

**CLINTON COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES  
FOSTER CARE PROGRAM  
POLICY ON ALTERNATIVE CARE ARRANGEMENTS**

- A. A foster caregiver shall be responsible for the full-time care of a foster child. This does not prohibit both foster caregivers in the case of a couple, co-parents or a single foster caregiver from working outside the home.
- B. Alternative arrangements for the care of a foster child by someone other than the foster caregiver shall be approved by the recommending agency.
- C. A foster caregiver shall have prior written approval by the recommending agency of a plan for the care of a foster child in emergency situations.
- D. A foster caregiver shall have prior written approval by the recommending agency of a statement for each foster child specifying whether or not the foster child may be left unattended and, if so, for what period of time.
- E. When a foster caregiver arranges for a foster child to be cared for in a child care center or by a type A or type B child care provider that is required to be certified according to Chapter 5101:2-12, 5101:2-13, or 5101:2-14 of the Administrative Code, as applicable, the foster caregiver shall provide documentation to the recommending agency that the child care center or type A or type B child care provider is currently licensed or certified.
- F. When a foster caregiver of a specialized foster home requests respite care, it shall be provided in accordance with paragraph (A)(16) of Rule **5101:2-5-13** of the Administrative Code.

When respite or day care is approved for a child to stay with another licensed foster home through Clinton County JFS, the primary foster caregivers shall share the per diem payment with the secondary foster caregiver. Such reimbursements shall be determined in the following manner and as stated in the reimbursement policy:

<u>Time Period in Which Said Foster Child Will Be Visiting with Secondary Foster Caregiver</u>	<u>Reimbursement Rate for Primary Foster Caregiver With Whom Said Foster Child is Placed</u>	<u>Reimbursement Rate for Secondary Foster Caregiver with Whom Said Foster Child Will Be Visiting</u>
0-3 hours	one full day per diem	no reimbursement
3 hours and more	½ day per diem	½ day per diem

Alternative Care Arrangements Policy Continued  
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Any overnight visits:

-day child leaves primary home for secondary home	½ day per diem	½ day per diem
-full day spent at secondary home	no reimbursement	one full day per diem
-day child returns to primary foster home	½ day per diem	½ day per diem

In some instances when a child is age appropriate, he/she may be left unattended for short periods of time. However, **PRIOR** to leaving a foster child unattended and unsupervised, the foster caregiver shall have **WRITTEN** approval by Clinton County Job and Family Services that such arrangements are appropriate and for what period of time such arrangements may be used. These arrangements can be stated in the child's placement agreement or in other written documentation provided by Clinton County Job and Family Services.

Submitted by:

Effective Date: June 30, 2008

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Kathi Spirk, LSW  
Adoption/Foster Care Supervisor

Approved by:

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John Hosler  
Director