

December 27, 2024

D-2024-Rate Reform-014

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: DIRECTIVE FOR MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

As part of continued rate reform efforts, and pursuant to the rate implementation timeline in [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) Section 4519.10](#), this letter provides direction regarding changes in the following service code areas:

- Housekeeping (Service Code 860)
- Homemaker (Service Code 858)
- Tutor Services (Service Code 680)
- Tutor Services-Group (Service Code 025)
- Parenting Support Services (108)
- Supplemental Residential Program Support (Service code 109)
- Supplemental Day Services Program Support (Service code 110)
- Supplemental Program Support (Other Service code 111)

Beginning January 1, 2025, the service descriptions in this directive apply to all vendors of these services, along with the associated service and subcode combinations, rate models and billing units. This directive also may pertain to vendors currently providing these services under different service codes. Providers continue to be responsible for the requirements stated in WIC and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). However, this directive supersedes any conflict regarding service descriptions and rate-setting in those other sources.

Regional centers and service providers shall follow this directive to affirm which updated service description and any staffing requirements most closely match the services actually being delivered. The regional center shall verify the rate for each service and subcode combination in the rate workbook. Reimbursement for services beginning January 1, 2025, will be claimed using the provider's current service code with an updated rate, unless the form described below is completed prior to that date.

By March 31, 2025, the Rate Reform Service Acknowledgement Form shall be completed by the regional center and service provider to acknowledge the service description, requirements that will need to be met, subcode combination(s), and the rate(s) established by the rate model. Please see Attachment A for the form and instructions, which includes attaching the rate workbook to the completed form. The rates for each type of service by regional center can be found [here](#). Providers with existing rates that are above 90 percent of the rate model for the service description to which they will align will maintain their existing rates (held harmless) until

June 30, 2026. Providers with rates between 90 percent and 100 percent of the rate model will have the opportunity to earn 100 percent of the rate model through the [Quality Incentive Program](#). Upon completion of the Rate Reform Service Acknowledgement Form, the new service and subcode combination and rate will be used.

Individual Program Plans (IPPs) must identify the type and the amount of service needed. Therefore, some IPPs will need to be updated to properly identify the type of service being delivered. If the only change is service delivery by a different level of staff, or use of a new service and subcode combinations and their rates, the IPP does not need to be updated. These IPP updates should be done at the next scheduled IPP meeting, after which the regional center must update service authorizations. These updates must occur no later than December 31, 2025. In these cases, billing for services to individuals pending an IPP update will continue under the current service code with an updated rate. Billing for services to individuals that do not need an IPP update will use the new service and subcode combination and their rate. Individuals receiving services should not experience differences in how their services are delivered, where they are delivered from, and who they work with as a result of this directive.

Vendors and service providers operating as an agency must provide services and bill based on the staffing qualifications of the employees providing the direct services. The services may be provided using independent service code and subcode combinations under one vendorization.

Homemaker Services (service code 858)

This service will not be used in rate reform. It is included either in the new service descriptions in this directive (such as Housekeeping Services) or in others.

Housekeeping Services (service code 860)

Service Description

Housekeeping services are provided by an individual housekeeper or housecleaning service and are intended to maintain a clean and sanitary living environment for an individual.

New Components

- *Services:*
 - Providers currently vendored for homemaker services 858 may move into Service Code 860 Housekeeping.
 - An Individual will be limited to three hours per week of housekeeping services.
 - This service code will include separate rates based on the staffing ratio of employee to individual, ranging from 1:1 through 1:3.
- *Billing:* Providers will bill hourly on service delivered. The rate for the type of service by regional center can be found [here](#). Please refer to Enclosure B for the established subcodes.

Tutor Services-Group (service code 025)

This service code will no longer be used in rate reform. Providers currently vendored for Tutor Services-Group (025) will move into Service Code 680 (Tutor Services).

Tutor Services (service code 680)

Service Description

Service providers must have a bachelor's degree in education, or a related field, or a combination of a 2-year degree and 2 years of full time professional-level work experience in providing Tutor Services.

