

AIFACS RESPITE POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to provide ongoing support for our foster parents. This respite policy will enable AIFACS foster parents to take “time off” on a regular basis.

- A. Each foster home that has a child in placement will earn respite care. Families that have 1-5 children in placement will receive 2 days of respite a month. Families that have 6+ foster children in placement will receive 4 days of respite per month. If a child is placed in your home mid-month, you will receive half the respite for that month. If there are 10 days or less left in the month, you will not receive respite for that child until the next month. The rate will be \$30.00 per day.
- B. Respite days can be accrued up to 6 days, which is equivalent to 3 months of respite.
- C. Respite providers **must** have a background check completed. Respite can only be done in the respite provider’s home if the home is licensed. If the respite provider’s home is not licensed, the respite must be done in the foster parent’s home.
- D. Foster parents and respite providers must have respite approved by their licensing worker 72 hours in advance of the respite. AIFACS licensors need to know the whereabouts of all children in foster care in case of emergencies.
- E. Payment for the respite will only be made to the respite provider, not the foster parent.
- F. Foster parents must complete a **respite care payment form** to give to their AIFACS licensor and a **respite information form** to give to the respite provider. If you do not have either of these forms, please contact your licensing worker.
- G. **Respite days will not carry over from one year to the next.**
- H. Any exception for unforeseen circumstances will be worked out with the foster parents and AIFACS staff. If there is an emergency, AIFACS will provide emergency respite. If the family has not used their monthly respite, it will be used first. If the family has used their monthly respite, AIFACS may grant additional respite for the emergency.
- I. If a foster family chooses to provide respite for foster children from other foster care agencies, there must be a contract between AIFACS and the financial responsible party prior to the respite being provided.
- J. Members of the AIFACS staff, that are licensed providers through another foster care agency, will not provide respite care for any of the AIFACS foster homes.

Foster Parent Date

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