



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES HAS TWO GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

1. The state funded North Dakota Post Adopt Network
2. The federal Title IV-E Guardianship Assistance Program

There are different eligibility requirements for each program.

To find out if you are eligible for a guardianship assistance program, contact the child's foster care case manager from the custodial agency.

This brochure was created by North Dakota Health and Human Services specifically for eligible families who may be interested in pursuing guardianship for a child in foster care. If you have further questions, please contact:

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
701.328.2316, 711 (TTY)**

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GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A guide for eligible families to receive support for caring for a child who is entering a guardianship after foster care

STATE FUNDED GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE STATE FUNDED GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?

A state funded program for children in foster care that provides monthly payment to the guardians.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- A child in North Dakota foster care under the custody of a Human Service Zone, Division of Juvenile Services or a Tribal Nation
- When reunification is ruled out
- When adoption is ruled out
- When one sibling is 12 years of age or older

MAINTENANCE PAYMENT

- Payment is based on legislative appropriation
- Payment eligibility will be reviewed upon the child's 18th birthday
- Child is eligible for ND Medicaid if residing in North Dakota

FEDERAL TITLE IV-E GUARDIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE FEDERAL TITLE IV-E GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A federally funded program for children in foster care that provides monthly payment to the guardians.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Child meets all the criteria identified on the state funded guardianship assistance program
- Child must be Title IV-E eligible
- Child must be placed for six consecutive months
- Guardian must be a licensed foster parent who meets the definition of an identified relative by NDCC 50-11

MAINTENANCE PAYMENT

- Established in conjunction with the Health and Human Services guardianship rates
- Payment eligibility will be reviewed upon the child's 18th birthday
- Child is categorically eligible for ND Medicaid regardless of state of residence

MORE DETAILS

WHAT ARE SOME REQUIREMENTS OF THE GUARDIAN?

- Criminal background check
- Home study

WHAT SERVICES OR SUPPORT ARE AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES AFTER A CHILD IS PLACED IN A GUARDIANSHIP?

The North Dakota Post Adopt Network is available to all guardianship families. They can be reached by calling 844.454.1139. Learn more at ndpostadopt.org.

- The Chafee Program is available to those youth who experienced foster care at age 14 or older but are younger than 23 years of age
- The Education and Training Voucher is available to youth who exited foster care to a kinship guardianship at age 16 or older
- More information about the Chafee Program and the Education and Training Voucher can be found at hhs.nd.gov/chafee-foster-care-transition-program-and-education-and-training-voucher

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT A MINOR GUARDIANSHIP?

- Training on minor guardianship is available on the ND Supreme court website at guardianship.ndcourts.gov/trainings/minor-guardianship-training
- NDCC 27-20.1
- CFS Policy 623-11

