

Shared Living Services (3150 / 3752) FY25 Rate Implementation

December 6, 2024

On November 8, 2024, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) promulgated updates to <u>101 CMR 411.00: Rates for Certain Placement, Support, and Shared Living Services</u>. These rate updates are also reflected in the FY25 Regulated Rate Table posted on the DDS website. Rate changes are effective July 1, 2024.

Rate Implementation Process

Over the coming weeks, DDS will compute new contract billing rates with retroactive applicability to July 1, 2024. Billing Rate reports will be shared with providers showing the updated rates and new blended rate computation. DDS will enter new billing rates in EIM and process retroactive payments to reimburse for the difference between the current billing rate and the new billing rate for all attendance that has already been paid since July 1, 2024. All new attendance will be paid at the new billing rate. If providers have draft Service Delivery Reports (SDRs) in EIM, they will need to be deleted and re-entered once DDS has entered the new billing rate.

At this time, DDS will not process Service Summary Form amendments or increase the maximum obligation of contracts. DDS will publish additional information when amendments to Shared Living contracts are to be submitted by providers.

Summary of Changes to Caregiver Stipend Levels

As part of the FY25 regulation update, the lowest four stipend tiers have been removed. These tiers were removed because they had very little utilization and were valued too low to support new caregiver recruitment. With the removal of these levels, the regulation also re-numbered the remaining 21 stipend levels. Similarly, the stipend caps for each operational tier have been updated to reflect the new numbering. In addition to this re-numbering, the caps for operational tiers A & B have been increased by one level compared to the previous regulation.

Caregivers previously paid stipends at levels 1-4 will all be moved to the new level 1 (previous level 5). All other stipends will be mapped to new stipend levels according to the chart below. These new stipend levels will be reflected in your contract reports.

All stipends have been increased by 18% relative to FY24 rates. These increases have been made in recognition of the substantial contributions caregivers have made in recent years, to keep pace with benchmark wage increases for other frontline positions, and to support better caregiver recruitment going forward. It is DDS's expectation that 100% of the value of these stipend increases are paid to caregivers.

FY23 and FY25 Stipend Rate Crosswalk

Former FY23 Stipends				New FY25 Stipends & Operational Rates					
Level	Daily Stipend Rate	Stipend Level		Level	Daily Stipend Rate	Stipend Level	Maximum Stipends Allowed for FY25		
1	\$30.54	\$10,597							
2	\$42.17	\$14,633			\$79.59	\$27,618	Oper- ational Rate Level A \$67.53	Oper- ational Rate Level B \$103.60	Oper- ational Rate Level C \$177.16
3	\$50.60	\$17,558	\rightarrow	1					
4	\$59.04	\$20,487							
5	\$67.47	\$23,412							
6	\$75.91	\$26,341		2	\$89.55	\$31,074			
7	\$84.34	\$29,266		3	\$99.49	\$34,523			
8	\$92.77	\$32,191		4	\$109.43	\$37,972			
9	\$101.21	\$35,120		5	\$119.39	\$41,428			
10	\$109.65	\$38,049		6	\$129.35	\$44,884	\$67.53		
11	\$118.07	\$40,970		7	\$139.28	\$48,330	>[
12	\$126.51	\$43,899		8	\$149.23	\$51,783			
13	\$134.95	\$46,828		9	\$159.19	\$55,239			
14	\$143.37	\$49,749		10	\$169.12	\$58,685			
15	\$151.81	\$52,678		11	\$179.08	\$62,141			
16	\$160.25	\$55,607		12	\$189.03	\$65,593			
17	\$168.69	\$58,535		13	\$198.99	\$69,050			
18	\$177.11	\$61,457		14	\$208.92	\$72,495			
19	\$185.55	\$64,386		15	\$218.88	\$75,951			
20	\$193.99	\$67,315		16	\$228.83	\$79,404	1		
21	\$202.42	\$70,240		17	\$238.78	\$82,857	1)	
22*	\$210.01	\$72,873		18*	\$247.73	\$85,962	1	,	
23*	\$219.29	\$76,094		19*	\$258.68	\$89,762	1		
24*	\$228.56	\$79,310		20*	\$269.61	\$93,555	1		
25*	\$236.16	\$81,948		21*	\$278.58	\$96,667	1		

^{*} Stipend Levels only available by special application to DDS