

Inclusive Child Care Program
DHS High Need Child Care Rate Information
for
Parents and Child Care Providers

Introduction to the Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP)

We are a program of the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities. We do a variety of things related to child care for children and youth who have disabilities, emotional or behavioral disorders, or special health care needs.

ICCP staff are not part of the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) Child Care Program. DHS refers children to ICCP. Our job is to evaluate whether the child requires an individualized High Need Rate for safe and healthy child care.

What is the DHS High Need Rate?

The DHS High Need Rate is for children and youth who meet these two criteria:

- 1) The child has disabilities or other special needs; AND
- 2) The child requires an exceptionally high level of care and supervision compared to others the same age.

The High Need Rate can be different for each child. The amount depends upon the child's specific abilities and needs. The ICCP assessment helps determine how much the rate will be.

How is the High Need Rate different from the Special Needs Rate?

Most children who have disabilities, emotional/behavioral disorders, or special health care needs can receive appropriate care at the DHS *Special Needs Rate*. Parents can request the Special Needs Rate by completing DHS Form # 7486 and returning it to the family's caseworker.

The *High Need Rate* is for the small number of children whose care and supervision needs are so high that they may not be able to receive appropriate care at the Special Needs Rate.

What are the steps in the High Need Rate assessment process?

Here are the steps:

- 1) DHS makes the assessment referral to ICCP. A parent, a provider or a family's caseworker can contact us to ask about the referral process.
- 2) After ICCP receives the referral, we contact parents and providers to arrange the assessment. Usually this is a face-to-face meeting with the parent and provider. We will come to the child care setting or the parent's home.
- 3) At the meeting we will ask questions about the child's needs in child care. We record the information on the Child Care Accommodations & Supports Assessment.
- 4) We will ask for supporting documentation. This may be an Early Intervention plan, special education plan, mental health evaluation, or other information from professionals who are familiar with the child's abilities and needs. The assessment will not be complete until we have received and reviewed this information.
- 5) After the assessment meeting, we review notes from the meeting and the supporting documents. We use this information to score the Child Care Accommodations & Supports Assessment.
- 6) We submit a recommended rate to DHS for approval. This will include a recommend start date for the High Need Rate. In some cases we may recommend that a High Need Rate is not needed.
- 7) DHS will notify us when the rate is approved or not approved. We then contact parents and providers to explain the rate and payment process. We will also write a plan for the rate and send it to parents and providers for their approval.
- 8) DHS will also notify someone at the local branch that the rate is approved. The local branch will make each monthly High Need Rate payment.

What if the High Need Rate payment doesn't arrive?

ICCP staff are not directly involved in the DHS payments. We have information on the payment system, so parents and child care providers are welcome to contact us if there are repeated payment problems.

Questions? Call 1-866-837-0250 or 971-673-2286 in the Portland metro area.

Email: contact.iccp@state.or.us

Website: <http://oregoninclusivecc.org>