# Oklahoma Respite Funding and Eligibility Opportunities

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**What is the name of the program?**

Oklahoma Lifespan Respite Voucher Program

**Who is eligible for respite?**

- Grandparents raising grandchildren or other relative as a parent. Grandparent must be 55 or over, or the grandchild must have a developmental disability.
- Caregivers, including spouses, adult children, or other relative caring for a person age 60 or older who needs assistance with daily living due to chronic health problems including Alzheimer’s dementia or other condition.
- Families who have adopted a child with special health care needs who was once in the custody of the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Families with a member of any age with a developmental disability and NOT receiving either the Home& Community Based Waiver, the In-Home Support Waiver, or the Family Support Subsidy ($250 monthly payment).
- Families who have a child receiving SSI and services through the SSI-Disabled Children’s Program at DHS.
- Contracts and Coalition Unit of Aging Services provides vouchers to caregivers who are not eligible for other respite programs.

**How are respite services accessed?**

Vouchers are issued to the family by DHS and sent to applicant. Vouchers can be used to pay for respite with the provider chosen by the family. After respite is accessed, voucher is returned to DHS, which then pays the provider.

**What is the cost of respite services?**

Families receive $200-$400 per quarter to purchase their own respite.

**What limitations are there on the use of respite?**

Vouchers are good for three months. Family may request a new voucher after that time. The family income cannot exceed $60,000 per year. Developmental Disabilities Voucher Program: A yearly application is required including the most recent federal income tax return, and an assessment/evaluation dated within the past 12 months. Respite care providers must be over age 18 and must live in residence separate from the respite caregiver and care receiver. Respite care receivers cannot be receiving DDSD Waivered Services.

**Where do I go to receive information on how to apply?**

- For Caregivers of persons age 60 and over call 1-800-211-2116
- For Caregivers of children or a family member with a disability contact nearest Area Developmental Disability Office. See: [http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/dd/docs/areacontactinfo.htm](http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/dd/docs/areacontactinfo.htm)
- Oklahoma Respite Resource Network has a recording with this contact information: Tel: 888-771-4550 or 271-4550 (OKC Metro)

**Website**

Lifespan Respite Voucher Program

[http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/aging/resp/default.htm?&MSHiC=65001&L=10&W=Lifespan%20PROGRAMAS%20PROGRAMS%20Program%20Respite%20&Pre=%3CFONT%20STYLE%3D%22color%3A%20%2323000000%20background-color%3A%20%23FFFF00%22%3E&Post=%3C/FONT%3E](http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/aging/resp/default.htm?&MSHiC=65001&L=10&W=Lifespan%20PROGRAMAS%20PROGRAMS%20Program%20Respite%20&Pre=%3CFONT%20STYLE%3D%22color%3A%20%2323000000%20background-color%3A%20%23FFFF00%22%3E&Post=%3C/FONT%3E)
Notes:

Information about respite offered or provided by every state agency may not be presented in this table, but it does not necessarily mean it is not available. To find additional information, check these resources:

- Respite services funded by the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) may not be described in this table. NFCSP funds respite for family caregivers of the aging population, anyone with Alzheimer’s or related dementias, or for grandparents or other relatives 55 or older caring for a grandchild or other relative with a disability. Information about how to access a local Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) can be found at the Family Caregiver Alliance’s Family Care Navigator or by contacting your local Area Agency on Aging through the ElderCare Locator;

- Respite services funded by Home and Community-Based 1915(c) Medicaid Waivers are not described in this table. Information about these programs can be found at ARCH’s Home and Community-Based 1915(c) Medicaid Waivers for Respite Support: State-by-State Tables, Updated 2012; or

- Contact the designated state agency directly.

Eligibility is not guaranteed and information changes frequently. Be sure to check with the designated state agency for the most current eligibility guidelines and funding availability.

Prepared by ARCH National Respite Network, May 2013. For more information, contact ARCH at jkagan@archrespite.org or at 703-256-2084.