

AA Foster Care Payments

Foster Care is a payment made by an authorized federal, state, or local government foster care agency. The following apply:

- The foster care payment is for the foster care participant up to the participant's 18th birthday.
- Payments are made to LICENSED and UNLICENSED custodial caretakers of the foster care child.
- The foster care participant receives medical coverage through the [CMDP\(g\)](#) health program.

The following apply to the specific programs:

- For CA, foster care participants are NOT ELIGIBLE for CA when the foster care payment is intended to cover the foster care participant's [basic needs\(g\)](#) and either of the following applies:
The foster care participant is placed with a LICENSED custodial caretaker, and resides in either of the following settings:
 - Foster home
 - Group home

CA EXCEPTION

Foster care participants who have been placed with UNLICENSED custodial caretakers may be eligible for CA. The foster care payments are NOT COUNTABLE.

Key the FC Unearned Income Code in the INC TYPE field on UNIC.

The foster care participant is 18 years old and voluntarily remains in foster care by enrolling in the Voluntary Foster Care for Young Adults Program.

Foster care participants may voluntarily choose to receive an Independent Living Subsidy at age 17. The subsidy is intended to assist the youth through the transition into adulthood. There are certain criteria they must adhere to in order to continue receiving the Independent Living Subsidy payment. These participants ARE NOT eligible for CA.

The young adult can remain in the Young Adults Program up

to their 21st birthday.

NOTE Caretakers of foster care participants may be eligible for CA. (See [Adult Only CA Case](#))

CA EXCEPTION

When a foster care participant turns 18, and is NOT enrolled in the Voluntary Foster Care for Young Adults Program, determine whether a partial foster care payment was received in the application month.

When this occurs, the payment is COUNTABLE:

Key the OA Unearned Income Code in the INC TYPE field on UNIC.

For NA, the participant has the option to include the foster care participant in the NA budgetary unit. When the foster care participant is included, the foster care payment is COUNTABLE. (See [Boarders](#) and [Foster Individuals-NA](#) when the foster care individual is not included)

NOTE Elevate requests for verification of foster care payments using the procedures established by the site code's Region Office.

Key the FC Unearned Income Code in the INC TYPE field on UNIC.

For budgeting see [Budgeting Income – Overview](#).