

Respite Services



www.okdhs.org

Post Adoption Services

Oklahoma Department of Human Services

What are respite services?

Respite is intended to provide temporary relief to adoptive parents who need a time to refresh, regroup or even an overnight rest.

Who can receive respite services? Families of Post Adoption Services (PAS) who have children under the age of 18.

Is there a cost for respite? No.

Will I receive a cash payment? No, you will be provided a voucher payable to the Respite Care Provider (RCP).

Can I purchase food or clothing with my voucher? No, you may only use your voucher to pay your RCP.

I have a child with special needs. Will PAS provide training to the RCP? No, the adoptive parent will have to train the RCP on any specific skills needed for your child(ren).



How often can I apply for respite services?

Once each fiscal year.

Can I receive respite services if I haven't adopted through the Department of Human Services (OKDHS)? Yes, if your child was adopted through another state or county agency, internationally or through federally recognized tribes.

Are there any income requirements? No, unless you are applying for respite through Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS).

- DDS Area I - Enid and OKC: (800) 522-1064
- DDS Area II - Tulsa: (800) 522-1075
- DDS Area III - Pauls Valley: (800) 522-1086



I have both adopted and foster care children.

Can I receive PAS respite for both? No. For questions regarding the Foster Care Respite Voucher Program, please contact your Foster Care/Adoption Worker or call 1-800-376-9729.

How long does it take to be approved for a respite voucher? 24-48 hours after receipt of the application.

Things you should know...

Approval for respite services is not guaranteed. Funding is based on availability.

Vouchers are limited to \$75 for one child and up to \$300 for two or more children, and are distributed on a first come, first served basis.

If PAS pays \$600 or more in respite funds to a RCP during a calendar year, OKDHS will issue a 1099 (report of income) to the RCP. Ex. If Sally May provides respite to several different families over the course of the year and her services total \$600 or more, she will be issued a 1099.



YOU CAN NOT USE PAS RESPITE VOUCHERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Payment for regular child care while you are at work. However, if you use a child care center for extra hours or on a drop-in-basis once in a while, you may use your voucher.
- Co-payments for child care.
- Payment for nursing home care.
- Payment to anyone under the age of 18. An exception may be granted on a case-by-case basis for 17 year olds with state or private funds, but not federal funds.

Adoptive Parent Responsibilities:

- **Interview the RCP.**
- **Select the RCP.** PAS does not have a list of RCPs to provide to our adoptive parents. The adoptive parent must select from their network of family and/or friends.
- **Ask for and check references, if needed.**
- **Negotiate the rate of pay.**
- **Hire the RCP.**
- **Ensure the RCP has a Social Security number.**
- **The adoptive parent and the RCP cannot live in the same home.**
- **Provide training to the RCP on the specific needs of the child(ren).**
- **Keep track that the total amount claimed doesn't exceed the total amount of the approved voucher.**

**Are you interested in
applying for respite
services?**

Call: (405) 522-1668

or email:

***CWS.PostAdoption.Respite@okdhs.org**

We are here to help: Respite



OKLAHOMA
Human Services

DHS Pub. No. 20-07

Issued 03/2020

This publication is authorized by Oklahoma Department of Human Services Director Justin Brown and printed by DHS in accordance with state and federal regulations at a cost of \$129.23 for 1,033 copies. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. Members of the public may obtain copies by calling 1-877-283-4113 (toll free) or by downloading a copy at www.okdhs.org/library.