



FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILY SERVICES

FACT SHEET

TOPIC: RESOURCE FAMILY HOME REHABILITATION PROGRAM

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

What is the Rehabilitation Program?

The Rehabilitation Program was developed as part of the NJ Child Welfare Reform Plan to assist resource families (foster, adoptive, and relative). The purpose of the program is to:

- *Create new resource homes*
- *Expand the ability of existing resource homes to accept additional placements, including the placement of a child with a disability*
- *Allow existing resource homes to maintain their licensure by repairing major building systems*

Who is eligible to apply for the Rehabilitation Program?

The following are eligible:

- *Resource parent applicant home owners*
- *Licensed resource parent home owners*
- *Renters (applicants and licensed) are limited to applying only for refrigerators and radiator covers.*

Is there an income eligibility?

Yes. The annual income of the person applying must be below the low income for the county where he or she lives. Your Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) Resource Family Support Worker, licensing inspector, or caseworker has this information and the application. Or, you can call Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS) for information. You can reach us at 1.800.222.0047.

Note: You must have no current liens or bankruptcies.

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What is covered under the Rehabilitation Program?

The following are repairs and improvements funded through the Rehabilitation Program.

- *Construction of additional living space*
- *Repair of major building systems (heating/cooling, electrical, plumbing, sanitary plumbing, roof, structure)*
- *Repair of interior and exterior permanent physical features, including walls, ceilings, and windows*
- *Purchase appliances to replace inoperative ones*
- *Purchase of safety items (smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, pool fencing, radiator covers, railings, carpeting).*

Materials and appliances purchased through this program are “contractor-grade”, which means standard, not upgraded materials and appliances.

What is the maximum amount of money I can receive under this Program?

You must submit three bids with your application. The maximum grant award is \$9,999. If the cost of the rehabilitation work is \$10,000 and over, if you are approved, you will receive a loan. The loan is forgiven over a 10 year period if you remain a resource family.

Note: It is the responsibility of the Office of Licensing Inspector or Resource Family Support Worker to identify the circumstances that would allow you to apply for this funding.

Make certain you meet the eligibility requirements before you apply!

If you have any questions, please call your FAFS Resource Family Advocate, at 1.800.222.0047.

Information provided in this Fact Sheet was taken from the DYFS Administrative Policy and Procedures Manual.