



KINSHIP CARERS QUICK GUIDE TO FINANCIAL SUPPORTS



Assessed and approved Foster, Kinship, Permanent and Special needs local adoption carers are eligible to receive a care allowance.

Care allowances are designed to cover the day-to-day expenses of caring for the child or young person in your kinship care.

WHAT YOUR CARE ALLOWANCE CAN COVER

- Accommodation, food, clothing, and utilities.
- Personal items such as toiletries.
- Transport as part of the child's regular routine, such as to school and extracurricular activities.
- Entertainment, social activities, pocket money, toys, and gifts.

There are five levels of care allowances which reflect the unique needs of your child. Children with higher needs may be eligible for increased funding to contribute to therapeutic and support services.

FLEXIBLE FUNDING

- Support additional education costs not covered by education allowance.
- Provide access to respite.
- Support and promote cultural identity.
- Access therapeutic support services to address trauma or adverse experiences.

Flexible funding can be used to cover a range of costs that may not be supported by the care allowance or other funding. If a child or young person in your care has additional needs not covered by reimbursements, talk to your care team about flexible funding.

OTHER FUNDING AVAILABLE

- Education and medical payments.
- School attendance allowance.
- New placement loading to support the 'start-up' costs associated with caring for a child or young person for the first time.

The Victorian and Commonwealth government provide numerous diverse supports to meet the unique needs of your kinship placement.

For more information on reimbursements and funding for kinship carers, visit to Department of Families, Fairness, and Housing website.