

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

10 NORTH PEARL STREET, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12213

ARRARA H. BLUM  
Commissioner

[An Administrative Directive is a written communication to local Social Services Districts providing directions to be followed in the administration of public assistance and care programs.]

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE

TRANSMITTAL NO.: 80 ADM-17  
[Services]

TO: Commissioner of Social Services

SUBJECT: Room and Board Payments for Foster Children  
in College, Interpretation of Department  
Regulation 605.2 (3).

DATE: April 7, 1980

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Social Services, Child Welfare Supervisors,  
All Child Placement Agencies.CONTACT PERSON: Any questions concerning this release should be directed to  
Edmund P. Cox, Family and Children's Services Operations,  
1-800-342-3714 extension 49420.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this letter is to clarify the intent and scope of the Department's policy contained in Department Regulation Section 605.2(3). This regulation, which was the subject of 76 ADM 67, provides social services officials with the authority to make "... payments to a college or university when a foster child for whom the social services has been providing foster care is attending and residing at a college or university away from the foster care facility in which he has been placed. Such payments may be made only for room and board..."

The phrase in the regulation "... residing at the college..." includes students living off campus in private homes as well as students residing in college dormitories.

**Background:** Clarification of the policy has been requested since the phrase "...residing at the college..." had seemed to some agency officials to exclude state aid for payments on behalf of foster children at college who had to live off campus. It is recognized that residence in private homes off campus is preferable and, in some situations, essential for those with certain handicapping conditions or if the college or university is unable to provide room and board on campus.

## FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs / INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Social Services Law and Other Legal References	Bulletin/Chapter Reference	Miscellaneous References
76 ADM 67		605.2(c)(3)	Section 398.10		

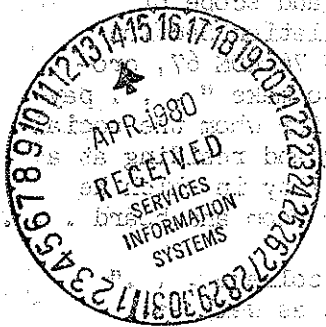
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Required:

Action: For a student who has to live off campus, an agency should request the college or university to assist the student in working out a suitable room and board arrangement and to accept responsibility for transferring room and board payments from the agency to the persons providing room and board for the student. The college or university should be advised that the State Department's regulation prohibits an agency from making room and board payments directly to the student or to a person providing room and board unless certified for foster boarding home care.

Recommended:

Action: Agencies are encouraged to make use of the policy contained in Section 605.2(3) in behalf of any child in foster care for whom college study would be an appropriate plan.



*Norris P. Phillips*  
Norris P. Phillips  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Services