



# Practice Alert

## Timely and Valid Authorizations for Protective Services

The purpose of this Practice Alert is to remind CD staff of the importance of a **timely** and valid child care authorization be entered in the FAMIS/FACES system for a payment to be made on behalf of a child to a DSS compliant child care provider. Situations have occurred, where CD staff has failed to ensure authorizations were entered for a child.

The FAMIS/FACES child care system was designed to assist staff in simplifying the child care authorization process. There is no work around. Failure to enter valid authorization causes a negative impact in the following manner:

- Children may not be authorized to a provider who best meets their needs and their resource family needs;
- An undue financial burden may be placed on the resource and/or adoptive family; and
- Providers experience a financial burden and may be reluctant to serve our most vulnerable.

Go to [http://dss.mo.gov/fsd/iman/chldcare/1210-030-00\\_1210-030-40.html](http://dss.mo.gov/fsd/iman/chldcare/1210-030-00_1210-030-40.html) to view Protective Services Child Care Policy.

Go to [http://dssweb/cs/pracpoints/child\\_care.htm](http://dssweb/cs/pracpoints/child_care.htm) to view child care practice points and alerts.

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