



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1387

kinship foster care stipend; increase

Purpose

Requires, beginning January 1, 2025, the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to provide a kinship foster care parent with a stipend of \$300 per month for each child placed with the parent, increasing by \$100 each year until January 1, 2028.

Background

DCS is responsible for investigating reports of abuse and neglect relating to children and coordinating services to maintain permanency on behalf of the child, strengthening the family and providing prevention, intervention and treatment services ([A.R.S. § 8-451](#)).

The placement of a child who is in DCS custody is determined by the best interests of the child, and DCS must establish kinship foster care services for a child who has been removed from the child's home. A kinship foster care parent may be eligible to receive the following financial services for the child: 1) full foster care benefits, including payment if the kinship foster care parent becomes a licensed foster care home; and 2) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance payments. DCS provides maintenance payments to licensed foster families for the care of children in out-of-home care. DCS sets foster care rates and determines eligibility for special rates ([A.R.S. § 8-514.03](#)).

There is a basic daily foster home rate paid on behalf of each foster child placed in a licensed foster home. The basic rate is between \$19.68 per day per child and \$27.15 per day per child, depending upon the age of the child. The basic daily kinship foster home rate paid on behalf of each foster child placed in an unlicensed foster care bed is \$9.86 per day per child with no changes depending on the child's age. There are no differences with the daily clothing allowance or daily personal allowance between foster or kinship foster care homes ([DCS](#)).

An unlicensed kinship foster care parent will receive monthly reimbursement from DCS. At the end of each month, the parent will confirm the number of days the child was in their home. The reimbursement includes a diaper allowance, if applicable, the personal and clothing allowances and the kinship stipend ([DCS](#)).

[Laws 2022, Chapter 329](#) appropriated monies from the state General Fund (state GF) in FY 2023 to DCS to provide a kinship foster care parent with a stipend of \$300 per month for each child placed with the foster care parent. The Legislature intended that the one-time appropriation be considered ongoing funding in future years. The stipend increase has since been added to the Baseline budget as an ongoing expenditure ([JLBC](#)).

The fiscal impact of S.B. 1387 to the state GF depends on how many stipends are provided to kinship foster care parents.

Provisions

1. Requires DCS to provide a kinship foster care parent with a monthly stipend for each child placed with the parent, in the following amounts:
 - a) \$300 effective January 1, 2025;
 - b) \$400, effective January 1, 2026;
 - c) \$500, effective January 1, 2027; and
 - d) \$600, effective January 1, 2028.

2. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research

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MM/DM/slp