

Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) Programs Supporting Kinship Caregivers



Department of
Children & Youth

Programs available through the DCY Office of Families and Children

Program Name	Kinship Support Program (KSP)	Kinship Permanency Incentive Program (KPIP)	Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program (OhioKAN)
Description	KSP provides financial payments to eligible kinship caregivers for the placement of children in their homes.	KPIP provides a limited number of incentive payments to families caring for kin.	OhioKAN is a statewide, flexible, and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to assist children, caregivers, and families. Navigators help connect families to resources to meet their individualized needs.
Who is Eligible?	Kinship caregivers as defined in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 5101.85.	Kinship caregivers, as defined in ORC 5101.85, with legal (permanent) custody or guardianship.	Kinship caregivers as defined in ORC 5101.85 and post-adoptive families of all types, including international, infant, and public adoptions.
Eligibility Requirements	The child placed in the home is in the temporary, permanent, or legal custody of a public children services agency (PCSA) or Title IV-E agency. The agency must complete and approve a kinship home assessment pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5101:2-42-18 and enter it into SACWIS.	Caregivers' family income must not exceed 300% of the federal poverty guideline, and the county PCSA must have an approved kinship home assessment.	Families must have a kinship or adopted child living in their home and live in Ohio.
When Can the Program be Accessed?	When a child in PCSA or Title IV-E custody is placed in a kinship caregiver's home.	After a court order grants legal custody or guardianship to the kinship caregiver. A temporary order is not sufficient.	When a child begins living in the home of a kinship caregiver or when an adoption is finalized.
Application Requirements	None	The kinship caregiver must submit an Application for Kinship Permanency Incentive (JFS 01501), verification of custody or guardianship, and verification of income. The PCSA must complete and approve a kinship home assessment.	No application is required. During a family's first call to OhioKAN, a brief eligibility and needs assessment will be completed.
Amount of Incentive/Payment and Duration	The financial payments are based on a set rate per child per day. Payments can be received monthly for up to 6 months or until the first of the following occurs: 1. The caregiver obtains foster care certification. 2. The child is no longer placed in the home.	Eligible kinship caregivers will receive an initial payment (currently \$525) to help defray the costs of the initial placement. They may receive subsequent payments (currently \$300 at six-month intervals) to support the stability of the child's placement in the home. The incentive may not exceed eight payments.	No payments are available. In some regions, short-term flexible funds may be available. There are no time limits on service. Families can work with their navigator as long as needed.
Additional Information	Payments are available to the extent that funds are available.	The incentive amount is subject to change. At the beginning of each state fiscal year, ODJFS publishes a procedure letter for PCSAs identifying the amounts.	None

Programs available through the DCY Office of Families and Children Cont.

Program Name	Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP)	Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program Connections to Twenty-One (KGAP C21)
Description	Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP) provides financial assistance to eligible kinship caregivers who have been granted legal custody or guardianship of a child that was placed in the home as a foster care placement for at least six consecutive months.	The KGAP C21 program provides kinship guardianship assistance payments for young adults aged 18 but not yet 21 who meet eligibility requirements.
Who is Eligible?	A kinship caregiver who has obtained foster home certification and has had the child placed in their home for a minimum of six months prior to being given legal custody or guardianship of the child.	Young adults committed to the legal custody or guardianship of a kinship caregiver at the age of 16 or 17 who received KGAP payments, with a Federal KGAP Agreement finalized at the age of 16 or 17, and who meet requirements of education, employment, or disability.
Eligibility Requirements	The kinship foster parent must have committed to caring for the child on a permanent basis and signed a KGAP agreement.	Legal custody or guardianship of young adult must have been obtained at the age of 16 or 17, a Federal KGAP Agreement effective at the age of 16 or 17, proof of kinship caregiver support, and the young adult meets one of five eligibility criteria listed in rule 5101:2-55- 02(A)(3) of the Ohio Administrative Code.
When Can the Program be Accessed?	Kinship foster parents may become eligible after signing a Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program Agreement and having a court grant them legal custody or guardianship of the child.	Young adults over the age of 18 but not yet 21 who meet all eligibility requirements can access the program.
Application Requirements	The kinship foster parent must complete the KGAP Application prior to the court order granting the kinship foster parent legal custody or guardianship of the child. The public children services agency (PCSA) is to assist the kinship foster parent with the application.	A KGAP C21 application, proof of kinship caregiver support, copy of prior Federal KGAP Agreement and proof of young adult eligibility will be required to receive benefits from this program when the child attains the age of 18.
Amount of Incentive/Payment and Duration	The KGAP payment for a child is 80% of the child's foster care per diem unless this would result in a KGAP payment of less than \$350.	The monthly KGAP C21 payment is equal to the Federal KGAP payment that was provided to the kinship caregiver at the time legal custody or guardianship was obtained.
Additional Information	KGAP will be available for Title IV-E eligible children through the Federal KGAP program and all other eligible children through the State KGAP Program. State KGAP payments are available to the extent that state funds are available.	KGAP payments will be available for Title IV-E eligible young adults through the Federal KGAP C21 program.

Programs available through the DCY Office of Family Assistance

Program Name	Ohio Works First (OWF)	Ohio Works First (OWF) - Child Only Benefit
Description	OWF is the financial assistance portion of the state's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. It provides time-limited cash benefits to eligible low-income families.	OWF is the financial portion of the state's TANF program.
Who is Eligible?	Families with children that meet a "gross monthly income test" may be eligible. Women who are at least six months pregnant may be eligible for individual assistance even if they do not have other minor children in the home.	Specified relatives, as defined in ORC 5107.02, and caregivers with legal custody/guardianship.
Eligibility Requirements	The household must include one or more children, a parent, or a specified relative. Most adults and minor heads of household must participate in work activities and related requirements.	For the OWF Child Only Benefit, the assistance group includes only the child residing with a specified relative, legal custodian, or legal guardian caregiver.
When Can the Program be Accessed?	When the specified relative applies for and is approved for the benefit.	When the specified relative applies for and is approved for the benefit.
Application Requirements	Families must apply through their JFS county agency.	Families must apply through their JFS county agency.
Amount of Incentive/ Payment and Duration	The amount of assistance varies, depending on the household. Cash benefits are available for up to 36 months.	The amount of assistance depends on the assistance group, including the number of children receiving benefits. OWF Child Only Benefits are available until the child leaves the home, is no longer considered a child, or there is a change in circumstance.
Additional Information	Benefits are issued through the Ohio EPPICard or directly into a checking or savings account.	None



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