

May 2005

Dear Foster Parent:

The Alberta Foster Parent Association and the Ministry of Children's Services are pleased to announce the following rate increases for Authority foster parents. The payment of these increases will be made on the May 2005 check and will include the increases that are retroactive to April 1, 2005.

1. Basic Maintenance

Effective April 1, 2005 the basic maintenance rate paid for the care of foster children was increased by 1.4%.

Age of Child	Old Rate	New Rate 1.4% increase
0 - 1	17.01	17.25
2 - 5	19.02	19.29
6 - 8	20.87	21.16
9 - 11	22.03	22.34
12 - 15	24.96	25.31
16 - 17	28.54	28.94

2. Travel and Subsistence

Effective April 1, 2005 the travel and subsistence rates paid to Authority foster parents were increased to coincide with the current government rates.

<u>Travel</u>	
Old Rate	New Rate
.38 per km	40.5 per km

<u>Subsistence</u>		
	Old Rate	New Rate
Breakfast	7.50	8.05
Lunch	9.50	10.20
Dinner	17.00	18.25

3. Respite

Effective April 1, 2005 Authority foster parents throughout the province will receive \$2.60 per child per day for respite. This is an increase of \$1.10 per day except for foster parents in Calgary who already receive this rate.

Additional respite arrangements, based on the needs of the child and required to support the placement, will continue to be negotiated on a case-by-case situation. The current babysitting and homemaking policies will also continue to remain in effect.

4. Recreation Allowance

Effective April 1, 2005 the recreation allowance for all children in care was increased by \$100 per year per child.

Age of Child	Old Rate	New Rate
0 – 11 years	\$325.00 per fiscal year*	\$425.00 per fiscal year*
12 - 18	\$425.00 per fiscal year*	\$525.00 per fiscal year*

* April 1 – March 31 of each year

5. Skill Fee

Effective July 1, 2005 the skill fee paid to Authority foster parents will increase by \$1.00 per day for both Level 1 and Level 2 foster homes.

Classification	Old Rate	New Rate
Level 1	\$10.50 per day	\$11.50 per day
Level 2	\$23.00 per day	\$24.00 per day

Foster families play an important role for children, and we commend the work of foster parents who provide safe, loving homes to children and youth.

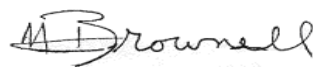
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If you have any questions regarding these increases, please contact David Tunney, Manager, Permanency Planning at (780) 415-8456.

Sincerely



Bonnie Johnston
CEO, Calgary and Area CFSA
Co-Chair Foster Parent Steering Committee



Norm Brownell
President, Alberta Foster Parent Association
Co-Chair, Foster Parent Steering Committee