

# COVID-19 Grant FAQ

## **Why is the grant only for children 5 and older, I have COVID-related expenses for the two-year-old in my care?**

DCYF was given a small amount of funding to support some caregivers for potential costs associated with distance learning for school-age children. DCYF made the decision to expand these grants to all caregivers of children over five. We do not have the resources to expand it to children under age five at this time. We certainly understand that all caregivers have experienced stress and increased costs related to COVID. Unfortunately, we can only do what our resources allow us to do at this time. If additional resources from the state or federal government become available with a broader focus, we will work to distribute those at that time.

## **Does everyone get this grant?**

This one-time grant will be issued to caregivers for the number of children - five years and older – as follows:

- Licensed caregivers and placement services (e.g. foster home, treatment foster home) - based on payments made in November 2020 for services provided in October.
  - We used the November payment data as it was a combination of the most current and accurate data in our system.
  - Children must have been in your care for at least five days in October.
  - Child Placement Agency (CPA) foster parents will receive this reimbursement directly from DCYF.
  - Treatment foster care homes will receive this reimbursement from the Behavior Rehabilitation Services (BRS) contractor.
  - Children placed in other states through ICPC and children from other states placed in Washington through an ICPC are not eligible.
- Unlicensed caregivers - based on placements on Nov. 1, 2020.

## **How are we able to apply for this?**

You do not need to apply. The payments are being generated based on the information in our in our case management data system, FamLink.



Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

### **How are these grants distributed?**

The grant will be deposited by direct deposit (EFT) if you are set up for that. Otherwise, a check will be mailed. If you are set up for direct deposit, the money will arrive in your account two to three business days after payments are issued.

If you receive paper checks, it can take 7 to 10 business days for mail delivery. If your address is out of date, the check will be returned and your addressed research. This can add up to several weeks.

### **So even though we paid extra expenses for a child from March to September we won't receive the grant?**

Unfortunately, we are unable to compensate folks retroactively for costs that have already happened. We are providing these grants in an attempt to offset future costs. We worked as quickly as possible to get grants out the door once we were approved to do so. We recognize these won't be perfect or fully reimburse for all costs incurred for all placements.

### **Will this apply to children we recently adopted?**

If the child you adopted was placed with you as a foster child during October 2020 for at least five days, yes.

### **Do BRS treatment foster care (TFC) homes get the grant payment? Are there two payments for those youth who are in BRS TFC, one directly to the foster home for each eligible child and one to the treatment foster care BRS contractor/agency?**

BRS treatment foster care homes are eligible for a payment of \$900 per eligible child. The grant money has been sent to the BRS contractor/agency. There is only one payment per youth, the foster parent will not get a payment directly, it again, goes to the agency.

### **What if I have a question about eligibility or why I didn't receive a grant?**

Unfortunately, we do not have the authority to go back and research missing grant awards and issue them if they were wrong.

- For those with children who have moved, please use grant funds with children in your care now.
- For those missing a payment, there are several reasons why this may have happened. Most common are late billings or incorrect placement entry in Famlink. A big reason we used older data is that funding for this grant was limited and we were trying to ensure the most accurate information.