

## State of California—Health and Human Services Agency

## **Department of Developmental Services**

1215 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 www.dds.ca.gov



May 7, 2025 D-2025-Rate Reform-002

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTIORS

SUBJECT: SERVICE CODE MISALIGNMENTS

This directive supplements the D-2024-Rate Reform-001 letter issued by the Department of Developmental Services (Department) regarding rate reform implementation and provides information about service code misalignments relative to service provider program designs. During initial phases of <a href="rate reform">rate reform</a>, service providers and regional centers used Service Detail Collection Forms to input information about their services, such as service type(s), provider qualifications, billing unit, rate, and other information. This information was used to categorize services for the final phase of rate reform.

Since then, services offered may have changed, or errors may have been found in information on the Service Collection Detail Form. There have also been changes in rate reform to service code descriptions and/or requirements that result in a provider having a program design that no longer aligns to the previously identified service code. In these instances, the service provider is now "misaligned" with the service code and/or rate in the final workbooks.

If a service provider is misaligned, the service provider will need to transition to another service code(s) that more closely aligns with the actual service being provided. Regional centers will work with service providers to find the appropriate match and service providers will verify alignment with the service code and rate on the Service Acknowledgement Form by the May 30, 2025 deadline, as referenced here.

Service providers' rates must be set to the new, correctly aligned rate model rate, effective the first calendar day of the following month. In some cases, the rates associated with the new, correctly aligned rate model rate may be lower than the rate model rate for the misaligned service code. In these instances, rates are not "held harmless". After correctly aligning, the new rate will apply, even if that rate is lower than the previously misaligned rate.

Providers, individuals, and/or their families should contact their regional center with any questions. Questions from regional centers may be directed to <a href="mailto:ratesquestions@dds.ca.gov">ratesquestions@dds.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

DANA SIMON Deputy Director Waiver and Rates Division

cc: On next page

D-2025-Rate Reform-002 Page 2

cc: Regional Center Administrators

Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services Regional Center Community Services Directors

Association of Regional Center Agencies

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