

The logo for TúsLA, featuring the word 'TúsLA' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The 'ú' has a dot above it, and the 'L' is stylized with a small gap. The background of the entire page is a vibrant blue-to-yellow gradient with a pattern of overlapping, rounded rectangular shapes in various shades of blue and green, creating a textured, wave-like effect.

TúsLA

An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Setting Up Allowance in Foster Care (General and Relative Foster Care) Standard Operating Procedure

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Setting Up Allowance in Foster Care (General and Relative Foster Care)

Note: *This Standard Operating Procedure should be read in conjunction with the National Financial payments Policy for Alternative Care*

Purpose of the Allowance

The purpose of the setting up allowance is to provide financial support for children in care who are admitted to foster care for the first time as **their first** alternative care placement. The allowance is to financially support children during their admission to foster care and to ensure they have any necessities they may require, e.g. clothing, school uniforms, baby equipment, etc...

It is important to note that it is expected that if a child moves placement their clothing and personal belongings will move with them.

Scope

This standard operational procedure applies to all children in care, admitted to foster care for **the first time** as their first alternative placement, regardless of who is providing the foster care placement e.g. Non-Statutory Fostering Agencies.

Eligibility

This allowance will be made in respect of children who have been admitted to foster care for the first time.

Only one allowance will be administered in a 12-month period. This means that if a child is reunified with their family and it breaks down and they are re-admitted within the 12-month period, another setting up allowance will not be administered.

Those **not** eligible for the allowance include:

- Respite placements.
- Emergency placements – Emergency placements (2-3 weeks) are only excluded where there are indications the child will return home or move to a more long-term placement as agreed in the child's care plan. If the child is moved to a longer-term placement or if the child remains with the emergency foster carers for a longer period, the allowance

will be administered. If the allowance is administered to the emergency foster carers the child's belonging must move with them to their new placement.

- Children who move from residential care to foster care where the foster care placement is their first foster care placement. It is expected that children moving from residential care to foster care will have their necessities such as clothing etc Residential Care will purchase any necessities the child requires on admission to the centre.

Rates and Applying for The Setting Up Allowance

€400 for under 12 years

€425 for over 12 years

An application for this allowance can be made when initiating the fostering allowance. A tick box option on the digitised form will indicate if the set-up allowance is due. Foster Care Set up should be processed to GL 6392102.

6391401 Allowances - Fostering Maintenance -Tusla
6392102 Foster Care Set Up

General Ledger Code

GL Code	Service	Allowance Type	Data Definition
New 6392102	Foster Care Set up	Admission into Foster Care Set Up Allowance	Setting Up Allowance for New Admissions into Foster Care

Note

An application for this allowance can be made when initiating the fostering allowance. A tick box option on the digitised form will indicate if the set-up allowance is due.

In the case where the setting up allowance is not sufficient to meet the costs associated with the care of the child an additional financial payment can be considered as per *National Financial Payments Policy for Alternative Care*.