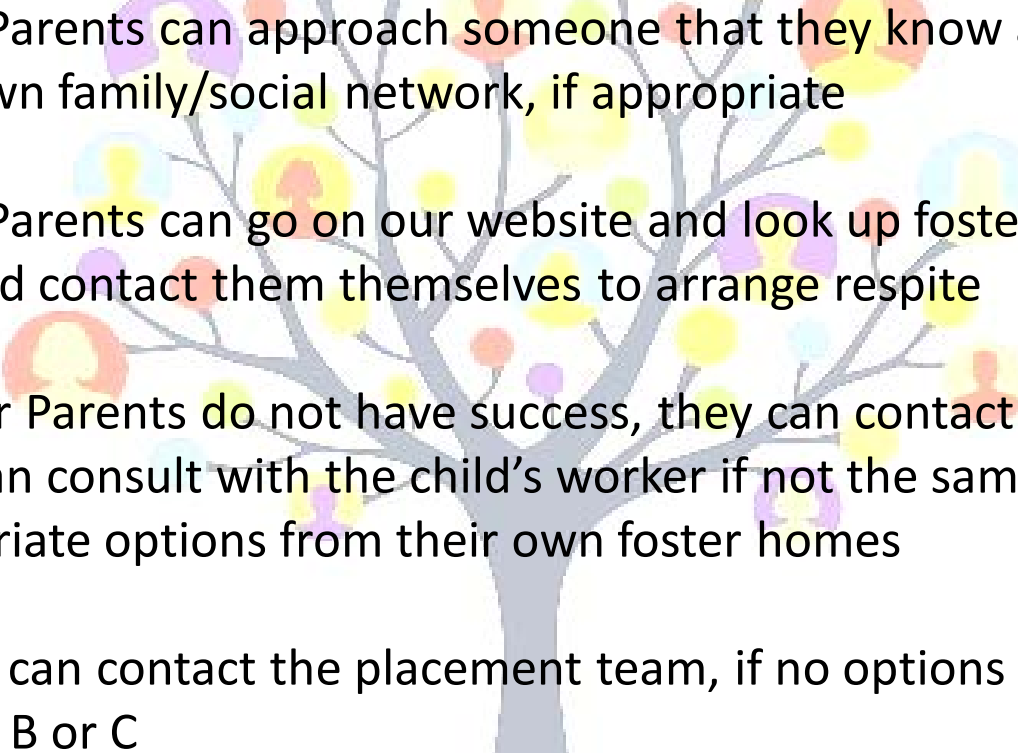
Consideration will be given to reimbursing for extra relief paid by the foster parent directly to a caregiver, or to you if you provided extra relief to another foster parent.

Age	Per Diem
0 – 5	\$ 32.58
6 – 11	\$ 38.03
12 +	\$ 52.03

The amount is the base rate less the non-shareable personal care amount.

Requires prior approval by the worker and supervisor.

Respite Options

- 
- A. Foster Parents can approach someone that they know and trust from their own family/social network, if appropriate
 - B. Foster Parents can go on our website and look up foster homes by area and contact them themselves to arrange respite
 - B. If Foster Parents do not have success, they can contact their worker (who can consult with the child's worker if not the same) to look for appropriate options from their own foster homes
 - C. Worker can contact the placement team, if no options are available from A, B or C

REIMBURSABLE

Day Care

The costs related to Day Care will be a part of the planning meeting and will be used as a means of meeting the child's needs.



Emergency/Receiving Rate



If a child is placed in the home on an unplanned or emergency basis, then the Foster Parent will be paid \$15 per day, up to 30 days or until re-placement occurs. Any extension in excess of 30 days will require supervisor approval.

Requires prior approval by the worker and supervisor.

Holding Rate



If a child is placed in a youth justice facility, or the child is absent from a placement for other reasons, with a plan for the child to return to that home then the foster parent will continue to receive the per diem rate for 14 days, after which time the space will be considered vacant and no rate paid.

If, after 14 days, it remains the plan for the child to return to the home, planning on how to support the foster parent to be active in the child's life needs to occur with the Family Based Care Worker.



School Supplies



School Supplies	
Grades	\$ Per Year
JK & SK - 6	\$ 75.00
7 - 8	\$ 100.00
Secondary	\$ 125.00

School supplies are paid annually to foster parents in early August, for the subsequent school year.





Other Expenses

**Other items not mentioned herein,
require prior discussion with the worker and the
approval of the worker and supervisor before the expenditure occurs.**

Foster Care Expenses

All expenses **MUST have the **original** receipt to support them for auditing purposes, unless specifically stated otherwise.**

PLEASE NOTE: You must submit for costs incurred under “reimbursables” within 3 months of you incurring the cost or it will not be reimbursed.

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
	Relief/respice costs in excess of 2 days a month. Must be a discussion with the FBC care worker about extra relief. ***See Relief Forms on how to claim these. Use these forms if you paid monies out for extra relief or if you provided extra relief and are applying to be reimbursed.	First 2 days of relief are included on the monthly foster cheque at the age rate minus the personal allowance. It is the foster family’s responsibility to pay for the first 2 days of relief out of these monies.

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
	Doctor’s prescribed vitamin supplements.	Shareable and non- shareable personal care items such as deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, tylenol (non- prescription), over-the-counter acne medication, shampoo, lotions, sunscreen, non-prescription vitamin supplements, cough medicine, feminine hygiene supplies, etc., as these are deemed to be covered in the base rate.
	Diapers and Pull ups for a child over the age of 3 yrs	Diapers for a child UNDER the age of 3yrs.

