



NYS Kinship Navigator

Caregivers Can Get Help Paying for Summer Camp

Summer is here and the children are out of school, bursting with energy. Summer camp is a great way to creatively focus that energy and give relative caregivers some respite. Relative caregivers who receive a “child only” grant for the children in their care are automatically eligible for camp fees of up to \$400 per year, not to exceed \$200 per week, so long as there are no other available community sources of funding for camp costs. Social Services Law §131-(a)(5)(d); 18 NYCRR 352.7(l); 05 INF-24, p. 8; GIS 02 TA/DC010(4/10/02).

The definition of summer camp is discussed in 00 INF-15.(Q. 5) includes both day for children under the age of 16, and overnight camps for children under the age of 18.

A child is only eligible for a summer camp grant if the child is in receipt of a “child only” grant or if the entire household is on family assistance. This means that if a relative caregiver also cares for a child on Supplemental Security Income that child will not be eligible for camp fees. 01- INF-11 (Q. 4). A caregiver who would like to have camp fees paid should contact the Department of Social Services worker, **before enrolling the child in camp** and request that the local district pay camp fees. The caregiver should provide the name and address of the camp, the cost of the camp, and the dates that the caregiver would like to enroll the child.. It is most likely that the county will pay the camp directly, but the caretaker relative should clarify that with the local district.

Another source of funding for summer camp can be a child care subsidy administered through the local social services day care unit. Children who are already receiving a subsidy for after school child care are eligible for a child care subsidy for the hours that the caretaker is employed. 00 OCFS INF -3; GIS 02 TA/DC010 (4/10/02).

A Program of Catholic Family Center

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