



Practice Alert

Resource Parent use of Respite versus Babysitting

Respite:

Respite care is the provision of periodic and/or intermittent, temporary substitute care of children who are in the care and custody of the Children's Division (CD), placed in a licensed resource home (foster, relative or kinship, emergency). Respite care is designed to provide relief from the stresses of the constant responsibilities of providing out-of-home care. The funding for respite services is not IV-E reimbursable.

Additional information regarding respite use is located in the Child Welfare Manual [Section 4 Chapter 17](#).

Babysitting:

Reimbursement for babysitting services is allowed when a resource applicant or active resource provider attends training to comply with their license requirements. A resource parent applicant may be reimbursed \$2 per child per hour to cover the cost of childcare while attending pre-service training after they become licensed as a resource parent. A resource parent may be reimbursed \$2 per child per hour to cover the cost of childcare while attending in-service training including conferences for which they receive training credit. The hours eligible for reimbursement are based on the amount of training hours approved. The process for payment is through SAM II using foster parent training codes. The reimbursement for foster parent training expenses is IV-E reimbursable.

Additional information regarding babysitting reimbursement for resource parents when they attend training that requires the children in their home to be supervised is located in the Child Welfare Manual [Section 6 Chapter 2 Subsections 4 and 5](#).

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