

Lori A. Shibinette Commissioner

Karen E. Hebert Director

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF ECONOMIC STABILITY

BUREAU OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT & HEAD START COLLABORATION

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July 17, 2023

Dear Provider,

As you may know, the state budget bill (HB 2) mandated several changes to CCDF policies, including child eligibility and provider payment rates. The Department is in the process of preparing a summary of all these changes with a projected timeline for implementation. In the interim, we wanted to update you on the changes to CCDF provider payment rates:

- CCDF payment rates are based on a state's Market Rate Survey (MRS), which must be conducted at least every three years. New Hampshire's rate changes historically were implemented on or around July 1 of the State Fiscal Year after the MRS was completed.
- The last MRS was conducted in 2021. Current provider payment rates were set at the 60th percentile for infants and toddlers and the 55th percentile for all other children receiving CCDF services.
- The Department will set new rates at the 75th percentile, which will be done in two steps:
 - First, DHHS will increase the rates based on the current (2021) MRS. DHHS anticipates implementing the new rates on Monday, July 24, 2023. Attached for your reference is BCDHSC Form 2533 Child Care Scholarship Program Weekly Standard Rates ER.
 - Second, we will complete a new MRS in late fall 2023 and adjust the rates to the 75th percentile based on the results of that survey. The goal is to implement the revised rates within two to three weeks once the MRS analysis is completed. At that time, we will notify you of the change.

Thank you for your service to children and families. This notice and Form 2533, Child Care Scholarship Program Weekly Standard Rates ER, are posted on NH Connections at: https://www.nh-connections.org/child-care-scholarship/ and the DHHS website at: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/childcare-parenting-child-development-head-start-collaboration under the "Providers Information."

If you have questions about this notice, please contact the following:

- Employment related child care providers: BCDHSC Provider Relations: <u>DHHS.ChildDevelopment@dhhs.nh.gov</u> or (603) 271-4242
- Preventive and Protective child care providers: Division for Children, Youth and Families Provider Relations: <u>DHHS.DCYFProviderRel@dhhs.nh.gov</u>
- Families: Bureau of Family Services Customer Services: (603) 271-9700.

Warmest Regards,

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Debra Nelson, MS, Bureau Chief