New Components

- *Services:* Service providers must now meet the requirements in the service description above.
- *Billing:* This service code will now include separate rates based on the staffing ratio of employee to individual. This service now will include separate subcode rates based on the staffing ratios of 1:1 through 1:3. The rates for each type of service by regional center can be found [here](#).

Supplemental Residential Program Support (service code 109)

Service Description

Supplemental Residential Program Support is used to implement an objective in the individual's IPP and allows the individual to remain in their current residential environment and achieve goals established in their person-centered plan. These services include but are not limited to: assistance and training in skills for activities of daily living, acquiring socially appropriate skills to replace (and serve the same function/purpose as) challenging behaviors, and accessing the community to achieve personal goals.

Components

- *Services:* These hours are in addition to those required by residential program vendorization and generally are provided by a Direct Support Professional (DSP).
- *Billing:* If a higher level of supplemental staffing is required, regional centers should use the service code that best aligns with the supplemental staff qualifications. The allowable staffing ratio of employee to individual is 1:1. The rates for each type of service by regional center can be found [here](#).

Supplemental Day Services Program Support (service code 110)

Service Description

Supplemental Day Services Program Support is used to implement an objective in the individual's IPP, and allows the individual to remain in their current day services environment and achieve goals established in their person-centered plan.

Supplemental Day Services Program Support services include but are not limited to: Assistance and training in skills for activities of daily living, acquiring socially appropriate skills to replace (and serve the same function/purpose as) challenging behaviors, and accessing the community to achieve personal goals.

Components

- *Services:* These hours are in addition to those required by day services program vendorization and are generally provided by a Direct Support Professional (DSP).
- *Billing:* If a higher level of supplemental staffing is required, regional centers should use the service code that best aligns with the supplemental staff qualifications. The allowable staffing ratio of employee to individual is 1:1. The rates for each type of service by regional center can be found [here](#).

Supplemental Program Supports - Other (service code 111)

Service Description

Supplemental Program Supports (Other) is used to implement an objective in the individual's IPP, and allows the individual to remain in, or participate in, activities located in environments other than residential or day services, and achieve goals established in their person-centered plan. Supplemental Program Supports (Other) include but are not limited to: assistance and training in skills for activities of daily living, acquiring socially appropriate behaviors to replace (and serve the same function/purpose as) challenging behaviors, and accessing the community to achieve personal goals.

Components

- *Services:* These hours are in addition to those required by program vendorization and are generally provided by a Direct Support Professional (DSP).
- *Billing:* If a higher level of supplemental staffing is required, regional centers should use the service code that best aligns with the supplemental staff qualifications. The allowable employee to individual ratio is 1:1. The rates for each type of service by regional center can be found [here](#).

Parenting Support Services (service code 108)

Service Description

Parenting Support Services are designed to equip the individual (and/or their children) with the skills and supports necessary for them to raise a child in a safe, harmonious, and stable family environment. Parenting Support Services include but are not limited to: assistance, training, assessment, intervention and counseling services. Services may be provided in an individual's home or community.

New Components

- *Services:* As of January 1, 2025, all new direct service providers must have a bachelor's degree in health and human services or early childhood development, education, nursing, or early childhood education fields; or a combination of a 2-year degree in an above-named degree fields and 2 years of full-time professional-level work experience in providing Parenting Support Services; or 4 years of full-time professional-level work experience in providing Parenting Support Services. Current providers have until June 30, 2026 to meet this requirement, and new hires will have 12 months to meet the new requirements.

- *Billing:* This service code will now include separate rates based on staffing ratio of employee to individual. The allowable ratios are 1:1 through 1:3. This service code offers a non-English stipend.

We appreciate you sharing this correspondence with involved regional center staff and provider network. If providers, individuals and/or their families have questions regarding this correspondence, they should contact their regional center. Questions from regional centers should be directed to ratesquestions@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

DANA SIMON
Deputy Director
Waiver and Rates Division

Attachments

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
Pete Cervinka, Department of Developmental Services
Carla Castañeda, Department of Developmental Services
Michi Gates, Department of Developmental Services