

A Comparison of Financial Benefits Adoption, Legal Guardianship, and Foster Care

FACTOR	ADOPTION (Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) funded)	LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP		PLANNED PERMANENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT— (Long Term Foster Care)	EXTENDED FOSTER CARE AB12/212/1712
		RELATIVE GUARDIANSHIP (Kin-GAP funded)	NON-RELATIVE GUARDIANSHIP (Supported by Foster Care funds)		
1. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT/ DETERMINATION OF RATE	<p>To be AAP eligible a child must meet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three Part Special Needs Determination: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The child cannot or should not be returned to the home of his/her parents; 2. A specific factor exists that makes it reasonable to conclude that the child cannot be adopted without providing AAP, such as: membership in a sibling group; ethnic or racial minority group; age 3 or older; adverse parental background; or has a mental, developmental or medical disability 3. A reasonable effort was made to place the child with appropriate parents without providing AAP unless it is against the best interest of the child and ▪ Citizenship Requirements and 	<p>For both the state or federally funded Kin-GAP Program, a youth must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Been adjudged a dependent child of the juvenile court. Additionally, for federal Kin-GAP ONLY: Been removed from the parental home pursuant to a voluntary placement agreement or as the result of a judicial determination. ▪ Been residing for at least six (6) consecutive months in the approved home of the relative. ▪ A written binding agreement entered into by the Kinship Guardian and the county welfare agency, probation department, or Title IV-E agreement tribal agency prior to the establishment of the guardianship. ▪ A Kinship Guardianship established and dependency dismissed. 	<p>Non-relative guardians with open services cases are eligible for nonfederal AFDC-FC payment.⁹</p> <p>The payment is based on the child's age and when guardianship was established.</p> <p>There may be a specialized care increment.</p> <p>A nonminor youth whose nonrelated legal guardianship was ordered in the juvenile court is eligible for AFDC-FC payments until age 21, if certain criteria are met, regardless of the age of the youth when the guardianship was established. Criteria is identified in ACL 12-48.</p>	<p>When a minor/nonminor dependent is in a county licensed foster home, or with an approved relative and is "federally eligible", foster care funds are paid based on the child's age.</p> <p>A special care increment may be individually applied.</p> <p>If the minor/nonminor dependent is in a relative placement and does not meet federal eligibility guidelines, the relative must apply for CalWORKS.¹⁰</p> <p>The Foster Family Agency (FFA), group home, or residential treatment rate applies when the minor/nonminor dependent is in a certified FFA home, group home, or residential treatment program & these rates do not include a special care increment.</p>	<p>Eligibility for EFC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Beginning 1/1/12, there was a placement order in effect on the youth's 18th birthday. ▪ Must meet one of the participation criteria identified in ACL 11-69. ▪ IV-E Eligibility remains the same for a NMD remaining in care. A new eligibility determination is made only when a NMD re-enters foster care. ▪ If re-entry, IV-E eligibility is based solely on NMD income & circumstance. <p>There are two additional placement types available for NMDs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ THP+FC is licensed by CCL and has its own rates. ▪ SILP which is a basic rate that may be paid directly to a NMD. NMDs must be assessed as ready to live in a SILP and the site must be approved by the county prior to placement (SOC 157A&B). <p>The election by an Indian youth over age 18 under WIC section 224.1(b) to continue to be considered an Indian child per ICWA, does not affect eligibility for any of these benefits.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title IV-E (federal) Eligibility Or State Eligibility <p>If AAP eligible the responsible public agency will negotiate the AAP benefit with the adoptive parent, sign the AAP agreement and complete reassessments.¹</p> <p>The negotiated AAP benefit is based on the special needs of the child and circumstances of the family. There shall be no use of a means test of the child or the adoptive parent/family.²</p> <p>The AAP benefit shall not exceed the age related state-approved foster family home rate the child would have received had they not been adopted.³</p> <p>The AAP benefit is intended to assist the adoptive parents in meeting their child's needs.</p> <p>How the adoptive parent chooses to use the funds to meet the child's needs is at their discretion. Agency approval and oversight is not required nor may the agency</p>	<p>The Kinship Guardian is to use the Kin-GAP funds for the support and care of the minor/nonminor or ward.</p> <p>If the Kin-GAP negotiated payment starts after signed on or after the child's 16th birthday, benefits may be extended beyond age 18 to age 21, if specific criteria are met (see ACL 11-86).</p> <p>KG funding may be extended beyond the age of 18 to the age 21, if there is a physical or mental disability that warrants the continuation of benefits regardless of when the initial Kin-GAP agreement was signed.⁸</p> <p>For federal Kin-GAP eligible youth, AB 1712 amended the definition of "relative" to include any of the following: (1) An adult who is related to the child by blood, adoption, or affinity within the fifth degree of kinship, including stepparents, stepsiblings, and all relatives whose status is preceded by the words "great," "great-great," or</p>			

