

## Chapter 143. Reimbursement

### §14301. Reimbursement Methodology

A. Reimbursement for services shall be a prospective flat rate for each approved unit of service provided to the participant. One quarter hour (15 minutes) is the standard unit of service, which covers both service provision and administrative costs for the following services:

1. center-based respite;
2. community integration development:

a. services furnished to two participants who choose to share supports will be reimbursed at 75 percent of the full rate for each recipient; and

b. services furnished to three participants who choose to share supports will be reimbursed at 66 percent of the full rate for each participant;

3. day habilitation;
4. employment related training;
5. individualized and family support-day and night;
6. professional services;
7. skilled nursing services:

a. services furnished to two participants who choose to share supports will be reimbursed at 75 percent of the full rate for each participant;

b. services furnished to three participants who choose to share supports will be reimbursed at 66 percent of the full rate for each participant;

c. nursing consultations are offered on an individual basis only.

d. effective January 1, 2009, the reimbursement rate for skilled nursing services provided by a registered nurse (RN) will be increased by 39 percent of the rate in effect on December 31, 2008;

e. effective January 1, 2009 the reimbursement rate for skilled nursing services provided by a licensed practical nurse (LPN) will be increased by 31 percent of the rate in effect on December 31, 2008;

8. supported employment, one-to-one intensive and mobile crew/enclave;

9. housing stabilization transition; and
10. housing stabilization.

B. The following services are to be paid at cost, based on the need of the participant and when the service has been prior authorized and on the POC:

1. environmental accessibility adaptations;
2. specialized medical equipment and supplies; and
3. transitional expenses.

C. The following services are paid through a per diem:

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1. substitute family care;
2. supported living;
3. supported employment-follow along; and
4. adult companion care.

D. Maintenance of the personal emergency response system is paid through a monthly rate.

E. Installation of the personal emergency response system is paid through a one-time fixed cost.

F. Direct Support Professionals Wage Enhancement.

1. Effective February 9, 2007, an hourly wage enhancement payment in the amount of \$2 will be reimbursed to providers for full-time equivalent (FTE) direct support professionals who provide Individual and Family Support Services to New Opportunities Waiver recipients.

2. Effective May 20, 2007, an hourly wage enhancement payment in the amount of \$2 will be reimbursed to providers for full-time equivalent (FTE) direct support professionals who provide the following services to New Opportunities Waiver recipients:

- a. day habilitation;
- b. supported employment;
- c. employment-related training; and
- d. center-based respite

3. At least 75 percent of the wage enhancement shall be paid in the aggregate to direct support workers as wages. If less than 100 percent of the enhancement is paid in wages, the remainder, up to 25 percent, shall be used to pay employer-related taxes, insurance and employee benefits.

4. Effective September 20, 2007, the minimum hourly rate paid to direct support professionals shall be the federal minimum wage in effect on February 20, 2007 plus 75 percent of the wage enhancement or the current federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.

5. Providers shall be required to submit a certified wage register to the Department verifying the direct support professionals' gross wages for the quarter ending June 30, 2005. The wage register will be used to establish a payroll baseline for each provider. It shall include the following information:

- a. gross wage paid to the direct support professional(s);
- b. total number of direct support hours worked; and
- c. the amount paid in employee benefits.

6. A separate report shall be submitted for paid overtime.

7. The provider shall submit quarterly wage reports that verify that the 75 percent wage enhancement has been paid to the appropriate staff.

8. The provider shall submit a report, according to the Department's specifications, that will be used to measure the effectiveness of the wage enhancement.

9. The wage enhancement payments reimbursed to providers shall be subject to audit by the Department.

10. Noncompliance or failure to demonstrate that the wage enhancement was paid directly to direct support professionals may result in:

- a. forfeiture of eligibility for wage enhancement payments;
- b. recoupment of previous wage enhancement payments;
- c. Medicaid fraud charges; and
- d. disenrollment in the Medicaid Program.

G. Effective for dates of service on or after February 1, 2009, the reimbursement rate for certain services provided in the NOW Waiver shall be reduced by 3.5 percent of the rate in effect on January 31, 2009.

1. The reimbursement rates shall be reduced for the following services:

- a. individualized and family support services;
- b. center-based respite care;
- c. community integration development;
- d. residential habilitation-supported independent living;
- e. substitute family care;
- f. day habilitation;
- g. supported employment;
- h. employment-related training; and
- i. professional services.

2. The following services shall be excluded from the rate reduction:

- a. environmental accessibility adaptations;
- b. specialized medical equipment and supplies;
- c. personal emergency response systems (PERS);
- d. skilled nursing services; and
- e. one-time transitional expenses.

H. Effective for dates of service on or after August 4, 2009, the reimbursement rates for certain services provided in the NOW Waiver shall be reduced.

1. The reimbursement rates for individualized and family support (IFS) services shall be reduced by 3.11 percent of the rates in effect on August 3, 2009.

2. The reimbursement rates for residential habilitation-supported independent living (SIL) services

shall be reduced by 10.5 percent of the rates in effect on August 3, 2009.

I. Effective for dates of service on or after September 1, 2009, IFS-Night services and shared IFS services shall be excluded from the 3.11 percent rate reduction.

J. Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the reimbursement rates for New Opportunity Waiver services shall be reduced by 2 percent of the rates in effect on July 31, 2010.

1. The following services shall be excluded from the rate reduction:

- a. environmental accessibility adaptations;
- b. specialized medical equipment and supplies;
- c. personal emergency response systems;
- d. one time transitional expenses; and
- e. individualized and family support services-night and shared night.

K. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2012, the reimbursement rates for individualized and family support services-day provided to one person shall be reduced by 1.5 percent of the rates in effect on June 30, 2012.

L. Remote assistance is paid through an hourly rate.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Community Supports and Services, LR 30:1209 (June 2004), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, LR 34:252 (February 2008), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, LR 35:1851 (September 2009), LR 36:1247 (June 2010), LR 37:2158 (July 2011), LR 39:1049 (April 2013), LR 40:80 (January 2014).