

## Financial Assistance for Adoption and Legal Custody

Children's aid societies (CASs) provide supports to families who give children in their care a home through adoption, legal custody, kinship and customary care. As of June 15, 2016, the criteria for CASs to provide financial help to families who are adopting or taking legal custody of Crown Wards is as follows:

### Who is eligible for a sibling and 8+ subsidy?

#### You are eligible if:

1. You have taken legal custody of a child or children on or after June 15, 2016, **OR** have a child or children who are Crown wards placed in your home for adoption on or after June 15, 2016.
2. The child or children are 8 or older when placed in your home for adoption or at the time of the legal custody order **and/or** the child or children being adopted or placed in legal custody are siblings (two or more).
3. Your family has a combined annual net family income of \$93,700 or less, as shown on line 236 of your most recent Canada Revenue Agency personal income tax return (NOA).

### How much is the sibling and 8+ subsidy?

Eligible families will receive \$1,035 per month (or \$12,420 annually) for each eligible child. This is about 60 per cent of the average CAS foster care rate in Ontario.

### How do I apply?

You may apply for this or any other subsidy available through your CAS as part of your adoption or legal custody application. To be eligible for the sibling and 8+ subsidy, you will be asked for proof of your combined annual net family income, as shown on line 236 of your most recent Canada Revenue Agency personal income tax return (NOA).

### If I am eligible, when will I start receiving the sibling and 8+ subsidy?

You will begin to receive the subsidy when the child or children are placed in your home for adoption, or on the date of the legal custody order. The subsidy will continue until the child or children turn 21, as long as you continue to meet the eligibility criteria. Your CAS will review the eligibility criteria every year.

### What if I am not eligible for the sibling and 8+ subsidy?

If you are not eligible, talk with your CAS about other subsidies or financial help that you may be eligible for.

### Where can I get more information?

Contact your CAS Adoption worker (1-844-772-1515) for more information.