

Therapeutic Foster Care, often referred to as TFC, is a covered behavioral health service that provides daily behavioral treatment within a licensed family setting for children and foster children

This service helps children live and participate in their communities and to function independently. This might include things like helping children learn to take their medications, perform activities of daily living, and live healthily.

Is Therapeutic Foster Care right for my child?

If your child is experiencing significant emotional and behavioral challenges or is at risk of being hospitalized or placed in a residential setting, Therapeutic Foster Care may be an option.

Therapeutic Foster Care provides:

- A supportive and structured home in which to reside,
- Care and supervision 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and
- Coordination and connection with additional services and supports in order to improve overall functioning.

How do I go about getting Therapeutic Foster Care for my child?

The Child and Family Team (CFT) must make the recommendation and referral for Therapeutic Foster Care. If you feel your child may meet the criteria for Therapeutic Foster Care, discuss this with your child's case manager/CFT facilitator. There are specific steps and criteria for a child to be placed into Therapeutic Foster Care.

- An assessment must document that the child has been diagnosed with a behavioral health condition and has symptoms and behaviors that could be improved through TFC placement.
- There also must be evidence that the behavioral health condition has caused the child to have a disturbance of mood, thought, or behavior that leaves the child unable to complete self-care or self-regulation.
- There must be a documented plan for discharge and transition from the TFC placement.

You can find additional information in the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual linked below.

[AMPM 320-W - Therapeutic Foster Care for Children](#)

[AMPM 230 - Support and Rehabilitation Services for Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults](#)

For a list of health plan contacts, visit www.azahcccs.gov/healthplans

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