

OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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OCFS-4616EL (Rev. 11/98)

Transmittal No: 00 OCFS LCM-21

Date: September 5, 2000

Division: Administration

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: FY 2000-2001 Maximum State Aid Rates (MSARs) for
Foster Care Programs and SED Approved Residential
Schools for the Period July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001

ATTACHMENTS: A-MSAR Foster Boarding Home Ceilings
B-SILP Rates
C-COLAs for the MSARs and CSE Rates
D-MSARs for Voluntary Foster Care Agencies
E-CSE Rates for SED-Approved Residential
Schools Licensed by OCFS
F-CSE Rates for SED-Approved Residential
Schools Licensed by Other NYS Agencies

Attachments A through C are available on-line in ELIB.

Attachments D through F are available on-line through
Microsoft Outlook or Exchange in the following folders:

- "Public Folders"
- "All Public Folders"
- "Statewide"
- "OCFS"
- "Rate Setting"
- "Foster Care & CSE Maintenance Rates"

The rate charts will be updated on a monthly basis, as new
or revised rates are approved, and the revised attachments
will be available on-line as specified above.

This memorandum is to advise you of the Maximum State Aid
Rates (MSARs) and Supervised Independent Living Program (SILP)
rates for foster care programs, as well as the Committee on
Special Education (CSE) Maintenance Rates for approved
residential schools for the period July 1, 2000 through
June 30, 2001. The rates that are promulgated in this LCM are
calculated using the approved reimbursement methodology for
the period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.

A. All MSARs and In-State CSE Maintenance Rates: The following policies are applicable to all MSARs and In-State CSE Maintenance Rates that are calculated for the effective period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001:

1. COLAs are applied to the historical cost base, as well as to the Model Budget Parameters: In accordance with the existing Model Budget Methodology, the promulgated rates are calculated using the two-year old historical costs and care days with COLAs applied to personal service and other-than-personal service costs as specified in Attachment C.
2. Rate Stabilization for New Programs: The Office of Children and Family Services (Office) is continuing the rate stabilization policy for all new programs for which we are first using historical program expenses. There is a 10 percent margin of rate variance. No new program rate will be allowed to go up or down by more than 10 percent of the prior year's rate.

B. Group Care Rates: The following policies are specifically applicable to the MSARs and In-State CSE Maintenance Rates that were calculated for group care programs for the effective period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001:

1. Aggregate Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) applied to the historical cost base and Model Budget Parameters:
 - a. Personal Service (PS): The two-year aggregate COLA that is used for trending the historical cost base and model budget parameters for personal service is 6.1 percent. The two-year factor combines 3.0 percent for 2000-2001 with 3.0 percent for 1999-2000.
 - b. Other Than Personal Service (OTPS): The two-year aggregate COLA that is used for trending the historical cost base and model budget parameters is 4.9 percent. The two-year factor combines 3.5 percent for 2000-2001 with 1.4 percent for 1999-2000.
2. In-State CSE Maintenance Rates: The In-State CSE Maintenance Rate for Special Act School Districts and on-campus schools affiliated with Article 81 institutions is composed of the 2000-2001 MSAR for the institution program plus the 2000-2001 medical per diem.

The social services district where the child is a legal resident is responsible for the 10-month CSE maintenance payment, and the local school district placing the child is responsible for the 10-month CSE tuition payment. For CSE summer school placements, the school district placing the child is responsible for both maintenance and tuition payments.

CSE Maintenance Rates for children placed by local school districts are not negotiable and must be paid as published.

3. Program Classification Reviews: The Office is continuing its policy of allowing program classification self-surveys in response to requests from agencies that believe their populations have changed.

- C. CSE Maintenance Rates for Out-of-State Schools: As previously notified, all rates promulgated by other states for State Education Department (SED) approved residential schools are accepted by the Office for purposes of reimbursement. Out-of-State rates for CSE placements are not negotiable and must be paid as published.

