|  | **Relative/Fictive Kin Caregiver****(Take custody or control of the child)** | **Relative/Fictive Kin Caregiver** **(Pursue approval as a Child- Specific Foster Parent)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home Approval Requirements** | * Approved Safety Check and Review.
* Background check (will require fingerprint check if the individual has resided out-of-state within the past five years).
* Online Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma Course- **only** fictive kin caregivers.
 | * Approved Safety Check and Review.
* Background checks, including fingerprint based criminal background check.
* Online Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma Course.
 |
| **Additional Requirements** | NONE | * The child must remain in DCBS custody.
* The caregiver must attend the foster parent pre-service training (5 hours face-to-face, 5 hours online courses).
* The caregiver must participate in the completion of a foster home study.\*
* The caregiver must provide documentation of physical health, marriage and/or divorce records, and other required home study paperwork.
 |
| **Agency Contact** | * Monthly home visits by the child’s social worker.
 | * Monthly home visits by the child’s social worker.
* At a minimum, a quarterly home visit by the foster family’s assigned social worker.
* Annual re-evaluation and home study update.
 |
| **Long Term Placement Implications** **Long Term Placement Implications (continued)** | * If reunification with the birth family is not possible, the agency will request **permanent custody** be given to the relative/fictive kin caregiver.
* Legal guardianship may be sought by the caregiver.
* Independent adoption is a possible long-term option for relatives and fictive kin caregivers who choose to accept custody.
 | * If reunification with the birth family is not possible, the agency will proceed with **termination of parental rights and adoption** by the relative/fictive kin caregiver.
* Permanent custody to the relative or fictive kin caregiver may also be an option; however, the per-diem will end once custody is released from DCBS. Other supportive services may be available.
* DCBS is seeking to establish the federal guardianship assistance program in the near future, which would provide another option for permanency and long-term support without necessitating adoption.
 |
| **Financial Assistance** | * Relative placement support benefits are available for relative caregivers. This is not available for fictive kin caregivers.
* Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (KTAP). - \* See attached rate chart
* Childcare assistance for working caregivers.
* Medical insurance –Medicaid.
* Food stamps- based on financial eligibility.

Information and referral to other state and community services.  | * Relative placement support benefits are available for relative caregivers. This is not an option for fictive kin caregivers.
* Childcare assistance for working caregivers.
* Medical insurance –Medicaid

Information and referral to other state and community services.* Monthly maintenance per- diem at a reduced rate prior to approval.
* Monthly maintenance foster care per-diem at the appropriate rate after approval.
 |
| **Assistance Post-Permanency** | * Some financial assistance in the row above may continue post-permanent custody, depending on the eligibility of the caregiver.
* Aftercare planning to set up services and referrals based on the needs of the child.
 | * Adoption subsidy (if the child meets eligibility).
* Tuition waiver (if the child is eligible for adoption subsidy).
* Guardianship assistance program (once available).
* Referral for post-permanency services specific to the needs of the child and family.
 |

\*To become a child specific foster home, the home study must be approved.

\*\*Relatives/fictive kin caregivers may be approved as a basic foster home type if they desire, meet requirements, and if they are interested in fostering other children in out-of-home care.