



Out of Home
Placement
for Children



DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC SECURITY

Division of Developmental Disabilities

www.azdes.gov/ddd



Children generally develop best when living at home with their family. Sometimes a parent may feel the needs of a child cannot be fully met in the family home. When that happens, you may want to meet with your planning team to talk about services to support your child to continue living in your home. If your child's needs still cannot be met at home, the planning team may consider exploring options outside the family home. It is important to carefully consider your child's needs when making a decision about where your child should live.

What does the Division consider when you ask for an out of home placement?

- Your child must be eligible for Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS).
- The services your child needs cannot be provided in your home.

What will I need to do if an out of home placement is approved?

- You will visit and approve the place your child will live.
- You may want to check on your child's eligibility for Social Security benefits to assist in paying room and board costs.
- You will provide for your child's personal needs, such as clothing, haircuts, personal spending money, and other personal items.

What services will my child receive?

Your child will receive Habilitation and Room and Board. This does not apply to Behavioral Health Residential Facilities.

Who pays for an out of home placement?

- Habilitation is a covered service. Room and Board is not a covered service. Covered services are paid for by Medicaid. Room and Board is paid for by the Division and the family.
- If your child receives Social Security benefits, or other benefits, or income, you are responsible to pay up to 70% of the benefits or income for room and board costs.
- You may also be responsible for a portion of the room and board costs if your child does not receive Social Security benefits, other benefits, or income. If you are required to pay, you will receive a letter explaining your responsibility.

How do I stay involved with my child during an out of home placement?

Here are some suggestions parents have found helpful:

- Schedule visits on a regular basis. Talk to your child's provider about dropping in.
- Call your child often.
- Take your child home for weekends, important family events, and holidays.
- Make sure other people important in your child's life stay in touch with your child.
- Attend planning meetings, school meetings, and medical appointments.

Where can my child live?

The place your child can live will depend on your child's needs. The following pages tell you the types of settings.

Developmental Homes

- This setting has a “family like atmosphere” by a licensed provider whose home has passed a life safety inspection.
- The provider may have other family members living in the home, including other children and extended family members.
- The provider will meet your child's needs on a 24-hour basis, and support your child to learn skills.
- Some providers are medical professionals who can care for children with skilled medical needs.
- The provider may accept up to two other children from the Division to live in the home.
- Your child will attend school during the day.

Group Homes

- This setting has staff who work in shifts in a licensed home.
- The staff will meet your child's needs on a 24-hour basis, and support your child to learn skills.

- The group home may accept three to four other children from the Division to live in the home. No more than six children may live in the home.
- The Division will decide how many staff is needed by the number of children and their needs.
- Your child will attend school during the day.

Medical Group Homes

- This setting has staff who work in shifts in a licensed home. Some staff are medical staff.
- The staff will meet your child's skilled medical needs on a 24-hour basis, and support your child to learn skills.
- The group home may accept up to six children from the Division to live in the home.
- The Division will decide how many staff is needed by the number of children and their needs.
- Your child will attend school during the day.

Behavioral Health Residential Facilities

- These types of settings are available, however, the Division works with the Regional Behavioral Health Authority to decide if your child needs out of home behavioral health services.

This setting does not include Habilitation.

- You can discuss this out of home option at your Child and Family Team meetings.

Making a decision for your child regarding out of home placement can be a difficult time for a parent.

If you would like to discuss this, contact:

Raising Special Kids at (800)237-3007 or
Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona at (877) 365-7220.

Both agencies provide family support services at no charge.

You may also contact your Support Coordinator.

Notes:

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program • Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI & VII), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008; the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics and retaliation. The Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service or activity. For example, this means if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact the Division of Developmental Disabilities ADA Coordinator at 602-542-0419; TTY/TDD Services: 7-1-1. • Free language assistance for DES services is available upon request. • Disponible en español en línea o en la oficina local.

DDD-1694APAMPD (10-15)