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	<p>request a list of expenditures or an accounting of how the benefits are used to meet the child’s needs.⁴</p> <p>If the adoptive parent elects to not utilize the AAP benefits or request the AAP benefits be terminated including Medi-Cal/Medicaid coverage, a deferred AAP agreement should be signed. The deferred AAP agreement will retain the child’s AAP eligibility should the parent request benefits at an unspecified future date.⁵</p> <p>AAP may be extended beyond the age of 18 to age 21, if there is a physical or mental disability that warrants the continuation of benefits regardless of when the initial AAP agreement was signed.⁶</p> <p>If the initial AAP agreement was signed on or after the child’s 16th birthday AAP benefits may be extended beyond the age of 18 to age 21, if specific criteria are met.⁷</p>	<p>“grand” or the spouse of any of those persons even if the marriage was terminated by death or dissolution.</p> <p>(2) An adult who meets the definition of an approved, nonrelated extended family member, as described in Section 362.7.</p> <p>(3) An adult who is either a member of the Indian child’s tribe, or an Indian custodian, as defined in Section 1903(6) of Title 25 of the United States Code.</p> <p>(4) An adult who is the current foster parent of a child under the juvenile court’s jurisdiction, who has established a significant and family-like relationship with the child, and the child and the county child welfare agency, probation department, Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization that has entered into an agreement pursuant to Section 10553.1 identify this adult as the child’s permanent connection. (Per ACL 14-28)</p> <p>Note, there is no change to the definition of relative as it pertains to state-funded Kin-GAP.</p>			

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	An Indian child under a tribal customary adoption is eligible for AAP on the same basis as any other adopted child.				
2. PAYMENT AMOUNT-BASIC RATE	The AAP basic rate is based on the child’s age, the date the initial AAP agreement was signed, and the date of adoption finalization. ¹¹	The payment amount is based on the foster family home care rates set by the state (refer to Foster Family Homes Schedule of Basic Rates) based on the dependent’s age; age-related rate increase occur automatically. Circumstances of the Kinship Guardian and the needs of the minor are considered in determining the Kin-GAP payment amount. However, the Kin-GAP payment cannot exceed what the minor/nonminor would have received while in Foster Care. ¹²	The basic payment amount is based on the child’s age, based on approved foster family home care rates set by the state (refer to Foster Family Homes Schedule of Basic Rates). ¹³	Payment amount is based on the type of placement as described above (refer to Foster Family Homes Schedule of Basic Rates). ¹⁴ If the minor/nonminor dependent in foster care is not found to be federally eligible, and is placed with a relative caregiver, then the relative must apply for CalWORKS funds to support the child as a ‘non-needy caretaker’.	Payment amount is based on the type of placement as described above (refer to Foster Family Homes Schedule of Basic Rates). ¹⁵
3. SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE	If the child’s needs are greater and require a higher level of care and supervision, they may qualify for a Special Care Increment (SCI) in addition to the basic AAP rate. The SCI rate varies county to county as each county has their own SCI rate schedule. The SCI rate is determined based on the special care rate	If the child’s needs are greater and require a higher level of care and supervision, they may qualify for a Special Care Increment (SCI) in addition to the basic rate. A minor may be eligible to receive an SCI rate, if the county with jurisdiction has a Specialized Care Rate Plan. If the needs of the minor/nonminor change, this allowance may be	Special needs allowance (specialized care increment) is supplemental payment to the legal guardian, in addition to the family home basic rate, for the cost of supervision (and the cost of providing that supervision) to meet the additional daily care needs of an Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) child who	In county licensed homes or approved