

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the slide, framing the central text. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

Adoption & Guardianship

Preparing for Subsidy Negotiations

What is a subsidy?

- ▶ Provides ongoing support
- ▶ Last until a child turns 18
- ▶ Can include:
 - ▶ Reimbursement of up to \$2,000 of finalization expenses
 - ▶ Ongoing Medicaid
 - ▶ Monthly cash payment

Important To Remember:

The subsidy is not an extension of Foster Care

The negotiated amount must be based on the child's current
needs

What Subsidy Is My Child Eligible For?

- ▶ OCS conducts an eligibility determination
- ▶ Subsidies can be either Federally (Title IV-E) Funded or State Funded
- ▶ Funding source can impact Medicaid but does not impact maximum payable amount
- ▶ If you disagree, you have the right to an appeal through a first level review or evidentiary hearing

The Negotiation Meeting

- ▶ Can be one or more meetings
- ▶ Discuss the amount of funding, if any, you need in order to meet the special needs of the child
- ▶ The goal is to be able to come to a mutual agreement on a monthly amount

What Items Can Be Considered?

- ▶ A subsidy is negotiated based on the cost of meeting a child's special needs that cannot be met by the family or any other, such as:
 - ▶ Cost of childcare for working parents
 - ▶ Costs to maintain cultural continuity
 - ▶ Cost of adding the child to your health insurance
- ▶ Some items cannot be considered, such as:
 - ▶ Tutoring or educational services
 - ▶ Enrichment activities
- ▶ OCS must consider all other sources of income available to the child

What Can I Do To Prepare?

- ▶ Consider your child's needs and costs of services
- ▶ Complete the Adoption/Guardianship Subsidy Negotiation Worksheet
- ▶ Bring the completed worksheet to your negotiation meeting

Signing The Subsidy

- ▶ Once you sign the agreement, it is sent to OCS State Office for final approval
- ▶ Adoption subsidies begin the first day of the month it was approved
- ▶ Guardianship subsidies begin the date the guardianship finalizes
- ▶ Once the subsidy begins, payments are made by the first day of each month

Credits & Contacts

- ▶ This presentation was a joint effort of Alaska Center of Resource Families and The Office of Children's Services.
 - ▶ ACRF:
(800) 478-7307
acrf@nwresource.org
<https://www.acrf.org>
 - ▶ OCS Adoption Unit:
(907) 465-3209
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/ocs/>