

Department of Family and Children Services Administration Policies and Procedures Manual	Section: Accounting Part: 2303 Page: 1 of 2 Date: October 2005
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2303.1 Enhanced Relative Care – Program 542

- A. The Enhanced Relative Rate (ERR) is to provide financial support for relatives caring for children **still in DFCS custody**. Relatives can receive 80% of the current foster care per diem for the basic care of a related child. (See COSTAR for current rates.)
- B. The relative caregiver must have an approved Relative Care Assessment.
- C. Form 529 is used to indicate a change from foster care per diem to ERR. Effective date is the day following the end of the per diem eligibility.
- Example: Per diem eligibility ends on the 15th, ERR starts on the 16th.
- D. If the agency is the payee for the child's SSI, Child Support, or other payments, the payments will continue to be received by the agency. Case Mangers will determine if the relative is eligible for ERR and/or other support payments.
- E. ERR Eligibility renewal and approval occurs annually until the child achieves permanency or reaches age 18 (or 19 if child is still attending high school).
- F. Reasons for termination of ERR payments to relative caregiver:
1. The placement disrupts or terminates and child is removed from home.
 2. Child is in runaway status for 30 days or longer.
 3. Child is incarcerated and not expected to be released prior to 18th birthday.

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4. Child returns home to parents, with or without court or agency approval.
 5. Child marries.
- G. The Case manager will submit a Form 529 to terminate the ERR payments effective the month after a child turns 18 (or 19) or if policy requirement terminates it sooner.
- H. If relative moves out of county or state, monthly ERR payments and the annual renewal will continue to be the responsibility of the legal county DFCS office. Georgia will continue paying ERR payments as long as the child is in DFCS custody.