relative/nonrelative extended family member placements with foster care funding, the special needs allowance (specialized care increment) is for the cost of supervision (and the cost of providing that supervision) to meet the additional daily care needs of an Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) child who has a health and/or behavior problem. ¹⁸	In county licensed homes or relative placements with foster care funding, the special needs allowance (specialized care increment) is for the cost of supervision (and the cost of providing that supervision) to meet the additional daily care needs of an Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) child who has a health and/or behavior problem. This rate is not available for SILP, THP+FC, FFA, group home,

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	structure in the county/state the child is living in, or the responsible county's rate structure, whichever is higher.	renegotiated. ¹⁶ The SCI rate is determined based on the special care rate structure of the county/state the child lives in, or the responsible county's rate structure is used if the resident county/state does not have a special care rate structure.	has a health and/or behavior problem. ¹⁷	A special needs allowance is not available for FFA, group home, or residential treatment placements as these programs have a different rate setting structure; consideration of the special needs of the child are built into the rates. Special rates are not available for relative placements funded through CalWORKS.	CalWORKs or residential treatment placements.
4. PAYMOUNT AMOUNT- DUAL AGENCY RATE	A child who is developmentally delayed and a current consumer of California Regional Center may qualify for the dual agency rate. ¹⁹	A child who is developmentally delayed and a current consumer of California Regional Center may qualify for the dual agency rate. ¹⁹	A child who is developmentally delayed and a current consumer of California Regional Center may qualify for the dual agency rate. ¹⁹	The dual agency rate is available for a child who meets eligibility criteria and is placed in a county licensed foster home or with an approved relative receiving a federal foster care payment. The dual agency rate is not available for a child placed with an FFA or group home; rather if this type of facility is vendorized by a regional center the rate is set by the regional center based on the vendorization. ²²	A dual agency rate is available to the same types of placements as listed elsewhere. This rate is not available for SILP, THP+FC FFA, group home, CalWORKS recipients, or residential treatment placements. ²³
5. CONSIDERATION OF FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES	Circumstances of the family are considered when negotiating the AAP benefit. However, the AAP amount cannot exceed what the child would have received in foster care. There shall be no use of a means test of the child or the adoptive parent/family. ²⁴	Circumstances of the Kinship Guardian and the needs of the minor/nonminor are considered in determining the Kin-GAP payment amount. However, the Kin-GAP payment cannot exceed what the minor or nonminor former dependent would have received in Foster Care. ²⁵	Family circumstances are not considered in determining the payment amount.	Family circumstances are not considered in determining the payment amount.	For a NMD who leaves and then re-enters foster care IV-E determination is based solely on the young adult's income and assets. Parent or relative income is not considered.
6. CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	The AAP benefit does not include payment for a specific good or	An emergency clothing allowance can be requested	Youth in non-relative legal guardianships are eligible for an	A minor/nonminor dependent in long term foster care is eligible for an emergency clothing	Nonminor dependents in extended foster care are eligible for an emergency clothing

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	service. ²⁶	And original receipts must be submitted. Due to budget realignment, counties are no longer given state funds for clothing allowances and counties have an option whether to continue to fund, discontinue, or revise their county's clothing allowance program. ²⁷	emergency clothing allowance pursuant to the county's clothing allowance program. Due to budget realignment, counties are no longer given state funds for clothing allowances and counties have an option whether to continue to fund, discontinue, or revise their county's clothing allowance	allowance pursuant to the county's clothing allowance program. Due to budget realignment, counties are no longer given state funds for clothing allowances and counties have an option whether to continue to fund, discontinue, or revise their county's clothing allowance program. ²⁸	allowance pursuant to the county's clothing allowance program. Due to budget realignment, counties are no longer given state funds for clothing allowances and counties have an option whether to continue to fund, discontinue, or revise their county's clothing allowance program.
