

Clothing For Children In Custody

SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

<p>ORC: 5153.16, 5101.141</p> <p>OAC: 5101:2-47-19, 5101:2-47-15</p> <p>USC: N/A</p> <p>CFR: N/A</p>	<p>ORIGINAL: 9/22/06</p> <p>REVISIONS: 11/29/06; 4/04/07; 9/23/08; 8/09; 12/09; 05/10; 08/10; 12/28/11; 6/08/15; 2/11/20</p> <p>RELATED FORM(S): Clothing Checklist Placement Services Agreement</p> <p>RELATED PROCEDURE/POLICY(IES): N/A</p>
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal
<input type="checkbox"/> Safety & Security
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Services - All Departments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Services - Foster & Adoption |
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All Staff Bargaining Unit Non-Bargaining Management

POLICY:

Summit County Children Services (SCCS) will work with substitute caregivers to ensure that a child's clothing needs are met while they are in agency custody.

PROCEDURE:

Initial Placements

SCCS provides a clothing voucher (voucher) at the time a child is placed in agency custody. For children entering initial SCCS custody, the agency will issue a voucher when SCCS has received custody via court order. The amount of the voucher is determined accordingly:

Voucher Scale

Age Range	Amount
0-7 years	\$225
8+ years	\$275

Vouchers will be issued by the placement worker and are valid for 30 days from date of issuance. Vouchers are only accepted at the stores listed on the voucher.

Placement Changes

SCCS issues vouchers for children already in SCCS custody who are changing placements, if it is determined that a need exists, upon the request of the caseworker utilizing the Clothing Voucher Request form. Vouchers will not be issued within ninety (90) days of each other, unless extenuating circumstances apply. Clothing purchased for children with a voucher goes with the child when a placement change occurs. SCCS will review and issue voucher requests for children who are changing placements within five (5) days of the placement change.

Caregivers

Kinship

Children in agency custody who are placed in a kinship home receive an initial clothing voucher at the time of placement. A second clothing voucher will be issued approximately 90 days after the initial clothing voucher. There after a voucher will be issued every six months, based on the above voucher scale to kinship caregivers while the child(ren) remains in SCCS custody.

Kinship caregivers who accept Emergency Temporary Custody (ETC), or Temporary Custody (TC) of a child are also provided an initial voucher, if it is determined that a need exists in an amount according to the above voucher scale. Based on the availability of Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) funds an additional voucher may be issued at day 90. Any additional requests should be submitted via email to the Director of Placement Services.

Foster

Beyond the initial clothing allowance, foster parents must provide clothing to foster children utilizing funds received through the foster care board rate. SCCS will provide foster parents with a clothing checklist which outlines the clothing that must be provided based on the age of the child. Foster care coordinators will review the checklist with the foster parent quarterly, and SCCS reserves the right to review the clothing checklist with the foster parent at any time. SCCS may deduct the cost of clothing from the board rate if the agency has to provide a child with clothing. Failure to provide adequate clothing may result in removal of the child, or an inability to place children in the foster home in the future.

Clothing and footwear must be:

- kept clean and well maintained
- an appropriate size
- seasonally appropriate
- age appropriate

Any clothing with permanent damage must be replaced. When placement terminates, all caregivers will provide children with the clothes that have been purchased for them.

Special Clothing Requests

Foster and kinship caregivers may request reimbursement for special clothing in limited situations, as defined below. Caregivers will contact their foster home coordinator or the child's caseworker for special clothing reimbursement.

I. Lost/Damaged/Destroyed

Caregivers may request special clothing vouchers if clothing is lost, destroyed or stolen as long as the loss was not through the fault, omission or acts of the caregiver.

II. School Uniforms

If the child is enrolled in a school district that requires school uniforms, SCCS will approve a reimbursement to the caregiver. The maximum of which is one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175.00) per school year. The caregiver may purchase the uniforms at a store of their choice and submit the receipts to SCCS for reimbursement.

III. Extracurricular Activity Uniforms

SCCS may pre-approve, once per year, up to eighty dollars (\$80.00) for extracurricular activity uniforms. Any additional clothing required over the \$80 for an extracurricular activity uniform is to be covered through the foster parent board rate or quarterly kinship vouchers.

IV. Special Occasion Events

Caregivers may request a clothing reimbursement, up to two hundred dollars (\$200), two times per year, if a child attends a formal special occasion, such as homecoming or prom. Caregivers must provide the purchase or rental receipt of the garment. Special occasion/event reimbursements are determined accordingly:

V. Senior Expenses

SCCS will reimburse up to seven hundred dollars (\$700) for graduation expenses such as a class ring, letterman's jacket, senior pictures and a cap and gown.

VI. Other Exceptional Circumstances

SCCS may approve a special clothing order for pregnancy up to four hundred dollars (\$400.00). Extreme weight gain or loss may justify a special clothing order; the amount of the voucher will vary according to the age of the child.

Vouchers for children placed on adoptive status may be approved upon request only if special circumstances demonstrate a need to do so. Requests must be made by the child's adoption caseworker by submitting a memo for approval to either the Director of Placement Services or the Deputy Executive Director of Social Services.

See also: SCCS Placement Services Agreement for clothing provisions for children placed with contracted providers.