

Respite Requirements Grid

Respite Type	Requirements	Exceptions	Approval Required: Caseworker	Approval Required: Licensing Worker	Exclusions
DCFS PAID Respite	Contact DCFS caseworker to request respite prior to scheduling respite. Only LICENSED foster parents may provide DCFS paid respite.	N/A	Yes (Supervisor service authorization approval required)	Only as noted below, per respite type.	Respite budget has been exhausted and other respite funds are not available.
DCFS Non-Paid Respite	Foster parents are responsible for any financial obligations incurred for DCFS non-paid respite services.	N/A	Only as noted below, per respite type.	Only as noted below, per respite type.	
Babysitting by Minor	Non-foster youth, at least age 15, may babysit in the home of the foster parents for up to 3 hours.	With prior caseworker approval, may babysit beyond 3 hrs up to a maximum of 6 consecutive hrs.	Yes	No	~Foster children may not babysit other foster children unless approved by caseworker. ~Minors are not allowed to transport foster children.
Babysitting by Adult	Age 18 and over. May provide occasional babysitting in the home of the foster parent for up to 8 hrs.	N/A	No	No	
Respite by Non-Primary in Foster Home	A non-primary can provide any amount of respite; from a few hours up to a maximum of 14 consecutive days.	N/A	Caseworker approval is required prior to any overnight care.	N/A	
Respite by Non-Primary in Non-Primary Home	~Requires home inspection. ~Requires local background clearance; CANs on all adults, age 18 and over, residing in the home.	Background clearance on adults in non-primary's home are not required if caregiving is ONLY provided INFREQUENTLY and for short amount of time (e.g. <i>date night; med appt, shopping</i>) and the child(ren) are directly supervised and cared for at all times ONLY by the non-primary caregiver.	No	No	
Respite by Licensed Foster Parent	Licensed foster parents can provide DCFS paid or non-paid respite for other foster children.	~ Overnight care that exceeds capacity of license must be prior approved by licensing worker. ~ Prior approval by licensing worker to allow licensed relative or foster parents to provide respite, if they have been issued a limited, child specific license.	Yes, overnight care requires preapproval by caseworker.	Yes. Exceptions must be prior approved by licensing worker.	