

Levels and Payments

There are 5 types of Foster Homes. Which one are you?

A **Restricted** home provides care for a **known or related** child/youth. Care is limited to a specific child and ends when they leave the home. You receive a basic monthly rate per young person in your care. You can have up to 6 children/youth living in your home at one time, including your own.

A **Regular** home provides care for children/youth in care (CYIC) who are **not known** to the foster family. You receive a monthly rate to meet the expenses of caring for the young person. As a **Regular** home, you can have up to 6 children/youth living in your home, including your own kids.

Specialized Family Care Homes provide care to young people with a mental or physical disability and/or emotional and behavioural challenges. Care homes follow a plan that outlines the specific care required for each child and youth. This plan consists of the following three levels of care:

Level 1 Care:

Care is provided for 1 – 6 children or youth (including your own) who have:

- Multiple developmental needs and learning challenges.
- Difficult behaviours.

Foster Parents may work outside of the home, with an emergency plan in place should the young person return to your home unexpectedly. The maximum number of kids in your home is 6, including your own.

Level 2 Care:

Care is provided for 1 – 3 children or youth with any combination of the following:

- More complicated developmental needs and challenging behaviours.
- More complex health needs and learning difficulties.
- Behaviours that interfere with their quality of social interactions and daily functioning.

As a level 2 carer, you can work outside your home, with an emergency plan in place. The maximum number of **all** children living in the home is 6, however, the maximum amount of children/youth in care (CYIC) living in the home is 3. For example, you can have 3 of your own children and 3 CYIC living with you. Even if you don't have any children of your own, there can only be 3 CYICs living in the home at one time.

Level 3 Care:

Care is provided for 1 – 2 children or youth in care (CYIC). These kids have similar needs to those placed in level 2 homes in addition to:

- The most extensive daily care needs.
- Additional support and supervision for health care needs (e.g., tube feeding), learning, and educational needs.
- Interventions related to mental health concerns – including behaviours that may pose a risk to self, others, and/or property.

As the primary Foster Parent, you are expected to remain at home and should consider caregiving to be your full-time job. The maximum number of **all** children living in the home is 6, however, the maximum number of CYIC living in the home is 2, while in some circumstances, it may be 1.

Do Caregivers Receive Compensation for Advanced Levels of Care?

If you provide any of the three levels of specialized care, you will also receive a service payment. This additional payment recognizes your specialized parenting skills and the extra time required to meet the young person's needs.

Note: Your service payment is not considered employment income; it is tax-free.

How are Levels Assessed?

The **Specialized Family Care Home Levels Assessment** is based on a regular family care home's abilities. Your Resource Worker will complete the assessment tool (document CF2442) with you. Your score will be totalled, and you'll be assigned a level.

The Assessment is Made up of Four Categories:

- Your education and training, including the **Pride In-Service Training**.
- Your child-related experience.
- Your knowledge and;
- Demonstrated abilities such as the number of children you have fostered or the amount of time you have been working with MCFD.

Have Questions?

- Review *Resource Work Policies Chapter 8, Section 8:11, page 39*.
- Ask your Resource Worker about expectations and level changes.

Payment Chart

Maintenance Payments

Foster caregivers receive maintenance payments as an allowance for each child placed in your home.

Age of Child or Youth	Monthly Rate
Age 0 – 11	\$1,549.20
Age 12 – 19	\$1,726.33

Service Payments

Foster caregivers who provide specialized care for children and youth with moderate to extraordinary support needs receive a service payment in addition to the maintenance payment per child or youth. This additional payment recognizes the special caregiving skills and extra time required to meet the needs of a child or youth.

Level of Care	Monthly Rate
Level 1	\$591.90
Level 2 – 1 Child	\$1,473.74
Level 2 – 2 Children	\$2,544.13
Level 2 – 3 or more Children	\$3,480.06
Level 3 – 1 Child	\$2,347.67
Level 3 – 2 Children	\$4,023.08

Respite/Relief Care

Level of Care	Daily Rate
Regular and Restricted – Age 0 - 11	\$61.06
Regular and Restricted – Age 12 - 19	\$67.05
Level 1	\$86.78
Level 2	\$106.17
Level 3	\$135.31

Note: Additional information can be found at [Foster Care Payments in BC](#)