|  | **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.