

July 2, 2025

C-2025-Employment-002

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITIVE INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT
INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

This letter provides guidance regarding restoring Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) incentives to their original amounts per [Welfare & Institutions Code \(WIC\) Section 4870](#). It also identifies changes to the [guidance issued by the Department on August 24, 2021](#).

Increased CIE incentive amounts pursuant to the 2021 guidance above are scheduled to end on June 30, 2025. Therefore, CIE incentive payments after that date are the original amounts established in 2016. CIE incentive payments outlined below shall be made to the service provider who, on or after July 1, 2025, placed an individual into CIE as described in WIC Sections [4851\(n\)](#) and [4868\(d\)](#) AND when the individual still is competitively employed for the specified milestones of 30 consecutive days, six consecutive months, and 12 consecutive months.

Effective July 1, 2025, incentives for each milestone reached are as follows:

1. A payment of one thousand dollars if the individual is still engaged in CIE after 30 consecutive days, as described in WIC Code Sections [4851\(n\)](#) and [4868\(d\)](#).
2. An additional payment of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars, if the individual in paragraph (1) remains in CIE for six consecutive months.
3. An additional payment of one thousand five hundred dollars, if the individual in paragraph (2) remains in CIE for 12 consecutive months.

Any increased payments pursuant to the 2021 guidance above shall apply only to milestones achieved within the time period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2025.

Regional centers shall verify the required duration in the job placement for each incentive payment before funds are provided to the service provider. Payments made pursuant to the incentive program shall not be made in addition to the placement payments pursuant to [WIC Section 4860\(d\)](#).

A service provider supporting an individual in a paid internship program is not eligible for the incentives above until the individual transitions to CIE [\[WIC Section 4870\(g\)\]](#).

Guidelines for the incentive program are as follows:

1. For CIE incentive payment milestones achieved on or after July 1, 2025, the following sub-codes and payment amounts shall be utilized:
 - “CIEP” for placement incentive after 30 consecutive days (\$1,000);
 - “CIE6” for six consecutive months’ incentive (\$1,250); and
 - “CIE12” for 12 consecutive months’ incentive (\$1,500).

The previous subcodes for increased CIE incentives shall remain in effect for milestones met in the earlier period:

1. For CIE incentive payment milestones that were reached from July 1, 2021, until June 30, 2025, the following sub-codes still shall be utilized:
 - “EMPP” for placement incentive after 30 consecutive days (\$2,000);
 - “EMP6” for six consecutive months’ incentive (\$2,500); and
 - “EMP12” for 12 consecutive months’ incentive (\$3,000).

For any additional questions please reach out to the Work Services Section at Work.Services@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

SONYA FOX
Employment Services Branch Manager
Community Assistance and Development

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
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