

Adoption Assistance Programs

Supporting children adopted from foster care

When a child cannot safely be returned to their family of origin, the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) is responsible for finding permanency for that child either through kin, or a non-relative family. Adoption assistance is granted on an as-needed basis in order for adoptive families to have the financial resources to meet each child's unique needs until adulthood, pursuant to state and federal law.

Types of Adoption Assistance

Specialized adoption subsidies, or adoption assistance, are provided to assist adoptive families with unique needs that may include respite, child care, educational tutoring, as well as medical costs not covered by Medicaid. Monthly subsidy payments provided by DCFS are determined based on the child's needs, and the family's ability to meet those needs.

- **IV-E Eligible Adoption Subsidies:** [Sec. 473. \[42 U.S.C. 673\]](#)
- **State Funded Adoption Subsidies:** [Utah Code 80-2-806](#)
- **Nonrecurring Adoption Assistance:** For reasonable and necessary adoptions fees, court costs, attorney fees and other expenses directly related to legal adoption; 50% Federal Match.
- **Guardianship Subsidy:** State-funded support for non-kin guardianship (kin qualify for a Specified Relative Grant).
- **Post Adoption Services:** State funded.
- **Supplemental Adoption Assistance:** To be used only after all other resources have been exhausted ([Utah Code 80-2-807](#)).

6,200

Approximate number of children receiving cash subsidies, FY 2022

2,000

Approximate number of children with Medicaid only adoption assistance agreements, FY 2022

\$260

Average monthly amount for children receiving cash subsidy. Amount ranges from \$10 to \$1,031 per month.

Division of Child and Family Services Program Expenditures, FY 2022



Adoption Assistance:
\$20,933,257

