

INFORMATION FOR APPROVED CAREGIVERS

If you are the approved relative caregiver of a foster child, or want to become one, you may be eligible to receive funds under a new program. This program is called the Approved Relative Caregiver (ARC) Program. Under this program, a child placed with an approved relative caregiver will be able to receive a payment equal to the basic foster care rate.

- ARC Funding Option Program provisions are located in Section 11461.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information regarding ARC call the ARC Warmline at 1-888-774-0002

Mailing Address:

ARC

1267 W. Hobson Way

Blythe, Ca 92225

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

APPROVED RELATIVE CAREGIVERS FUNDING OPTION PROGRAM



HOW MUCH IS A PER-CHILD, PER-MONTH ARC PAYMENT?

The ARC payment is equivalent to the basic foster care rate. Due to cost of living increases (also known as California Necessities Index/CNI increases), this rate can vary from year to year. The basic foster care rates for July 2015 through July 2016 are as follows:

Birth through four years of age:	\$688
Five through eight years of age:	\$744
Nine through eleven years of age:	\$783
Twelve through fourteen years of age:	\$820
Fifteen through twenty years of age:	\$859

HOW DOES A CHILD QUALIFY FOR THE PROGRAM?

A child must meet all the following criteria:

- Be a dependent or ward of the California Juvenile Court, or be placed under a voluntary placement agreement.
- Reside in California and be placed in the certified approved home of a relative caregiver.
- *Be ineligible for federally funded foster care benefits (an eligibility worker will determine this).

The child's relative caregiver must complete an ARC 1 Program Application even if the child is already receiving CalWORKs. A separate ARC 1 must be completed for each child.

* A child eligible for federally funded foster care benefits will receive benefits through the Aid for Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) program.

IS AN ARC CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR MEDI-CAL?

Yes, a child receiving ARC also receives Medi-Cal. Enrollment of the child in a Medi-Cal Health Care Plan (such as IEHP or Molina) is optional in most CA counties.

HOW DO RELATIVE CAREGIVERS QUALIFY FOR THE PROGRAM?

To qualify for participation in ARC, a relative caregiver must reside in California and his or her home must be certified "approved" by the county. Home approval includes a background check of every adult living in the home, and a safety inspection of the home itself.