Practice Alert



PA25-RD-02

Date: 01/31/2025 Issued by: Children's Division Melissa Selsor, MPA Program Specialist, Resource Licensing

Tax Documents for Foster Parents

Resource providers may be eligible to claim foster children as dependents and for a tax deduction. Both of these benefits require the state to provide documentation in order for them to be eligible to claim these benefits on their taxes.

Resource providers should be provided with the Resource Provider Income Tax Foster Youth Dependent Claim Letter (CD-184) for any child placed in their care for 2024. This form can be completed locally by the child's case manager or local designee.

Beginning with the 2022 tax year, Missouri resource providers also became eligible for a tax deduction of up to \$5,000. You can learn more about this tax deduction from the Missouri Department of Revenue here: <u>FAQs - Foster</u> <u>Parent Tax Deduction</u>. The 2024 Foster Parent Tax Deduction Notice is mailed by Central Office to all eligible resource providers who had at least one foster child placed in their care during the tax year. Case manager's do not have to take any steps regarding the Foster Parent Tax Deduction. If a resource provider reports they have lost or did not receive their letter, they may email <u>fostercare@dss.mo.gov</u> for a copy.

Information for Licensing Workers and Case Managers responding to calls/questions about 2024 Foster Parent Tax Deduction Notification Letters:

- 1. 2022 was the first year foster families are eligible for this deduction. Foster families would not have received this letter in 2021 or previous years because the deduction was not available prior to the 2022 Tax Year.
- 2. The Deduction is separate from claiming a foster youth as a dependent or claiming the adoption tax credit.
 - a. The Resource Provider Income Tax Foster Youth Dependent Claim Letter (CD-184) may be provided to foster parents for child specific information requested in order to claim foster youth as dependents.
 - b. The MO-ATC Adoption Tax Credit (ATC) may be requested/completed for purposes of claiming the adoption tax credit.
- Eligibility for the 2024 Tax Deduction is not child specific. Each calendar date is counted one time, regardless of how many children overlap in the home on the same date and the maximum deduction limitations apply.
 Example: A single individual provides foster care for one child January 1 through April 30 (totals four months) and one additional child is fostered, in the same home, from March 1 through June 30 (two additional months) totaling six months.
- 4. The total number of days counted on the 2024 Foster Parent Tax Deduction Notification Letter will not include adopted/guardianship placements.
- 5. If Foster Parents have questions about the number of days a child was placed, they should contact the case manager/licensing worker to verify what is in FACES.