



**child
development
services**

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Information Letter: Number 8

DATE: June 6, 2011

TO: CDS Regional Site Directors, CDS Governing Boards of Directors,
Contracted Providers of Services

FROM: James Rier, Deputy Commissioner
David N. Stockford, Team Leader and Policy Director, Special Services
Debra Hannigan, Director of Child Development Services

RE: Further Clarification of Rates for Contracted Services for Specially
Designed Instruction Beginning July 1, 2011

This informational letter provides additional clarifications to Informational Letter #7 sent on May 26, 2011 regarding 1) the group rates for specially designed instruction and special education with 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, and 1:4 ratios, 2) the definitions of social work services, and the standardized provider contract.

The Group Rates for Specially Designed Instruction and Special Education with 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, and 1:4 Ratios

Below are the rates that will be implemented beginning July 1, 2011 for Fiscal Year 2012.

<u>Special Purpose DT</u>				Hourly Rate	FY 2012 New Rate
Tier					
One	ER115	15 minutes	\$10.00	\$40.00	\$36.00
Tier Two	ER116	15 minutes	\$6.75	\$27.00	\$24.30
Tier Three	ER117	15 minutes	\$6.00	\$24.00	\$21.60
Tier Four	ER118	15 minutes	\$4.25	\$17.00	\$15.30

The Definitions of Social Work Services and Consultation

The definitions for social work are found in the Maine Unified Special Education Regulation, 05-071 Chapter 101 in Section XI. These are taken directly from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA].

Early Intervention Services B-2

“Social work services include:

- i. Making home visits to evaluate a child’s living conditions and patterns of parent-child interaction;
- ii. Preparing a social or emotional developmental assessment of the child within the family context;
- iii. Providing individual and family-group counseling with parents and other family members, and appropriate social skill-building activities with the child and parents;
- iv. Working with those problems in a child’s and family’s living situation (home, community, and any center where early intervention services provided) that affect the child’s maximum utilization of early intervention services; and
- v. Identifying, mobilizing, and coordinating community resources and services to enable the child and family to receive maximum benefit from early intervention services.”

Related Services 3-20

“Social work services includes:

- i. Preparing a social or developmental history on a child with a disability;
- ii. Group and individual counseling with the child and family;
- iii. Working in partnership with parents and others on those problems in a child’s living situation (home, school, and community) that affect the child’s adjustment in school;
- iv. Mobilizing school and community resources to enable the child to learn as effectively as possible in his or her educational program; and
- v. Assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies.

A social worker licensed by the Maine State Board of Social Work Licensure may provide social work services including preparing a social or developmental history of a child with a disability; group and individual counseling with the child and family; working with those problems in a child's living situation (home, school, and community) that affect the child's adjustment in school; and mobilizing school and community resources to enable the student to learn as effectively as possible in his or her educational program and assisting in developing positive behavioral interventions and strategies.

A social worker licensed by the Maine State Board of Social Work Licensure may provide social work services to children, school staff members, and parents consistent with the laws and regulations governing the practice of social work (32 MRSA Chap. 83 and accompanying regulations). The maximum student-therapist caseload shall not exceed 50 children per each full-time equivalent licensed social worker.”

Early Intervention Team Consultation for children birth -2 is defined in Section X (1)(B)(2) of the Maine Unified Special Education Regulations:

“Early Intervention Team Consultation Services. Consultation services may be provided by team members or other qualified professionals to the primary coach or family members in team meetings and in the natural environment to the primary coach, families, and caregivers or teachers of children B-2 to assist them in modifying and/or adapting their natural learning activities to enable children to appropriately advance toward achieving the goals set out in their IFSP. Consultation services shall be provided by an appropriately licensed or certified early intervention professional employed or contracted by an SAU.”

Consultation for children 3-20 years of age is defined in Section X, Early Intervention/Special Education Services and Settings at (2)(A)(1):

“Consultation Services. Consultation services may be provided to general education teachers of children with disabilities to assist them in modifying and/or adapting their general education curriculum to enable children to appropriately progress in the general curriculum and to appropriately advance toward achieving the goals set out in their IFSP/IEP. Consultation services shall be provided by an appropriately certified and or licensed special education professional employed or contracted by an SAU.

When a special education teacher responsible for case management and specially designed instruction also provides regularly scheduled consultation services, the caseload permitted shall be no greater than 35 students for each full-time equivalent, special education teacher.

When a speech/language clinician or pathologist responsible for case management and specially designed instruction also provides regularly scheduled consultation services, the caseload permitted shall be no greater than 50 children for each full-time equivalent speech-language pathologist or speech clinician.

When a licensed occupational therapist or licensed physical therapist responsible for specially designed instruction also provides regularly scheduled consultation services, the caseload permitted shall be no greater than 50 children for each full-time equivalent provider.

The caseload limits apply to the number of children for whom a special education teacher carries the responsibility for case management and/or consultation in addition to specially designed instruction.”

Provider Contract

The Maine Department of Education is developing a standardized provider contract. Providers will be sent the contract for signature in the next few weeks.

If you have specific questions, you may call Jim Rier at 624-6620, or Jaci Holmes at 624-6620.