

DDD-PI-095

TO: Regional DD Program Administrators

FROM: Yvonne M. Smith, Director
Disability Services Division

DATE: January 16, 2007

RE: Family Support Programs

There are a number of factors that determine what family support programs or combination of programs are available for families with children of different ages and funding options. Some programs are restricted due to age and others are limited based on the individual's level of care status. Consumers cannot receive support through two waivers at the same time. General funds must be maximized by accessing federal funds whenever possible, in order to respond to the needs of all families,

Family Support Combinations

Self Directed Supports were designed to offer supports similar to Family Subsidy, while matching state general funds with federal funds. Families with children between the age of 3 and 21, who currently receive Family Subsidy, but not Family Support Services and their child is screenable to the ICF/MR Level of care must transfer to Self Directed Supports by January 1, 2007. Families of consumer's that will be 21 years of age prior to July 1, 2007 who are receiving Family Subsidy, but not for excess childcare do not need to transfer to Self Directed Supports. If a family receives support through Family Support Services they do not need to transfer to Self Directed Supports, but may do so if Self Directed Supports can meet their needs. If a child is not screenable to the ICF/MR Level of Care, they cannot receive Self Directed Supports. If a child is less than 3 years of age, they cannot receive Self Directed Supports.

After January 1, 2007, no family with an eligible child between 3 and 21 years of age may receive Family Subsidy unless they are also receiving Family Support Services or are not screenable to the ICF/MR Level of Care.

DB:cp
attachments

Family Support Program Combinations

	Birth to 3 YOA	3 to 21 YOA	21 YOA	22 YOA & Older
Family Subsidy (Excess Child Care only)	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with FSS/IHS	Possible Option Only if NOT screenable	Possible Option Only if NOT Screenable	NOT an Option
Family Subsidy (all Areas except Excess Child care)	Possible Option May be offered in combination with FSS	Possible Option Only if also receiving FSS or NOT Screenable	Possible Option	NOT an Option
Family Support Services IHS/FCO/FCO III	Possible Option May be offered in combination with Family Subsidy without Excess Childcare	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with SDS	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with SDS	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with SDS
Self Directed Supports In-Home Supports	NOT an Option	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with FSS	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with FSS	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with FSS
Self Directed Supports Disability Related Supports	NOT an Option	Possible Option May NOT be offered in combination with FSS	NOT an Option	NOT an Option

Reimbursement of Travel Expenses through Early Intervention Family Subsidy, Family Subsidy or Self Directed Supports

Parents of minor children can be reimbursed mileage, per current state guidelines, for in and out of state travel related to their child's disability that is in excess of travel that would be expected of all families. Family members other than parents of minor children cannot be reimbursed for mileage.

Lodging and meals will not be reimbursed for in state travel. Out of state lodging and meals can be reimbursed per state guidelines for a parent of a minor child if the county has verbally denied reimbursement and the travel is related to their child's disability. Out of state meals and lodging can be reimbursed per state guidelines for a second parent of a minor child if the county has verbally denied reimbursement and the travel is related to their child's disability and there is a need for them to assist during travel or to attend scheduled appointments or procedures. Family members other than parents of a minor child may also be reimbursed for out of state lodging and meals if their assistance is needed during travel or to attend scheduled appointments or procedures. Examples could be a Grandmother that travels with to attend to the child as a parent drives or the parent of a child over 17 years of age who needs to attend a medical appointment with their adult child.

Travel Reimbursement

EI Family Subsidy, Family Subsidy & Self Directed Supports	In-State Mileage	In-State Lodging and Meals	Out-of-State Mileage	Out-of-State Lodging and Meals
Parent of a child birth to 18 years of age	Reimbursed per state guidelines	Not Reimbursed	Reimbursed per state guidelines	Reimbursed per state guidelines, if county has verbally denied reimbursement
Family Member of a young adult 18 to 22 years of age	Not Reimbursed	Not Reimbursed	Not Reimbursed	Reimbursed per state guidelines, if county has verbally denied reimbursement
Second Parent or Family Member	Not Reimbursed	Not Reimbursed	Not Reimbursed	Reimbursed per state guidelines, if county has verbally denied reimbursement and second person is needed

Restricted Family Subsidy Excess Childcare Reimbursement

Excess Childcare will be available only for children less than three years of age or if the child does not meet the ICF/MR Level of Care criteria. All children receiving Excess Childcare must need a specially trained caregiver. Excess Childcare reimbursement cannot support participation in a family home or center based childcare program. For children less than 12 years of age the reimbursement for Excess Childcare cannot exceed the difference between the actual cost and what it would cost the family for childcare for childcare if their child did not need a specially trained caregiver. The total cost of Excess Childcare for children 12 years of age or over may be reimbursed. The maximum amount reimbursed per state fiscal year for Excess Childcare may not exceed \$9,200. If Excess Childcare is not reimbursed the maximum amount reimbursed through Family Subsidy may not exceed \$5,200. If Excess Childcare is reimbursed the maximum amount reimbursed in other Family Subsidy areas may not exceed \$5,200 and the total Family Subsidy reimbursement cannot exceed \$9,200.

Services Available through the Medicaid State Plan

Any service or support available through the North Dakota Medicaid State Plan may not be reimbursed through Family Subsidy or authorized through Self Directed Supports/Disability Related Supports. A service or support not available through the North Dakota Medicaid State Plan may be reimbursed through Family subsidy or authorized through Self Directed Supports/Disability Related Supports only if the service or support is one covered through Family Subsidy or Self Directed Supports/Disability Related Supports.