7. FINANCIAL RECERTIFICATION	A reassessment of the child's needs and family's circumstances may occur every two years, or if the needs of the adopted child and/or the circumstances of the adoptive parent change. ²⁹	Kin-GAP is recertified biennially (every two years) or if the needs of the minor/nonminor dependent and/or the circumstances of the Kinship Guardian change. ³⁰	The guardian must go through an annual recertification.	The case manager recertifies child's eligibility annually. ³¹	The case manager recertifies every 6 months through completion of an updated SOC 161.
8. TAX DEPENDENCY	Adoptive parents may qualify for a federal tax credit for the adoption of an eligible special needs child, under Section 23 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. Sec. 23) and a state tax credit for an adoptive child who was in the custody of a California public child welfare agency, under Section 17052.25 of the Revenue and Taxation Code. ³²	The child may be an allowable tax exemption of the Kinship Guardian. ³³ Families should consult with their tax consultant for direction.	The child may be an allowable tax exemption of the Legal Guardian. ³⁴ Families should consult with their tax consultant for direction.	The minor/nonminor dependent may be an allowable tax exemption of the foster parent(s). The foster parent(s) should consult with their tax consultant for direction. ³⁵	Caregivers need to consult their tax consultant.
9. CHILD'S MISCONDUCT/ DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY	The adoptive parent is legally and financially responsible for the support of their AAP eligible child. ³⁶	A relative Guardian is liable to the same extent as a birth parent. ³⁷ An attorney should be consulted regarding	A Legal Guardian is liable to the same extent as a birth parent. ³⁸ An attorney should be consulted	Generally, the foster parent is not legally liable for the behavior of the minor/nonminor dependent to the same extent as a parent or guardian. An attorney should be	As an adult, the NMD is legally liable for their own behavior.

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		specific situations.	regarding specific situations.	consulted regarding specific situations. ³⁹	
10. SOCIAL SECURITY-TITLE II BENEFITS (SSA-DEPENDENT OR SURVIVOR BENEFITS)	<p>If the AAP eligible child is receiving SSA-dependent or survivors' benefits from the adoptive parent or birth parent, they may continue to receive AAP benefits.</p> <p>The receipt of SSA-dependent or survivors benefits does not affect the child's eligibility for AAP benefits.⁴⁴</p>	<p>When a parent dies, becomes unable to work due to disability, or retires, or dies, a minor may be eligible for dependent or survivor benefits assuming the parent was insured for Title II benefits regardless of Kin-GAP benefits.⁴⁵</p>	<p>When the birth parent(s) retires, becomes unable to work due to disability, or retires, or dies, the minor may be eligible for dependent benefits or survivor benefits assuming the parent was insured for Title II benefits regardless of foster care benefits.⁴⁶</p>	<p>SSA determines who the payee is for SSA funds for dependent children, when the birth parent is disabled or dies. The funds may be applied to the cost of the minor's/nonminor dependent's needs while in placement. A trust fund account is established for any extra funds, and the case manager is responsible to use these funds to meet the child's needs.</p>	<p>According to POMS section: RS 00203.001 A dependent over the age of 18 is entitled to Title II benefits if they qualify under a disability that began before the age 22 or is a full-time secondary school student under age 19. Also, see RS 00205.001</p> <p>Consult with the Social Security Administration.</p>
11. SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS (SSI-BASED ON THE CHILD'S ELIGIBILITY)	<p>If the AAP eligible child is SSI eligible and/or receiving SSI benefits, the child may continue to receive AAP benefits.</p> <p>The receipt of SSI benefits does not affect the child's eligibility for AAP benefits.⁴⁷</p> <p>If AAP is federally funded or state only funded, the SSI benefit would not affect the amount of the SSI payment.⁴⁸</p>	<p>If the KG eligible child is SSI eligible and/or receives SSI benefits, the child may continue to receive KG benefits. However, offsetting rules apply. The receipt of SSI benefits does not affect the child's eligibility for Kin-GAP benefits.⁴⁷</p> <p>If Kin-Gap is federally-funded the SSI income would affect the monthly grant as social security would offset.