

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Children and Families
Division of Safety and Permanence

DSP Memo Series 2009 -02
February 17, 2009

Re: Payments to family foster
homes or child care
institution through for-profit
child-placement agencies.

RESCINDS Memo Series 1998-13

To: Area Administrators/ Human Services Area Coordinators
Bureau Directors
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Developmental Disabilities
Services Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Indian Child Welfare Directors
Licensing Chiefs/Section Chiefs
Tribal Chairpersons/Human Services Facilitators

From: Cyrus A. Behroozi
Administrator



On November 22, 2005 the Fair Foster Care Access Act of 2005, Public Law 109-113 was signed into law. This law amended Section 472(b) of the Social Security Act to allow foster care maintenance payments to be paid on behalf of eligible children in a licensed or approved foster family or child caring institution regardless of whether such payments are made directly to the foster home or institution or through a "not-for-profit" or "for-profit" child placing agency or residential care center (RCC).

Consistent with this federal legislation, county child welfare agencies and the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare may now issue a single payment for both administrative and maintenance costs associated with family foster homes and residential care centers even if the child was placed in that foster home or institution through a "for-profit" child placing agency. The child placing agency can now pay the family foster home or residential care center directly and the payments are considered to be Title IV-E reimbursable.

Previous policy directed counties to split payments for children placed through a "for-profit" child placing agency, whereby one payment was made to the child placing agency for their administrative costs and one payment was made directly to the foster parent for their maintenance costs.

A listing of current "not-for-profit" and "for-profit" child placing agencies is available through the following web link: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childrenresidential/Directories/pubdir-cw/cpa.pdf>

The Title IV-E Eligibility and Reimbursability Policy Manual has also been updated to reflect this change in federal Title IV-E regulations.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT:

Area Administration

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT:

David Timmerman
Bureau of Program Integrity
Division of Safety and Permanence
(608) 261-8895
David.timmerman@wisconsin.gov

MEMO WEB SITE: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos>

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