- D. Foster Boarding Home (FBH) Rates: The following policies are specifically applicable to the FBH rates that were calculated for the effective period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001:
 1. Aggregate Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) applied to the historical cost base, as well as the Model Budget Parameters
 - a. Personal Service (PS) : The two-year aggregate COLA that is used for trending the historical cost base and model budget parameters for personal service is 6.1 percent. The two-year factor combines 3.0 percent for 2000-2001 with 3.0 percent for 1999-2000.
 - b. Other Than Personal Service (OTPS): The two-year aggregate COLA that is used for trending the historical cost base and model budget parameters is 5.5 percent. The two-year factor combines 3.4 percent for 2000-2001 with 2.0 percent for 1999-2000.
 2. AIDS Per Diem: The \$15 AIDS per diem add-on remains in effect. The treatment of the \$15 per diem revenue for rate setting purposes is as follows: Revenue from the \$15.00 AIDS per diem is subtracted from the trended direct care costs for each FBH program, and the adjusted expenditures are compared with the direct care parameter to determine the rate base.
 3. Pass-Through to Foster Parents: The Maximum State Aid Rates for foster parents are increased by 3.7 percent in FY 2000-2001.
 4. Clothing Allowance: The maximum clothing allowances are not increased in FY 2000-2001.
 5. Diaper Allowance: The maximum diaper allowance for infants from birth through three years is not increased in FY 2000-2001.

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6. Finder's Fee for New Foster Homes: The Office is continuing the policy of allowing local social services districts to pay a voluntary finder's fee of up to \$200 to foster parents who recruit new foster parents. The policy will continue in effect through June 30, 2001. For detailed information regarding how to apply this policy, please refer to 88 ADM-54 dated December 23, 1988.
- E. Supervised Independent Living Programs (SILPs): The 2000-2001 annual fees for double occupancy, triple occupancy, four- and five-bed mother/child SILPs are increased by 3.0 percent for personal service and 3.0 percent, on average, for other than personal service costs.
- F. MSARs for all Foster Care Programs: The purpose of the MSAR is to provide guidance to local departments of social services (LDSS) in their contract negotiations with providers of foster care. The MSARs issued in this LCM are subject to adjustment as specified in regulation 18NYCRR 427.9. That regulation allows the LDSS and/or foster care agency to request adjustments to the promulgated MSARs. Within 30 days of issuance of this LCM, LDSS and voluntary agencies may request adjustment to the MSARs regarding calculation of the rate. If a LDSS intends to contract for a per diem rate greater than the published MSAR, the Office of Children and Family Services will assist the LDSS in completing requests for increased rates. All requests for rate adjustments should be directed to James Smith, Rate Setting and Review, Room 240, 52 Washington Street, Rensselaer, NY 12144.

Copies of this LCM should be shared with Child Welfare Staff and Accounting Supervisors. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Richard Lasky at (518) 474-2812 (User ID# AY1400).

Melvin I. Rosenblat
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

NEW YORK STATE
FOSTER BOARDING HOME PROGRAMS
2000-2001 CEILINGS

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001

A. PAYMENTS TO FOSTER PARENTS - FBH

<u>REGION</u>	<u>AGE 0-5</u>		<u>AGE 6-11</u>		<u>AGE 12 & OVER</u>	
	Monthly	Per Diem	Monthly	Per Diem	Monthly	Per Diem
METRO *	\$444	\$14.60	523	17.19	605	19.89
UPSTATE	405	13.32	487	16.01	563	18.51

SPECIAL CHILDREN - UP TO \$ 973/MONTH, \$31.99/PER DIEM
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN - UP TO \$1,473/MONTH, \$48.43/PER DIEM

B. MAXIMUM FBH RATES UPON WHICH ADOPTION SUBSIDY PAYMENTS ARE CALCULATED FOR ADOPTIONS FINALIZED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1987.

