

D. **Prevocational Services.** Reimbursement shall be a prospective flat rate for each approved unit of service provided to the participant. A standard unit of service is one-quarter hour (15 minutes), excluding time spent in transportation.

E. **Respite, housing stabilization transition services and housing stabilization services** shall be reimbursed at a prospective flat rate for each approved unit of service provided to the participant. One-quarter hour (15 minutes) is the standard unit of service.

F. **Habilitation.** Reimbursement shall be a prospective flat rate for each approved unit of service provided to the participant. One-quarter hour (15 minutes) is the standard unit of service.

G. **Personal Emergency Response System (PERS).** Reimbursement for the maintenance of the PERS is paid through a monthly rate. Installation of the device is paid through a one-time fixed cost.

H. **Direct Support Professionals Wage Enhancement.**

1. Effective May 20, 2007, an hourly wage enhancement payment in the amount of \$2 will be reimbursed to providers for full-time equivalent (FTE) direct support professionals who provide the following services to supports waiver participants:

- a. habilitation;
- b. supported employment;
- c. day habilitation;
- d. center-based respite; and
- e. prevocational services.

2. At least 75 percent of the wage enhancement shall be paid in the aggregate to direct support workers as wages. If less than 100 percent of the enhancement is paid in wages, the remainder, up to 25 percent, shall be used to pay employer-related taxes, insurance and employee benefits.

3. Effective September 20, 2007, the minimum hourly rate paid to direct support professionals shall be the federal minimum wage in effect on February 20, 2007 plus 75 percent of the wage enhancement or the current federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.

4. Providers shall be required to submit a certified wage register to the department verifying the direct support professionals' gross wages for the quarter ending March 31, 2007. The wage register will be used to establish a payroll baseline for each provider. It shall include the following information:

- a. gross wage paid to the direct support professional(s);
- b. total number of direct support hours worked; and
- c. the amount paid in employee benefits.

5. A separate report shall be submitted for paid overtime.

Chapter 61. Reimbursement Methodology

§6101. Reimbursement Methodology

A. The reimbursement for all services will be paid on a per claim basis, based on established rates determined through consultation with stakeholders, review of current rates and costs for similar services and available funding. The reimbursement rate covers both service provision and administration.

B. **Supported Employment Services.** Reimbursement shall be a prospective flat rate for each approved unit of service provided to the participant. A standard unit of service in both individual and group job assessment, discovery and development is one-quarter hour (15 minutes). A standard unit of service in individual initial job support, job retention and follow-along is one-quarter hour (15 minutes). A standard unit of service in group initial job support, job retention and follow-along is one hour or more per day.

C. **Day Habilitation.** Reimbursement shall be a prospective flat rate for each approved unit of service provided to the participant. A standard unit of service is one-quarter hour (15 minutes), excluding time spent in transportation.

6. The provider shall submit quarterly wage reports that verify that the 75 percent wage enhancement has been paid to the appropriate staff.

7. The provider shall submit a report, according to the Department's specifications, that will be used to measure the effectiveness of the wage enhancement.

8. The wage enhancement payments reimbursed to providers shall be subject to audit by the department.

9. Noncompliance or failure to demonstrate that the wage enhancement was paid directly to direct support professionals may result in:

- a. forfeiture of eligibility for wage enhancement payments;
- b. recoupment of previous wage enhancement payments;
- c. Medicaid fraud charges; and
- d. disenrollment from the Medicaid Program.

I. Support Coordination. Support coordination shall be reimbursed at a fixed monthly rate in accordance with the terms of the established contract.

J. Effective for dates of service on or after January 22, 2010, the reimbursement rates for supports waiver services shall be reduced by 5.35 percent of the rates on file as of January 21, 2010.

1. Support coordination services and personal emergency response system (PERS) services shall be excluded from the rate reduction.

K. Effective for dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the reimbursement rates for supports waiver services shall be reduced by 2 percent of the rates on file as of July 31, 2010.

1. Support coordination services and personal emergency response system services shall be excluded from the rate reduction.

L. Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2012, the reimbursement rates for supports waiver services shall be reduced by 1.5 percent of the rates on file as of June 30, 2012.

1. Personal emergency response system services shall be excluded from the rate reduction.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, LR 32:1607 (September 2006), amended LR 34:662 (April 2008), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, LR 36:2281 (October 2010), LR 37:2158 (July 2011), LR 39:1050 (April 2013), LR 40:82 (January 2014), LR 40:2587 (December 2014).