

2304.3 Special Services Adoption Assistance - Program 512

- A. Examples of special services adoption assistance may include, but are not limited to: special medical equipment, psychiatric/psychological testing and therapy, special educational equipment, orthodontic services or respite care.
- B. A child may concurrently receive compensation for more than one special service adoption assistance at a time.
- C. Private schooling is not payable from these funds.
- D. Special Services funds are available only until a child reaches age 18.
- E. Supplemental Supervision (Day care services) – Entitlement Code 17-are only available until the child reaches age 13.
- F. Respite services – Entitlement Code 60-are available when a parent needs short term reprieve from the demands of caring for a special needs child.
- G. Prior to adoption finalization, the respite provider must meet the same requirements as supplemental supervision providers.
- H. Respite may be approved for up to 20 hours per month per family. Any hours not used one month may be carried over to the next. In an emergency, funds may be borrowed from a future month of certification.
- I. Once approved, respite services shall be provided for a twelve month period, not to exceed the approval amount.
- J. The established respite rate is \$6 per hour for the first child. Additional children needed respite may be eligible for a rate of \$2 per hour per child.
- K. Tutoring services are available through a private contract on a statewide basis. If a family resides in another state, application may be made utilizing Form 24. Limits for out of state children are up to \$1500 for the first year, up to \$1000 for the second year, and \$500 approved the third and final year.
- L. Computers may only be purchased for children who have a disability that prevents them from communicating or completing their educational assignments without this tool. A maximum of \$1000 is allowable for the purchase of a computer.

- M. Accounting should receive a completed Form 24, Special Services Adoption Assistance Application indicating approval by the County Director/Designee and an official of the State Office of Adoptions prior to paying any Special Service Adoption Payments.
- N. Special Services funds may be paid directly to the provider or as a reimbursement to the family. No prepayments or advances can be made to the family for the funds.
- O. Adoptive Placement Reimbursement, Contracted Services – Entitlement Code 57-can reimburse a private agency or child placing agency in the amount of up to \$5000 per child per placement for the purchase of service.
- P. Conversion of a NON-DFCS Foster Home through a private or child placing agency – Entitlement Code 77-a purchase of service payment in the amount of \$3000 per home may be made to a licensed, private adoption agency for the conversion of one of its foster homes to an approved adoptive home for a specific DHR child with special needs who is currently boarded in that home as a foster child.