

**PER DIEM COST
FOR STATE WARD
EXPENDITURES**

The state ward act states that “the cost of care shall be determined on a per diem basis using the initial annual allotment of appropriations for the current fiscal year...and the population figures upon which that allotment was based. The cost of care so determined shall apply in determining required reimbursement to the state for care provided during the calendar year immediately following the beginning of the current fiscal year for which state expenditures were allotted.” **This methodology is used to calculate the per diem amount to be charged for youth in DHS operated facilities and family foster care. If the youth is in private residential care or a county operated facility, the actual payment for the placement is used for chargeback purposes.** To implement this section of the laws, the department has established a Chargeback System and has developed several categories or facility types to differentiate the kinds of out-of-home care. In August of each year a letter is released which details the per diem costs and chargeback rates appropriate to each facility type. The facility types for out-of-home care are: (See FOM 901-7 for definitions of corresponding living arrangements.)

- County Detention Facilities (half the actual cost).
- Foster Family Homes (including independent living and purchased care administrative rate).
- Private Child Care Institutions (half the actual cost).
- State Detention Facilities.
- Bay Pines Center.
- W.J. Maxey Boys Training School.
- Shawono Center.