



Foster Care, Adoption Assistance, and Guardianship

Foster care and permanency programs are open-ended entitlement programs that provide partial reimbursements to states for the cost of providing foster care, adoption assistance, and kinship guardian assistance to children who meet certain federal eligibility criteria. Each state (including the U.S. territories American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) is reimbursed for direct financial assistance according to a formula—based on the state’s federal medical assistance percentage rate—which can range from 50 percent to 83 percent of the state’s cost per child. Administrative and training costs associated with foster care and permanency programs are reimbursed at 50 percent and 75 percent, respectively, for all states. About 60 percent of the amount in federal payments to states is for spending associated with support for foster care.

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	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2023- 2027	2023- 2032
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032		
BUDGET INFORMATION													
Estimated Outlays	9,346	9,625	9,401	9,633	9,896	10,174	10,449	10,769	11,026	11,289	11,561	48,729	103,823
Estimated Outlays for Foster Care													
Maintenance Payments	1,923	1,971	1,839	1,885	1,932	1,980	2,030	2,081	2,133	2,186	2,241	9,607	20,278
Administration	2,843	2,914	2,987	3,062	3,138	3,217	3,297	3,380	3,464	3,551	3,639	15,318	32,649
Training	300	308	315	323	331	340	348	357	366	375	384	1,617	3,447
Information Technology	220	226	231	237	243	249	255	262	268	275	282	1,186	2,528
Prevention Services and Technical Assistance	60	110	176	181	211	251	281	351	351	351	351	929	2,614
Kinship Navigator Program	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	10	22
Subtotal	5,348	5,530	5,551	5,690	5,858	6,039	6,214	6,432	6,584	6,740	6,900	28,668	61,538
Estimated Outlays for Adoption Assistance													
Maintenance Payments	3,033	3,109	2,869	2,941	3,014	3,089	3,167	3,246	3,327	3,410	3,495	15,022	31,667
Administration	523	536	550	563	578	592	607	622	638	653	670	2,819	6,009
Training	<u>38</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>48</u>	202	432
Subtotal	3,594	3,684	3,458	3,545	3,633	3,724	3,817	3,913	4,010	4,111	4,213	18,044	38,108
Estimated Outlays for Guardianship													
Maintenance Payments	239	245	225	231	236	242	248	255	261	268	274	1,179	2,485
Administration	20	20	21	21	22	22	23	23	24	25	25	106	226
Training	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	10	20
Subtotal	261	267	248	254	260	267	274	280	287	295	302	1,296	2,734
Estimated Outlays for Other Components													
Independent Living	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	715	1,430
Tribal Technical Assistance	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	15	30
Sequestration ^a	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>0</u>	-10	-18
Subtotal	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	146	720	1,442
PARTICIPATION INFORMATION													
By fiscal year													
Average Monthly Caseload (Thousands of cases)													
Foster Care	141	140	138	137	135	134	133	131	130	129	127	n.a.	n.a.
Adoption Assistance	546	560	574	588	603	618	634	649	666	682	699	n.a.	n.a.
Guardianship	41	42	43	44	45	46	48	49	50	51	53	n.a.	n.a.

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding; n.a. = not applicable.

a. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act extended sequestration for mandatory spending through fiscal year 2031.