



## **Special Needs – Food**

### **Did you know....**

- When a child's individual need is in excess of what would normally be expected to be provided by the foster home from basic maintenance, the department may provide additional assistance for food items.

### ***Here are some guidelines to receive allowances for special diets:***

1. The diet is to be prescribed in writing by the child's physician
2. The cost of the prescribed diet must be calculated by a nutritionist from the Health District
3. The difference between the cost of the special diet and the basic maintenance rate for food = allowance for special diets (except for a child 1-5 years old who requires a high cost formula/special milk).
4. If child is 1-5 years old, deduct  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the food allowance from the cost of the special diet to determine if a special food allowance is required.

### **Guidelines during travel:**

1. Visits, counseling, appointments/recreational activities that are apart of an approved case plan, the cost of meals for the child may be claimed without receipts  
For meals related to the case plan the following applies:  
2-10yr =  $\frac{1}{2}$  PSC rate  
11+yr = PSC rate
2. Special holidays and excursions, foster parents continue to receive basic maintenance and part of the food rate is for restaurant meals.  
For special holidays the following applies:  
1-10yr = up to \$5/day  
11+yr = up to \$10/day
3. Some trips are quite expensive however and if most of the meals will be taken in restaurants, consideration may be given to providing assistance for those high cost days.



**For more information see: Section 7.3 of the Children Services Policies and Procedures.**

