

Title IV-E Manual E. Foster Care 1.7.1.2

Supplemental clothing allowance In addition to basic maintenance payments, the supplemental clothing allowance is available for every child, each year they are in foster care. The clothing allowance should pay for needed clothing at initial placement, placement changes, for back-to-school, as the child grows; and if items are lost or destroyed.

The supplemental clothing allowance shall not exceed the designated rate posted in Section 14.1.3 of the Foster Care Chapter, regardless if the amount was paid by Title IV-E, CSA or a combination of the two.

It should be used by May 31st each year. Supplemental clothing allowances apply to all children regardless of funding source. The date the bill is paid determines the fiscal year in which the payment is counted. Items allowable for purchase include basic clothing and accessories that any reasonable person would determine necessary and appropriate for any child. All supplemental clothing allocations shall be verified and tracked by the eligibility worker through documentation that the funds were used to purchase clothing for the designated child. This may include a purchase order to the store and receipt or a receipt from store(s) where the foster parents purchased the items. The decision as to the appropriateness and reasonableness of the items purchased is the responsibility of the service worker.

To translate the above into some practical advice:

1. Clothing closets – several in the area, usually announced to the public
2. Foster Care Closet for our Resource Families and sponsored by Tabernacle Presbyterian and Holy Cross Presbyterian;
<http://www.orphanhopefcc.org> , support@orphanhopefcc.org , 540-932-1778

3. Clothing allowance – The “Supplemental Clothing Allowance” is available for children at the time of initial placement or change in placement, or each year of placement, and may be available under other situations. This annual allowance ranges from \$309 for the youngest children to \$464 for teens. Request the allowance from your Case Worker, and they can explain any details. (also more details on our website)
4. “annual clothing allowance” is based on the school year, not the calendar year