</p> <p>If the KG is state-only funded, then the SSI counts as income against the KG benefit and would affect the amount of the Kin-Gap payment.</p>	<p>A minor, if disabled, may or may not be eligible based on funding source. The county offsets the amount of SSI against nonfederal foster care benefit.⁵⁰</p>	<p>When the minor/nonminor dependent is disabled, the same offsetting rules apply as previously described. The payee of funds may or may not be determined by SSA to be the county, and the funds may be applied to the cost of the child's needs while in placement.⁵¹</p> <p>Trust accounts cannot go beyond \$2000 as part of the income and resource requirements for SSI eligibility.⁵²</p> <p>Counties are required to screen all youth in foster care for SSI eligibility between the ages of 16.5 and 17.5 and are required to make SSI applications on behalf of all youth determined as likely eligible with the goal of having SSI in place at the time the youth turns 18.</p>	<p>When the NMD is disabled, the same factors apply as previously described. The payee of funds may or may not be determined by SSA to be the county and the funds may be applied to the cost of the child's needs while in placement.⁵³</p> <p>State law requires that the county assist a NMD in receiving direct payment of SSI benefits when the NMD turns 18. WIC 13754</p>

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12. RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT (group home)	AAP may pay for an out-of-home placement up to 18 months per episode or condition, if the placement is necessary for the temporary resolution of a mental or emotional problem, and that the placement meets the requirements stated in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 16121(b).	To access funds for group home placement or residential treatment, guardianship may need to be rescinded and/or dependency reinstated.	To access funds for group home placement or residential treatment, guardianship may need to be rescinded and/or dependency reinstated.	Funding is provided for placement in group home or residential treatment, based on minor's/nonminor dependent's eligibility, and the state approved rate. ⁵⁴	Funding for group homes is available until a NMD completes high school or attains age 19, whichever is first. If the NMD meets the participation condition of medical condition, s/he can stay in a group home beyond age 19 as a short term transition to an appropriate system of care. ⁵⁵
13. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/ DEATH OF CAREGIVER	AAP benefits are terminated following the adoptive parent's death. The child may be eligible to receive AAP benefits in a subsequent adoption, if the Three Part Special Needs Determination and Citizenship requirements are met. ⁵⁶	Guardianship funding terminates in the event of death of the KinGAP Guardian and the benefits may continue if there is a successor Guardian.	Guardianship funding terminates in the event of death of the guardian(s); however, FC Guardianship benefits may continue if there is a successor Guardian.	The responsible public agency continues to be responsible for the financial care and placement needs of the minor/nonminor dependent upon the death of the foster parent(s) or caregivers.	The responsible public agency continues to be responsible for the financial care and placement needs of the NMD upon the death of the foster parent(s) or caregivers.
14. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/ CHILD'S RESIDENCE/ MOVES OUT OF COUNTY	AAP continues regardless of the child's residence in another county. ⁵⁸	Kin-GAP benefits continue regardless of county of residence so long as all eligibility criteria continue to be met. Guardians have the right to move out of county, but must notify Court in writing. ⁵⁹	Guardians have the right to move out of county, but must notify Court in writing. ⁶⁰	Legal residence is determined by residence of birth parents (However, the child is eligible to attend school in the jurisdiction where he or she is placed). ⁶¹ Courtesy supervision is arranged when a minor/nonminor dependent moves with a caregiver out of county. The court and the county determine where a child is placed.	The NMD may reside out of county and remain eligible for EFC. The county of jurisdiction is fiscally responsible for the NMD. Effective 1/1/13 if a NMD continuously resides in a county that does not have jurisdiction over the NMD for one year, jurisdiction can be transferred to the county of residence per WIC 17.1(f) and WIC 375.
15. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/ CHILD'S RESIDENCE/ MOVES OUT OF	AAP continues regardless of the child's residence in another state or country. ⁶² If the child is State AAP	Kin-GAP benefits continue regardless of state or country of residence so long as all eligibility criteria continue to be met.	Court permission must be obtained to move out of state. If Guardian moves out of state, they are no longer eligible for state foster care funding	Legal residence is determined by residence of birth parents. Courtesy supervision is arranged when a minor moves w/ caregiver out of county or out of state. Interstate Compact Program rules	The NMD may reside out of state and remain eligible for EFC. Monthly face to face supervision must still be maintained. Courtesy supervision can be arranged through ICPC if the other state

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STATE/COUNTRY	<p>eligible and resides in another state, there may be limitations in accessing Medi-Cal coverage.</p> <p>If the child resides in another country there may be limitations in accessing Medi-Cal/Medicaid coverage.</p>	<p>Kinship Guardians have the right to move out of state, but must notify the court in writing.</p> <p>Kinship guardians and minors moving out of California are also to be encouraged to research the applicable laws of the new State or country of residency to determine the impact the move will have on all other issues, including the ability to enroll the child in school, arrange for health coverage and accessibility to other appropriate services.</p>	<p>from California. Guardianship and/or funding may need to be re-established in the new state/country, and is subject to the new state or country's laws and eligibility rules.</p>	<p>must be followed when a minor/nonminor dependent moves out of state and licensing/certification procedures for that state must be followed, in order for payment to be made to caregiver by the county.</p> <p>The court must make findings specified in WIC 361.21 prior to placement of the minor into an out-of-state group home. An out of state group home must be certified by Community Care Licensing (CCL) before foster care funds are paid.⁶³</p>	<p>agrees. If the other state does not agree, supervision can be provided by the sending county or contracted out through a private agency in that state.</p>
16. ILP (INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM) ELIGIBILITY	<p>Only those youth adopted on or after their 16th birthday are eligible for ILP programs, up to age 21.</p> <p>Youth may be eligible for ILP when placed in another state, depending on the other state's eligibility rules.</p>	<p>Kin-GAP youth are eligible for ILP services regardless of the age the guardianship was established. Services start at age 16 (or 14 in some counties).⁶⁴</p>	<p>Youth with a non-relative legal guardianship that was established on or after their 8th birthday who are receiving permanent placement services are eligible for ILP services up to age 21. Services start at age 16 (or 14 in some counties).⁶⁵</p>	<p>A minor/nonminor dependent who was in foster care for one day between the ages of 16-18 is eligible for ILP services up to age 21. Services start at age 16 (14 in some counties).</p>	<p>NMD are eligible for ILP up to age 21.</p>
17. ELIGIBILITY FOR CHAFEE GRANT PROGRAM (Chafee Education and Training Voucher Program (ETV))	<p>A youth who was in foster care on or after their 16th birthday and subsequently adopted is eligible to apply for the Chafee Grant Program as long as they have not reached 21 years of age by July 1 of the award</p>	<p>A youth who was in foster care on or after their 16th birthday and subsequently in a relative guardianship is eligible to apply for the Chafee Grant Program as long as they have not reached 21 years of age by July 1</p>	<p>A youth who was in foster care on or after their 16th birthday and subsequently in a legal guardianship is eligible to apply for the Chafee Grant Program as long as they have not reached 21 years of age</p>	<p>A minor who is/was in foster care for at least one day between the ages of 16 and 18 is eligible to apply for the Chafee Grant Program as long as they have not reached 21 years of age by July 1 of the award year. Youth participating in the voucher program on the date they attain</p>	<p>A NMD who is in foster care for at least one day between the ages of 16 and 18 is eligible to apply for the Chafee Grant Program as long as they have not reached 21 years of age by July 1 of the award year. Youth participating in the voucher program on the date they attain 21 years of age,</p>

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	<p>year. Youth participating in the voucher program on the date they attain 21 years of age, remain eligible until they attain 23 years of age, as long as they are enrolled in a postsecondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.</p> <p>Priority is given to students who received the grant the previous year, students who are aging out of the program, students with dependents, and students who had an unmet need of \$5000 or higher.</p> <p>Chafee Grants provide up to \$5000 per academic year while the youth attends college. Grants are limited and amounts vary based on financial need and priority enrollment status. No payback required.</p>	<p>of the award year. Youth participating in the voucher program on the date they attain 21 years of age, remain eligible until they attain 23 years of age, as long as they are enrolled in a postsecondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.</p> <p>Priority is given to students who received the grant the previous year, students who are aging out of the program, students with dependents, and students who had an unmet need of \$5000 or higher.</p> <p>Chafee Grants provide up to \$5000 per academic year while the youth attends college.