

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

1215 O Street, MS 9-90  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
TTY: 711  
(916) 654-1897



July 22, 2021

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE REGARDING REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR ALTERNATIVE NONRESIDENTIAL SERVICES

As follow up to the Department of Developmental Services' (Department) [August 31, 2020](#) directive regarding Alternative Nonresidential Services (Alternative Services) during the COVID-19 State of Emergency, and the [March 29, 2021](#) guidance, the purpose of this correspondence is to provide additional guidance for providers of transportation services for reimbursement for Alternative Services.

Beginning August 1, 2021, transportation service providers may submit claims for reimbursement for both Alternative Services and traditional services. The following terms apply:

- For consumers who received Alternative Services, the methodology for calculating the reimbursement amount remains the same and the vendor's monthly maximum still applies.
- For consumers who received only traditional services for the entire month, the vendor's traditional reimbursement rate shall be used. These consumers may not be included in the Alternative Services reimbursement calculation for the month to prevent over-billing for the consumer. The reimbursement for traditional services does not need to be factored into the Alternative Services monthly maximum.
- If a consumer received a combination of traditional and Alternative Services within a month, the Alternative Services methodology applies.
- If a vendor is providing both traditional and Alternative Services, any billing for fuel for Alternative Services may not include fuel expenses that were specifically for the delivery of traditional services. Vendors may need to determine a reasonable approach for claiming the fuel expenses only for Alternative Services and should maintain documentation of the approach used.

The Department encourages transportation providers, regional centers and stakeholders to continue to network and evaluate new ways to meet the needs of consumers. Additional support may be requested of the selected [Statewide Technical Assistance and Training Agents](#).

**“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”**

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Self-advocates, family members or providers with questions related to transportation services should contact their local regional center. Questions from regional centers should be directed to [DDSC19Directives@dds.ca.gov](mailto:DDSC19Directives@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Original Signed by:*

BRIAN WINFIELD  
Chief Deputy Director

cc: Regional Center Board Presidents  
Regional Center Administrators  
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services  
Regional Center Community Services Directors  
Association of Regional Center Agencies