



Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services
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Ohio's Kinship Permanency Incentive Program

Ohio's Biennial Budget (HB 66) established the Kinship Permanency Incentive Program. The new program was implemented January 1, 2006, with modifications made in July 2007 and in 2015. This program will provide *financial support* for minor children in the legal and physical custody of grandparents, relatives, or other "kinship caregivers" (defined in Ohio as any relative or non-relative adult who has a long-standing relationship or bond with the child and/or family).

Eligible kin caregivers must have received judicial custody on or after July 1, 2005.

Eligibility requirements for Ohio's Kinship Permanency Incentive Program include:

- **Court must have awarded legal custody or legal guardianship of the child to the grandparent, relative or other kinship caregiver on or after July 1, 2005**, based on the best interest of the child.
- A Public Children Services agency must have completed the Relative or Non-Relative Substitute Placement Approval Process (OAC 5101: 2-42-18), inclusive of a criminal background check, as well as completion of an application form.
- The gross income of the caregiver's family, including the child, may not exceed 300% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Other Program Specifics:

- Eligible families will receive **an initial payment of \$525 per child, followed by \$300 per child every six months thereafter for a total of 8 payments** (amounts are defined by rule, and subject to adjustment based on available funds).
- Funding will come from Ohio's TANF .
- This program **does NOT preclude these families from receiving Child Only TANF benefits**, it is in addition to such benefits.
- This program **does NOT require the PCSA to have ever held custody of child.**

Lar:6.23.15



CREDIBILITY • INTEGRITY • ACHIEVEMENT

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Division of Children and Family Services is to assure that children at risk of abuse or neglect are protected and nurtured within a family and with the support of the community.