

Rate Regulation

Prospective Providers: Group Homes, Residential Care Centers and Child Placing Agencies

Initial Proposed Rate

All Group Homes, Residential Care Centers and Child Placing Agencies are required to comply with Rate Regulation. New applicants must receive from the department an approved rate prior to being issued a license.

Applicants must submit a completed Provider Cost & Services Report and Proposed Rate Request. Applicants of Child Placing Agencies who do not intend to accept placements from Wisconsin public purchasers, such as private adoption agencies, may request an exception to Rate Regulation using the Request for Rate Regulation Exception form.

Requirements for the Provider Cost & Services Report are updated annually via memo, which can be found on the Wisconsin Child Welfare Policies and Standards webpage. Additional information and instructions for completing the Provider Cost & Services Report and Proposed Rate Request, including webinars, can be found on the Rate Regulation webpage.

The proposed rate submitted must be at or below the maximum rate established by the department. An agency may request a rate above the maximum by submitting the information required in administrative rule and outlined on the Proposed Rate Request form. Maximum rates are published annually via memo and are available on the Rate Regulation webpage.

Annual Requirements

After submission of the initial proposed rate, providers are required to complete the Rate Regulation process on an annual basis. The below dates explain the established timeline for the process:

Timeline for Rate Regulation

July 1	Completed Provider Cost & Service Reports or Request for Exception to Rate Regulation due on or before this date
Sept 1	The department publishes maximum daily rates for each provider type.
Oct 1	Completed Proposed Rate Request due on or before this date.
Oct 1-31	The department reviews proposed rates submitted by agencies.
Nov. 1	By this date, the department will notify agencies of their approved rate. If an approved rate is not acceptable an agency shall request mediation within 5 days of receiving the notification of the approved rate from the department. If mediation is not successful, the department will order a rate. If the agency does not agree; the agency will have 30 days to appeal the decision to the Division of Hearings and Appeals.
Jan. 1	Rates are effect for all placements regardless of placement date.

Requirements

Provider Cost & Services Report and Proposed Rate Request **OR** Request for Rate Regulation Exception

Memos

Access current Rate Regulation memos by searching “Provider Cost & Service Report Requirements” and “Maximum Daily Rates for Group Homes, Residential Care Centers, and Child Placing Agencies” on the [Wisconsin Child Welfare Policies and Standards Webpage \(https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy\)](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy).

Resources

- [Rate Regulation Webpage \(https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ratereg\)](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ratereg)
- [Wisconsin Child Welfare Policies and Standards Webpage \(https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy\)](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy)
- [GH and RCC Provider Cost & Services Report \(https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/ratereg/excel/costreport.xlsx\)](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/ratereg/excel/costreport.xlsx)
- [CPA Provider Cost & Services Report \(https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/ratereg/excel/costreport-cpa.xlsx\)](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/ratereg/excel/costreport-cpa.xlsx)
- [Proposed Rate Request](#)
- [Request for Rate Regulation Exception \(https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/forms/doc/2809.docx\)](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/forms/doc/2809.docx)

Administrative Rules

Chapter DCF 52 Residential Care Centers

[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/subch. IX of ch. DCF 52\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/subch. IX of ch. DCF 52)

- [DCF 52.64 Rate Determination \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.64\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.64)
- [DCF 52.65 Allowable Cost \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.65\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.65)
- [DCF 52.66 Rate Methodology \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.66\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.66)
- [DCF 52.67 Rate Resolution \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.67\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.67)

Chapter DCF 54 Child-Placing Agencies

[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/DCF/021_099/54\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/DCF/021_099/54)

- [DCF 54.07 Rate Determination \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 54.07\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 54.07)
- [DCF 54.08 Allowable Cost \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 54.08\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 54.08)
- [DCF 54.09 Rate Methodology \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 54.09\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 54.09)
- [DCF 54.10 Rate Resolution \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF%2054.10\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF%2054.10)

Chapter DCF 57 Group Homes ([https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.64\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 52.64))

- [DCF 57.60 Rate Determination \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.60\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.60)
- [DCF 57.61 Allowable Cost \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.61\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.61)
- [DCF 57.62 Rate Methodology \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.62\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.62)
- [DCF 57.63 Rate Resolution \(https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.63\)](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/administrativecode/DCF 57.63)

Contact

Questions and completed documents may be submitted to: DCFCWLRateReg@wisconsin.gov.

The Department of Children and Families is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access services, receive information in an alternate format, or need information translated to another language, please call the Division of Safety and Permanence at (608) 266-8787. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled can use the free Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711 to contact the department.