<u>REGION</u>	<u>AGE 0-5</u>		<u>AGE 6-11</u>		<u>AGE 12 & OVER</u>	
	Monthly	Per Diem	Monthly	Per Diem	Monthly	Per Diem
METRO *	\$357	\$11.74	420	13.81	486	15.98
UPSTATE	326	10.72	391	12.85	455	14.96

SPECIAL CHILDREN - UP TO \$ 783/MONTH, \$25.74/PER DIEM
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN - UP TO \$1,187/MONTH, 39.02/PER DIEM

C. EMERGENCY FOSTER FAMILY BOARDING HOME CARE - CEILING IS 200% OF THE MAXIMUM PAYMENT FOR A NON-SPECIAL OR NON-EXCEPTIONAL CHILD IN THE DISTRICT.

D. ANNUAL CLOTHING REPLACEMENT ALLOWANCE

<u>AGE</u>	<u>YEARLY RATE FOR REPLACEMENT</u>	<u>PER DIEM EQUIVALENT</u>
0 - 5	\$304	\$0.83
6 - 11	425	1.16
12 - 15	659	1.81
16 AND OVER	806	2.21

DIAPER ALLOWANCE

<u>AGE</u>	<u>MONTHLY ALLOWANCE</u>	<u>PER DIEM EQUIVALENT</u>
0 - 3	\$ 47	\$1.55

* Metro includes NYC, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, and Rockland

SUPERVISED INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM (SILP)
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000 - JUNE 30, 2001

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY RATE

	<u>DOWNSTATE*</u>	<u>UPSTATE</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$50,362 **	\$42,472 **
Fee for Services Rate	\$91.97 ***	\$77.56 ***

TRIPLE OCCUPANCY RATE

	<u>DOWNSTATE*</u>	<u>UPSTATE</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$69,734 **	\$59,587 **
Fee for Services Rate	\$84.91 ***	\$72.56 ***

FOUR-BED MOTHER/CHILD RATE

	<u>DOWNSTATE*</u>	<u>UPSTATE</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$83,545 **	\$72,050 **
Fee for Services Rate	\$76.29 ***	\$65.80 ***

FIVE-BED MOTHER/CHILD RATE

	<u>DOWNSTATE*</u>	<u>UPSTATE</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$100,155 **	\$86,857 **
Fee for Services Rate	\$73.17 ***	\$63.47 ***

* Downstate includes NYC, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Orange, and Putnam.

** This represents total annual costs per apartment which is shared equally by each resident.

*** Rates calculated at 75% Utilization

NOTE: FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FY 2000-2001 COLAs

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FOR MSARs AND CSE RATES
FOR VOLUNTARY FOSTER CARE AGENCIES AND SED-APPROVED RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001

I. GROUP CARE BY COMPONENT	One Year <u>7/1/00-6/30/01</u>	Two Year <u>7/1/99-6/30/01</u>
<u>Child Care</u>	3.0	6.1
<u>Social Services</u>	3.0	6.1
<u>Child Support and Food</u>	2.4	5.0
- Child Support PS	3.0	6.1
<u>Miscellaneous Direct Care</u>	3.3	4.6
<u>Fixed Property</u>	3.0	6.2
<u>Variable Maintenance</u>	2.6	4.7
- Variable Maintenance PS	3.0	6.1
<u>Utilities</u>	14.1	10.9
<u>Administration</u>	2.8	5.3
- Administration PS	3.0	6.1
II. FOSTER BOARDING HOME BY COMPONENT	One Year <u>7/1/00-6/30/01</u>	Two Year <u>7/1/99-6/30/01</u>
<u>Social Services</u>	3.0	6.1
<u>Miscellaneous Direct Care</u>	4.3	7.2
- Miscellaneous Direct Care PS	3.0	6.1
<u>Property</u>	3.0	5.3
- Maintenance PS	3.0	6.1
<u>Administration</u>	2.8	5.5
- Administration PS	3.0	6.1

Note: Personal Service COLAs are based on salary increases granted to New York State employees.