The Case Manager will notify the Non-Relative Caregiver Administrator When the following occurs:

- The application for benefits is completed and ready for submission
- A placement change occurs
- There is a change in non-relative caregiver
- The child is closed Permanent Guardianship



# OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO CAREGIVERS:

211 Telephone service for community linkage

**Support Group Meetings** 

**Behavior Analysis Services** 

**Parenting Classes** 

Medicaid Funded Services



For Additional Information
Please contact



2232 Altamont Ave Fort Myers, FL 22901

Phone 239-226-1524 Fax 239-226-1115 NON-RELATIVE
CAREGIVER
BENEFITS
INFORMATION





# NON-RELATIVE CAREGIVER BENEFITS



### **Purpose:**

To alleviate the financial burden by helping with the cost of housing, food, clothing, incidentals, supplies, and any other costs or services that aide in the care, safety and well-being of the dependent child to promote support and stability.

#### **AGES & AMOUNTS**

0-5	\$242
6 – 12	\$249
13 – 18	\$298

#### **Duration:**

If funding continues to be available, Non-Relative caregiver financial assistance will continue until the child reaches 18, is adopted, is no longer placed in the home, moves from the state of Florida, or the Non-Relative caregiver becomes licensed, which ever is sooner.

#### **Eligibility:**

- 1. A court accepted Unified Home Study
- 2. A court order adjudicating the child dependent
- 3. A court order placing the child in the care and custody of the non-relative caregiver and finding that the placement is in the best interest of the child; and,
- 4. A signed statement by the Non-relative caregiver expressing financial need to continue to care for the child long term.

## Caregiver is ineligible if:

The Non-relative caregiver receives Supplement Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), or Social Security Survivor Benefits (SSA) on the behalf of the child

#### **Process:**

Complete the DCF form: Application for Non-relative Caregiver Financial Assistance form CF-FSP 5398

- Non-relative caregiver must complete general demographic information and sign a financial attestation to indicate his or her financial need for assistance to care for the child long term.
- Case manager must verify all eligibility criteria is met and sign the application.
- Application and Unified Home Study is emailed by Case Manager within 2 business days to <u>-</u> nonrelative\_caregiver@dcf.state.fl.us
- DCF decides within 5 business days
- DCF provides notice of eligibility to the Non-relative caregiver and Case Manager within 10 business days.

#### You should KNOW:

- Payment is prorated for the days the child lived in the home.
- Payment is paid following the month of placement (ex. Paid in June for the month of May)
- Payment continues after case is closed Permanent Guardianship
- If the child is out of the home for an extended period but remains in the Non-relative caregiver's care and custody, payment will be suspended for up to 60 days. If the child remains out of the home on day 61 benefits will be terminated.
- Whenever a payment is discontinued or an application is denied, DCF will notify the non-relative caregiver of the reason and of their right to appeal the decision.

