

State Adoption Maintenance Subsidy (SAMS)

State Adoption Maintenance Subsidies are designed to meet the needs of children who are not Title IV-E eligible and who have special needs that are beyond the economic resources of the adoptive parent. Before the county agency can establish eligibility for SAMS, the agency must have determined that the adoptive child was not eligible for IV-E Adoption Assistance and incorporated evidence of the determination into the SAMS eligibility Determination. A child may NOT receive both SAMS and IV-E subsidy payments.

SAMS provide up to a maximum of \$250 monthly for maintenance for adopted children. Maintenance funds exceeding \$250/ month may be provided, but the county must pay for %100 of any amount over \$250 per month.

Adoptive parents must meet income eligibility requirements for SAMA. The adoptive family must have a gross income that does not exceed %120 of the median income of an Ohio family of the same size, including the adopted child.

Eligibility Requirements for SAMS

1. The child must be in the custody of a PCSA or PCPA;
2. The parent is adopting a child with special needs;
3. The child is not eligible for Title IV-E AA;
4. The family has a gross income that does not exceed %120 of the median income of an Ohio family of the same size, including the adopted child;
5. The child is legally free for adoption;
6. The child is placed in an adoptive home and an adoptive placement agreement has been signed prior to the final decree of adoption;
7. The child meets the age requirements (under age 18 or is 18-21 and mentally or physically handicapped).
8. The child must be a resident of the State of Ohio.