




B. J. Walker, Commissioner

Department of Human Resources • Division of Family and Children Services • David Statton, Interim Division Director
Two Peachtree Street, NW • Suite 19-490 • Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142 • Phone: 404-651-8409 • Fax: 404-657-5105

August 14, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: DFCS Regional Directors
DFCS County Directors
DFCS State Office Staff

FROM: 
Beverly W. Jones, Deputy Director
Programs and Policy

RE: Supplemental Supervision

Please ensure that all resource parents in your county and region receive a copy of the attached letter. The letter explains that Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) will only pay the maximum weekly reimbursement rate for child care services for children in foster care.

If a foster parent has selected a child care provider whose weekly rate exceeds the CAPS maximum reimbursement rate, the Social Services Case Manager must assist the resource parent with locating a quality provider that will accept the state's rate.

In addition, we have attached a resource guide for Social Services Case Managers. The guide will assist staff in determining the appropriate funding source for supplemental supervision when a child in foster care is in need of child care services.

Questions should be directed to the Field Program Specialist in the region. Regional staff may direct questions to Leslie Cofield at lbcofield@dhr.state.ga.us or 404.657.3445.

BWJ/lbc



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August 8, 2008

Dear Resource Parent:

Thank you for your continued partnership with us to strengthen Georgia's families. As you know, childcare is an inherent part of parenting. We want to ensure that you have the appropriate information or answers to all of your questions around safety, convenience, cost, availability and suitability when a child placed in your home is in need of child care services. The Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program provides subsidized child care to qualified low-income families as well as children in the custody of DFCS. All children in foster care are referred to CAPS if child care services are needed. Previously, the CAPS program allowed counties to pay a higher child care rate for children in foster care. Due to recent changes, CAPS will only pay the maximum weekly reimbursement rate for child care services for children in foster care.

If you have selected a child care provider whose weekly rate exceeds the CAPS maximum reimbursement rate, the child's social services case manager will assist you with locating a quality provider that will accept the state's rate. The selection of a provider with a lower rate should not equate to child care services that are below standard. All child care providers must adhere to the regulations set forth by the CAPS program and the State Licensing Agency, Bright From the Start. The Social Services Case Manager must make certain that children in foster care have successful outcomes and have an opportunity to reach their full potential. So, you are encouraged to work with the case manager in selecting the best childcare setting for the child while you work and negotiating a rate that is consistent with the Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program established rate.

We are committed to the safety, permanency and well-being of all children in foster care. It is hoped that these changes will make it possible for us to serve as many families as possible in need of child care services. If you have any questions, you may contact your social services case manager. Please know that all that you do on behalf of Georgia's children and families is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beverly W. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Beverly W. Jones, Deputy Director
Programs and Policy

BWJ/lbc

Cc: David Statton, Interim Division Director
Isabel Blanco, Deputy Director, Field Operations
Clifford O'Connor, Deputy Director, Administration and Fiscal Operations
Jon Anderson, Director, Office of Family Independence
Regional Field Directors
County Directors
Provider Relations Unit
Child Placing Agencies

Supplemental Supervision/Child Care Services for Children in Foster Care Birth through age thirteen (13)

Circumstances	Resource	Additional Guidelines
Temporary child care is needed while the foster parent or relative works outside of the home	State Supplemental Supervision (UAS Code 501, 502 or 503 – Entitlement Code 17)	If married, both persons must work.
The foster parent or relative care giver does not work and attends training/educational classes to assist them in meeting the needs of the child	State Supplemental Supervision (UAS Code 501, 502 or 503 – Entitlement Code 17)	
Child is placed in a FFH with an approved foster parent in another state.	State Supplemental Supervision (UAS Code 501, 502 or 503 – Entitlement Code 17)	If married, both persons must work. SSCM Must confirm that CAPS will not pay before authorizing.
Respite Care: When the child is placed with another approved foster parent for respite and the child needs child care in a different child care setting while the respite foster parent works.	State Supplemental Supervision (UAS Code 501, 502 or 503 – Entitlement Code 17)	If married, both persons must work.
An approved “occasional” provider is used in the event of the child’s illness, school closure or holiday period.	State Supplemental Supervision (UAS Code 501, 502 or 503 – Entitlement Code 17)	If married, both persons must work
The approval of an informal/out of home provider is pending	State Supplemental Supervision (UAS Code 501, 502 or 503 – Entitlement Code 17)	Not to exceed thirty (30) days
The child enters care or has a change in placement	State Supplemental Supervision (UAS Code 501, 502 or 503 – Entitlement Code 17)	Not to exceed five (5) days to allow for the referral to CAPS
The foster parent works and requires regular/predictable child care services	CAPS	If married, both persons must work
Foster Parent Works and Attends required training	CAPS	Already receives child care services through CAPS