

Practice Alert



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System Change for Subsidy Respite Services

The purpose of the Practice Alert is to notify staff of a system change to be completed by DFAS and ITSD to rectify the subsidy respite rate increase for AS and LG contracts, amendments, and attachments with an active service code of Respite Care (RSCR) signed by the Director prior to close of business on August 13, 2021.

A notice will be sent by the Department of Social Services to all AS and LG families that have an active RSCR service code indicating their subsidy agreement has been amended as follows:

1. Respite services will be reimbursed in accordance with the state contracted rate through the end of the child's 18th birth month.
2. This amendment shall be effective July 1, 2021 (or the beginning date of your subsidy agreement, whichever is later). All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

All AS and LG agreements with a CDAD or CDSG contract number and with an active RSCR in the FACES system will be changed to "state contracted rate" and the end date extended to the last day of the 18th birth month, even when respite (RSCR) was approved for two years at the SMAS rate. A new line of RSCR will be entered by ITSD with a begin date of 7-1-2021 and an end date of the end of the child's 18th birth month for those with a begin date of 6/30/2021 or before. The rates that were in affect prior to 7/1/2021 will be inactivated with a date of 6/30/2021.

Those with a begin date of 7/1/2021 or later will be updated to change the maximum amount to standard rate and the end date to the last of the 18th birth month.

For agreements described above, staff will not need to take action unless directed to do so individually by Central Office.

ASCS and LGCS agreements that include RSCR with a begin date of 6/30/2021 or before will be updated by inactivating the current respite rate on 6/30/2021 and entering a new line with standard rate and a begin date of 7/1/2021. The end dates will remain the same. **Any agreements that are two year approvals will require an amendment to extend the respite when the current approval expires.** This update will include ASCS and LGCS agreements that have been extended past the age of 18 for high school attendance.

18+ Adoption Subsidy Agreements that include respite services WILL NEED to have an amendment completed by the subsidy worker. Those with a begin date of 6/30/21 or before will need to inactivate the respite services on the current contract with a date of 6/30/21. The amendment will have a begin date of 7/1/2021. Those with a begin date of 7/1/2021 or after will do a replacement amendment using the same dates as previously approved. The explanation would need to state the amendment is being done as a replacement due to a rate increase for respite.

Code: RSCR

Payment Frequency: Y

Maximum Amount: Standard Rate

Explanation: Respite is approved at the standard rate.

Prior approval from Central Office may still be requested for additional units as needed. This approval documentation from Central Office must be included with payment request when submitted to payment unit.