⁶⁶ Grants are limited and amounts vary based on financial need and priority enrollment status. No payback required.</p>	<p>by July 1 of the award year. Youth participating in the voucher program on the date they attain 21 years of age, remain eligible until they attain 23 years of age, as long as they are enrolled in a postsecondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.</p> <p>Priority is given to students who received the grant the previous year, students who are aging out of the program, students with dependents, and students who had an unmet need of \$5000 or higher.</p> <p>Chafee Grants provide up to \$5000 per academic year while the youth attends college.⁶⁷ Grants are limited and amounts vary based on financial need and priority enrollment status. No pay back required.</p>	<p>21 years of age, remain eligible until they attain 23 years of age, as long as they are enrolled in a postsecondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.</p> <p>Priority is given to students who received the grant the previous year, students who are aging out of the program, students with dependents, and students who had an unmet need of \$5000 or higher.</p> <p>Chafee Grants provide up to \$5000 in free money (no pay back required) per academic year while the youth attends college. Grants are limited and amounts vary based on financial need and priority enrollment status. No pay back required.</p>	<p>remain eligible until they attain 23 years of age, as long as they are enrolled in a postsecondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.</p> <p>Priority is given to students who received the grant the previous year, students who are aging out of the program, students with dependents, and students who had an unmet need of \$5000 or higher.</p> <p>Chafee Grants provide up to \$5000 in free money (no pay back required) per academic year while the youth attends college. Grants are limited and amounts vary based on financial need and priority enrollment status. No pay back required.</p>

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18. ELIGIBILITY FOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PROGRAM (THPP)/THP-Plus/THP-Plus – Foster care	<p>Not eligible for THPP.</p> <p>Not eligible for THP-Plus.</p> <p>Not eligible for THP-Plus-Foster Care.</p>	<p>Not eligible for THPP.</p> <p>Not eligible for THP-Plus.</p> <p>Not eligible for THP-Plus-Foster Care.</p>	<p>Not eligible for THPP.</p> <p>Not eligible for THP-Plus.</p> <p>Not eligible for THP-Plus-Foster Care.</p>	<p>THPP is for foster youth age 16-18. Availability varies by county.⁶⁸</p> <p>THP-Plus is available for former foster youth ages 18-24 who exited care on or after their 18th birthday. Program is limited to 36 cumulative months. Availability varies by county. Check with local ILP for ability of both programs.⁶⁹</p> <p>Not eligible for THP-Plus-Foster Care.</p>	<p>THPP is not available for NMD due to age limit of 18.</p> <p>THP+FC is available for NMDs from 18-21 years old. There is no time limit. Availability may vary county to county.</p> <p>THP-Plus is available for former foster youth ages 18-24 who exited care on or after their 18th birthday. Program is limited to 36 cumulative months. Availability varies by county. Check with local ILP for ability of both programs.⁷⁰</p>
19. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION	<p>Adopted youth may be eligible for federal and state financial aid; however, eligibility is based on the youth <u>and</u> adoptive family's income.</p> <p>A minor/nonminor dependent who was a dependent or ward on or after their 13th birthday can be considered an "independent student" when filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), regardless of their dependency status when completing the application. They also may qualify for a California Community Colleges fee waiver.⁷¹</p> <p>A minor/nonminor dependent should</p>	<p>Relative Guardianship youth may be eligible for federal and state financial aid</p> <p>A minor/nonminor dependent who was a dependent or ward on or after their 13th birthday can be considered an "independent student" when filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), regardless of their dependency status when completing the application. They also may qualify for a California Community Colleges fee waiver.⁷²</p> <p>A minor/nonminor dependent should consult with school's financial aid office.</p>	<p>Legal Guardianship youth may be eligible for federal and state financial aid.</p> <p>A minor/nonminor dependent who was a dependent or ward on or after their 13th birthday can be considered an "independent student" when filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), regardless of their dependency status when completing the application. They also may qualify for a California Community Colleges fee waiver.⁷³</p> <p>A minor/nonminor dependent should consult with school's</p>	<p>A minor/nonminor dependent who was a dependent or ward on or after their 13th birthday can be considered an "independent student" when filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), regardless of their dependency status when completing the application. They also may qualify for a California Community Colleges fee waiver.⁷⁴</p> <p>A minor/nonminor dependent should consult with school's financial aid office or the local ILP regarding scholarship information.</p>	<p>NMDs who were a dependent or ward on or after their 13th birthday can be considered an "independent student" when filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), regardless of their dependency status when completing the application. They also may qualify for a California Community Colleges fee waiver.⁷⁵</p> <p>NMD should consult with school's financial aid office or the local ILP regarding scholarship information.</p>

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	consult with school's financial aid office.		financial aid office.		
