

Why Do Foster Parents Receive More Money from the BC Government than Families on Disability?

In 2019 BC raised the rates for Foster Care. Victoria Buzz reports it has been 10 years since Foster Care rates increased. In 2009 foster parents received \$909.95/month for youth in care aged 12-19 years and parents on disability received \$335.66/month. In 2019 Foster Care rates increased by \$179/month for a total of \$1,088.85/month. In 2009 Foster Parents received \$574.29 more per month than parents on disability and in 2020 they receive \$753.19 more per month. Why have parents on disability not seen similar increases as Foster Parents?

Calculations				
Year	2007#		2020*	
	2 person	1 person	2 person	1 person
Shelter	\$570.00	\$375.00	\$570.00	\$375.00
Support	\$672.08	\$531.42	\$949.08	\$808.42
Total per month	\$1,242.08	\$906.42	\$1,519.08	\$1,183.42
A. Diff between 2 per & 1 per	\$335.66		\$335.66	
B. Foster parent (FP) rate	\$909.95		\$1,088.85	
FP receive more per month vs disability parents (Calc B - A)	\$574.29		\$753.19	
<u>Disability Assistance Rates</u>				
* Present				
# June 1, 2007				

GUIDELINE TO THE FAMILY CARE RATE—2009*		
Basic Foster Care Costs (per month)	Ages 0-11 years	Ages 12-19 years
Food	135.04	183.35
Housing	149.51	183.35
Transportation	67.52	76.89
Personal Needs	14.46	17.74
Recreation	33.78	35.50
Clothing	81.98	94.63
Sub-total	482.29	591.46
Additional Family Care Costs	Ages 0-11 years	Ages 12-19 years
Education	25.72	31.85
Babysitting	86.81	57.33
Transportation	61.09	60.51
Personal Spending	41.79	54.14
Gifts/ Activities	61.09	60.51
Equipment/ Recreation	45.03	54.15
Sub-total	321.53	318.49
Total Maintenance (per month)	803.82	909.95
<p>*The amounts in each category are estimates of what is required for most children. Actual costs will vary between categories, with some caregivers spending more in some categories but less in others. The total amounts should be sufficient to cover the actual costs for most children. (Estimates developed by Dan Malone, FPSSS)</p>		



Disability Assistance Rate Table

Effective: April 1, 2019

The asterisk indicates the most recent rate table changes

Unit Size	Support Rate				Shelter Maximum
	A	B	C	D	
1	*\$808.42	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$375.00
2	*\$1,027.56	*\$1,503.06	*\$949.08	*\$1,276.06	\$570.00
3	*\$1,121.56	*\$1,597.06	*\$949.08	*\$1,370.06	\$660.00
4	*\$1,121.56	*\$1,597.06	*\$949.08	*\$1,370.06	\$700.00
5	*\$1,121.56	*\$1,597.06	*\$949.08	*\$1,370.06	\$750.00
6	*\$1,121.56	*\$1,597.06	*\$949.08	*\$1,370.06	\$785.00
7	*\$1,121.56	*\$1,597.06	*\$949.08	*\$1,370.06	\$820.00

Notes:

- All rates are monthly.
- An additional Transportation Supplement is provided to a person with the Persons with Disabilities designation as \$52 in cash or as an in-kind bus pass.
- In addition to the support rate, families may also receive a monthly payment for each child under 19 years of age. For more information, see [Child Benefits Top-up Supplement](#).
- Families of two or more that include someone on Old Age Security (OAS) are entitled to a maximum shelter rate for the family size.
- Shelter increments continue to increase by an additional \$35 for each additional dependant after unit size 7.
- Disability assistance is paid in the month following designation. In cases where designation occurs prior to the individual's 18th birthday, payments begin in the month of the 18th birthday.
- In cases where the family unit consists of a couple where one adult only receives OAS/GIS/Allowance and the Senior's Supplement and the family receives top up from BCEA, the system will automatically deduct these payments. Deductions are first taken from the famil's support portion, then the shelter portion. Any remaining entitlement will be paid by the system [for the OAS/GIS and Senior's Supplement rates, see Rate Tables – Senior's Supplement].

Key	
A	Singles, couples, and two-parent families where one family member is a person with disabilities (PWD), and the other is not a PWD and is under 65.
B	Couples and two-parent families where both adults are PWDs.
C	One-parent families where the parent is a PWD.
D	Couples and two-parent families where one adult is a person with disabilities, and the other adult is not a person with disabilities and is 65 or more years of age.

This webpage was last updated: April 1, 2019

Sources

- Victoria Buzz - [Province increases financial support for caregivers and foster parents](#)
- [Budget 2019 released, increases to disability and income assistance rates announced \(pdf\)](#)
- [BC Income and Disability Rates from 2007 – present](#)