



# Unlicensed Kinship Payment Program

Kinship caregivers are vital partners in providing safe and stable connections and homes for our children and youth. In November 2023, NC Division of Social Services initiated a program to provide financial support for eligible kinship caregivers of children in foster care.

If you are a kinship caregiver who has a child or youth in foster care who was placed in your home by a county Division of Social Services, you may be eligible to receive financial support in the following amounts:

- \$351 per child per month for children ages 0-5
- \$371 per child per month for children ages 6-12
- \$405 per child per month for children ages 13-17

**Please contact your local child welfare agency social worker to discuss if you qualify for the Unlicensed Kinship Payment program.**

## Am I Eligible?

**You may be eligible for the financial support if you meet the following criteria:**

- The child(ren) placed in your home must be in the custody of a local child welfare agency;
- The local child welfare agency must have the Court authorize placement in your home;
- The child(ren) placed in your home must be related to you through blood, marriage, or adoption, and if applicable, any half sibling(s) of the child(ren) placed with you regardless of your relationship to the half sibling(s);
- The child(ren) must be between the ages of 0 through 17;
- You must be an unlicensed home\*;
- You must agree to receive the payments by signing the “Unlicensed Kinship Payment Acknowledgement” form, which your local county child welfare agency will provide to you.

\*To learn more about becoming a licensed kinship care home in order to receive additional financial support and services, please contact your **local Department of Social Services** or visit <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/child-welfare-services/adoption-and-foster-care>.