



COST OF CARE

A JOINT RESPONSIBILITY



Under Florida law (F.S. 985), parents, guardians, and non-custodial parents may be charged for the supervision, care, support, and maintenance of their child in secure detention, home detention, probation supervision, residential commitment, conditional release, non residential commitment and post-commitment probation.

Cost of Care fees will not exceed \$5 per day for a child in custody (secure detention or residential commitment) or \$1 per day for a child under the supervision of the Department (home detention, probation supervision, conditional release, non residential commitment or post-commitment probation).

If you believe the Cost of Care fee will present a financial hardship, it is your responsibility to apply for a reduction or waiver by completing a financial statement, available from your child's Juvenile Probation Officer or the Juvenile Detention Center. Keep in mind that the reduction or waiver must be ordered by the Court, and does not automatically occur upon the completion of the financial statement.

You will not be required to pay the fees if your child has been acquitted, or if the charges against your child have been dismissed.

In accordance with F.S. 985-2311(9), "The Department may employ a collection agency for the purpose of receiving, collecting, and managing the payment of any fees ordered pursuant to this section that have gone delinquent or unpaid for 90 days or more."

All questions regarding Cost of Care should be directed to your child's Juvenile Probation Officer.

"Positive parental involvement is crucial. A joint effort between the parents and the State improves the quality of life for our children and provides safer neighborhoods for all of us... Together we can reduce juvenile crime."