

Affordability payments for foster and kinship caregivers

Caregivers will receive a monthly payment based on a daily rate.

Overview

Alberta government is delivering \$600 over six months to seniors, parents, and vulnerable individuals. Children's Services (CS) caregivers for children in government care are also eligible for monthly payments, based on a daily rate.

Foster and kinship caregivers

Kinship and foster caregivers in Alberta who care for children in government care will receive payments from the Alberta government; there is no need to apply. Caregivers will receive the payments through their regular payment process. As with Basic Maintenance payments, the affordability payment is based on a daily rate.

There is no income testing or threshold limit for foster and kinship caregivers related to payments for children in government care.

Kinship and foster caregivers will need to apply and be eligible for the payment for their biological or adopted children.

Delegated First Nation Agency (DFNA) caregivers

DFNA kinship and foster caregivers will receive payment and will not need to access the online portal to make an application.

Children's Services will advance funds to DFNAs for their eligible foster and kinship caregivers, then DFNAs will provide those monies to their eligible foster and kinship caregivers.

Agency caregivers

Agency kinship and foster caregivers will receive these funds through their usual payment process and will not have to access the online portal to make an application.

Children's Services will provide the funding to contracted agencies, who will then provide the funding to their kinship and foster caregivers.

Group care settings

Children and youth living in group homes or other group care settings will not receive the payment because the Alberta government already pays for all of their living expenses.

Youth in the care of Children's Services, living independently

Youth living independently will not receive these payments. The Government of Alberta pays their daily living costs, including room and board, groceries and household incidentals, clothing allowance, spending money and personal incidentals.

Families with children

Families with adjusted total household incomes below \$180,000 per year will soon get a total of \$600 for each dependant child under 18. All eligible parents will need to follow a 2-step process:

1. Register for a verified account as soon as possible at account.alberta.ca
2. Apply when the online portal opens starting the third week in January.

- The primary form of payment will be via direct deposit. Cheques will be available for those without a bank account.

Parents and guardians are eligible if:

- they have dependant children under the age of 18
- they have been Alberta residents as of November 30, 2022, and are the first day of each month of the payment period
- their adjusted total household income was less than \$180,000 in the 2021 tax year
 - family's gross household income minus applicable medical, education and split pension deductions

The monthly payment for children is not taxable income, will not impact the childcare subsidy, and will not affect your entitlement to other federal or provincial benefits.

If you receive other provincial government benefits, such as AISH, PDD, ASB and income support, or the Alberta Child and Family Benefit, and you have children under the age of 18, you will still need to apply for your children through the online portal once it opens the third week in January.

The Alberta government is delivering immediate cost of living and inflation relief while also working to support long-term affordability.

The Affordability Action Plan is extending broad-based supports while targeting additional relief to families, seniors, and our most vulnerable.

You can learn more about current and future affordability relief programs and supports at the [Affordability Action Plan](#).