20. TAX CREDIT	Adoptive parents may qualify for a federal tax credit for the adoption of an eligible special needs child, under Section 23 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. Sec. 23) and a state tax credit for an adoptive child who was in the custody of a California public child welfare agency, under Section 17052.25 of the Revenue and Taxation Code. ⁷⁶	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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21. MEDICAL INSURANCE	<p>Medi-Cal/Medicaid coverage is an AAP benefit and is intended to cover the costs of the child's medical, dental and mental health needs. The adoptive parent may also enroll their child in their private health insurance plan with Medi-Cal as secondary coverage.⁴⁰</p> <p>The Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (ICAMA) safeguards and protects the interstate interests of children covered by an adoption assistance agreement when they move or are adopted across state lines.</p> <p>ICAMA is an agreement between and among its member states that enables them to coordinate the provision of medical benefits and services to children receiving adoption assistance in interstate cases. The Compact, which has the force of law within and among party states, provides a framework for uniformity and consistency in administrative procedures when a child</p>	<p>A youth under King-GAP determined Title IV-E eligible for Kin-GAP is categorically eligible for Medicaid in his/her state. A minor/nonminor receiving non-Title IV-E, state-funded, Kin-GAP is eligible for Medi-Cal as long as the minor/nonminor is eligible for the Kin-GAP payment and is a resident of California in accordance with residency requirements pursuant to Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 50320. Prior to the termination of a Kin-GAP payment (either Title IV-E or state funded Kin-GAP), individuals will continue to receive Medi-Cal while the Medi-Cal worker completes a redetermination to reevaluate eligibility of the child for all Medi-Cal programs in accordance with WIC § 14005.37 prior to terminating the Medi-Cal.</p> <p>Only federally funded Kin-GAP cases are covered under the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (ICAMA) program and are eligible</p>	<p>A youth under non-relative legal guardianship is eligible for Medi-Cal if the youth is eligible for a state foster care payment or meets the eligibility criteria for the appropriate Medi-Cal program coverage group or the family may enroll a youth under their private health insurance; if enrolled, Medi-Cal may cover what private insurance does not.⁴¹</p>	<p>The minor/nonminor dependent is eligible for Medi-Cal if the minor/nonminor is eligible for a Title IV-E cash payment or meets the eligibility criteria for the appropriate Medi-Cal program coverage group.⁴²</p> <p>Youth who exited foster care before 18 should visit the closest Eligibility Office for Medi-Cal determination.</p> <p>A youth who exits foster care after age 18 is eligible for extended Medi-Cal and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment services (EPSDT) up to age 26.</p>	<p>A NMD is eligible for Medi-Cal if the NMD is eligible for extended foster care payments and resides in California. There is no income or asset test.</p> <p>A NMD who exits foster care after age 18 is eligible for extended Medi-Cal and EPSDT up to age 26, this is known as Former Foster Care Children (FFCC) program.⁴³</p>

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	<p>with special needs is adopted by a family from another state, or the adoptive family moves to another state. Member status and regulations should be considered for each specific state.</p> <p>While eligibility for Medicaid is guaranteed for all AAP federally funded adopted children under ICAMA in member states, eligibility for Medicaid children with state-only funded AAP must be explored on a state by state basis, as rules vary.</p>	<p>for Medicaid in all compact member states. State only funded KG children are not covered by ICAMA. Eligibility for Medicaid for these children must be considered on a state by state basis.</p>			

