

Division of Specialized Care for Children

Provider Notice

DATE: 1/22/2025

Dear Children's Community Based Health Center,

As discussed in the Nursing Agency Provider Notice on 12/19/2024 (linked <u>here</u>), the rate increase that was legislatively approved for 1/1/2025 has still not received all of the needed Federal approvals to be implemented. After hearing feedback from numerous nursing agencies, also considering the impact of the new DSCC claims software, and the uncertain approval time, we have discussed a plan with HFS to resume payments at the 2024 rate.

DSCC will begin today to start converting our system back to the 2024 rates. This is expected to take 2-3 weeks. A provider notice will be sent out once the system conversion is complete to notify you when you can begin to release claims that have been held since 1/1/2025. These claims need to be billed at and will be paid at the 2024 rates.

- Respite out-of-home rate \$54.00 an hour.
- Transitional care rate \$950/day.

DSCC will work as quickly as possible to issue payments backlogged from this timeframe.

Previous information about the new anticipated rates are in the **provider notice for Children's** <u>Community Based Health Centers on 11/26/24 found here</u> related to respite <u>and on</u> <u>10/18/2024 related to transitional care found here</u>.

When the needed approvals have been received, DSCC will first begin to adjust payment for new claims at the increased rate. DSCC will then work to issue any retroactive increases that may be due. We can't emphasize enough the importance of submitting accurate claims during this time. Work to correct inaccurate claims further complicates this process and may contribute to additional delays.

As previously noted on <u>the provider notice found here on 11/21/2024</u>, DSCC will have to temporary pause payments for 1 month while transitioning between claims software systems. This was anticipated to take place beginning 2/1/2025 and **will now be delayed** (it will be later this spring and additional info will follow).

After the approval is received for the 2025 rates, a new provider notice will be sent out with instructions on when to begin billing at the new rates.

DSCC is happy to assist with any questions you may have. Please contact your DSCC Liaison or the DSCC Claims Department contact at <u>DSCCClaimsServices@uic.edu</u>. We thank you for your continued service to the participants of the Home Care Program.