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
<p>Clothing, including seasonal clothing, is covered in the base rate at the following amounts:</p> <p>0-11 yrs: \$ 2.41 a day is approx \$ 72.30 a month</p> <p>12+ yrs: \$ 4.05 a day is approx \$ 121.50 a month</p> <p>(No receipts needed)</p>	<p>Admission to Care Clothing:</p> <p>In consultation with the family, to a maximum of \$200.00.</p> <p>(Needs receipts)</p> <p>Additional Clothing for exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>Families may request up to the equivalent of a month’s clothing allowance for special events such as graduations, confirmations, baptisms etc.</p> <p>0-11 yrs: \$ 72.30 max 12+ yrs: \$ 121.50 max</p> <p>(RECEIPTS REQUIRED for auditing purposes)</p>	

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
Occasional Babysitting For foster parents to attend training, support groups or attend agency meetings. Receipt & description required		Babysitting costs for foster parents recreational outings without the child in care.
The difference in the amount of regular baby formula and special doctor prescribed baby formula. Must provide the prescription from the doctor. Ask for a copy as you will need to give the pharmacist the original prescription.		Non-prescription baby formula, as this is considered to be food.

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
	<p>Meals at restaurants only if OUTSIDE of the area on pre-approved travel within set rates.</p> <p>Breakfast/ \$14.00 Lunch/ \$17.00 Dinner/ \$29.00</p> <p>FULL RECEIPTS (not just the debit receipt) are REQUIRED!!!</p> <p>Wrong receipt or no receipts will result in NO reimbursement.</p>	<p>Meals at restaurants within the area</p> <p>Restaurant meals out with the foster family.</p> <p>Groceries and meals when away from home with the foster family.</p>
		<p>Gifts the child buys for others (ie; birthday party gifts) are considered to be covered in the base rate.</p>

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
	Special occasion hairstyling or hair care to a maximum of \$50.00. Head lice treatment (does NOT require doctor’s note)	Routine haircuts
Claimable Mileage which includes: Family access; Court; Medical, optometrist, dental or therapy appointments; Youth in care functions, Relief; Co-op placements; Approved sporting or recreation events the child is participating in; Trips to visit friends within the same community; Agency meetings; and Foster parent training and support. Parking costs related to the child’s attendance at scheduled appointments or emergency rooms. Needs receipts. Bus passes for youth. Foster parents to submit receipts for bus passes on their monthly statement and label it as OCBc.	Trips to maintain friendships in another community (ie; Meaford to Hanover) Drives for work should be discussed in advance with FBC worker and youth.	Drives that are for no set purpose related to the child’s plan of care. Mileage to take a child to and from overnight summer camp. Mileage for family vacations or other “family” outings. Regular transportation for schooling needs (ie; parent/teacher interviews), family outings, shopping, recreation and normal local transit transportation.

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
<p>All long distance telephone costs while doing agency business.</p> <p>A maximum of \$10.00 a month in long distance charges related to the foster child and his/her birth family can be charged as a reimbursable with the receipts.</p>	<p>Telephone costs above the maximum of \$10.00 a month for long distance calls for a child in care to maintain access with family need to be negotiated with the FBC Worker.</p> <p>Child’s personal calls to friends.</p>	
<p>Driver’s Education IF it is in the child’s Plan of Care.</p>		
	<p>Daycare costs if required must be discussed and in the child’s plan of care.</p>	
<p>Film development costs within reason related to life books are reimbursable and are to be marked as coming under OCB.</p> <p>Basic School Photo Package. Mark as OCB.</p>		

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
	<p>Damage Claims (must also include an estimate of the repair or the cost of the replacement item)</p> <p>*** USE form if paying someone to do repairs.</p> <p>Must include HST # of the contractor. Bedbug home treatment costs must get pre-approval of the FBC Worker.</p>	<p>Clothing maintenance, dry cleaning and laundry costs are considered to be covered in the base rate.</p> <p>House and car insurance.</p> <p>Normal wear and tear on furnishings.</p>
Regular routine Dental Work and Check up.	<p>Cost of glasses needs approval BEFORE ordering.</p> <p>ALL Orthodontic Assessments and Orthodontic work MUST be pre-approved by the FBC. Orthodontic Assessments and Work requires both Supervisor and Director approval.</p> <p>Please NOTE: Only children in care who are Crown Wards are eligible for consideration of orthodontic work.</p>	<p>Prescription Medications All children in care are issued a benefit card and this should be used for prescriptions.</p> <p>EXCEPTION IF the pharmacy is UNABLE to process with card, pay for the prescription and submit receipt for reimbursement and alert your FBC worker of the problem.</p>

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
	<p>Special Tamper Proof Smoke Detectors MUST be agreed with the FBC worker and supervisor.</p> <p>Car seats to an agreed upon maximum to be purchased with the understanding that the car seat goes with the child if the child moves or goes home.</p>	<p>Cribs, high chairs, swing sets, regular smoke detectors</p>
	<p>To a maximum of \$30, the family may request that the worker access OCBe funds to cover the costs of a peer birthday party.</p>	<p>Birthday Allowance Each foster family will receive an additional amount added to their board payment in the month of the child’s birthday at a rate based on age.</p> <p>1-5 yrs: \$ 40.00 6-11 yrs: \$ 50.00 12+ yrs: \$ 60.00</p>

NO APPROVAL NEEDED Green Light!	“PRIOR” DISCUSSION WITH FBC WORKER IS NEEDED (Receipts will be required)	NOT REIMBURSABLE DO NOT SUBMIT Red Light!
<p>School supplies On the August Board Payment, the following amounts will be added to cover school supplies:</p> <p>Grades JK-6: \$ 75.00 Grades 7-8: \$ 100.00 Grades 9+ : \$ 125.00</p>	<p>Recreation Costs will be covered in a separate document.</p>	