

How Can Parents of School Age Children Get Paid by DDS?

Overview

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has worked with the Federal Government, Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS), to change the rules around paying parents of school-aged children. Parents can now be paid for two types of services: **Individualized Home Supports** and **Personal Supports**.

In some cases where the child and parent do not live in the same home (or only live together part of the time), parents may be paid for **Respite Care**, determined on a case-by-case basis.

Summary

Effective Date	May 1, 2024
Who is Eligible?	● Biological and adoptive parents of children in school (up to the end of the school year when they turn 22) with existing DDS funding and extraordinary needs. ● Legal guardians of children in school (up to the end of the school year when they turn 22) with existing DDS funding and extraordinary needs.
Important Conditions:	● Parents cannot be the Employer of Record (EOR) for the child's budget. ● This change allows parents to be employees (direct support professionals) under existing funding. ● Funding is based on the child's needs, not who provides the support. ● Parents/staff can only be responsible for the child they are being paid to support and cannot focus on unrelated household duties during this time such as caring for or supervising others.
Assessment Requirement:	● A formal assessment showing that the child needs "extraordinary care" is required. ● The assessment, called an age dependency assessment form, will be done by the child's case manager or other team member. ● The assessment is submitted to DDS administration for review to ensure the care provided is beyond usual parental care.
Payment and Hours:	● Parents can only be paid for the number of hours in the child's budget. ● There is a cap of 800 awake hours annually. ● Parents are not eligible for overtime.

Agreement and Process

- The team, including the child, must agree to the arrangement.
- All supports paid for by DDS must be in the child's best interest.
- Parents must go through the same process as other direct support professionals, including a background check and training.
- Parents must work on the goals in the Individual Plan (IP) and provide documentation on progress every six months.
- Parents must use Electronic Visit Verification (EVV).

Questions?

For questions, please contact your child's DDS Case Manager.