**WHAT’S NEW FOR FY2021**

**OVERVIEW**

As of July 1, 2018, all Department of Development Services (DDS) programs that fall under rate regulations are being reimbursed according to regulated rates under the provisions of M.G.L. c 118E, 13C, also known as Chapter 257. While the vast majority of Department services are paid regulated rates, a limited number of programs still utilize individually negotiated rate contracts and/or cost reimbursement/maximum obligation contracts.

Rate regulated services continue to be managed through the Service Summary Form (SSF). Providers only sign the Standard Contract Form when the initial Master Agreement contract is awarded, or the Master Agreement contract is amended to add new services. Once the Master Agreement is signed, the SSF is used to maintain a record of the estimated units to be purchased and the agreed upon rate of payment. Units and rates are tallied to calculate the estimated expenditure amount, which is the amount that DDS anticipates will be expended during the year if all units noted in the SSF are provided.

Cost Reimbursement and Negotiated Unit Rate contracts will be processed using the Standard Contract Form and POS attachments.

**NEW CONTRACTS: EMERGENCY RESIDENTIAL STABILIZATION RFR**

Master Agreement contracts issued as a result of EmerStab-21have been awarded for a July 1, 2020 start date. The intent of this RFR was to transition Emergency Residential Stabilization contracts to the same procurement schedule as Adult Long Term Residential Services which will be rebid in FY2023.

**INTERIM CONTRACTS**

As a result of the public health emergency, the Department was unable to complete BIDS/RFR posted on COMMBUYS for Family Support Services and Autism Coaching Services. The contracts referencing FSS-10 and CoachAut-17 were extended as interim for six months to allow the Department to reissue BIDS on COMMBUY in late August/early September. The intent is that new contracts awarded as a result of the rebid will start January 1, 2021.

**FY2021 CONTRACTS**

Due to the substantial uncertainty in program operations created by the COVID-19 outbreak, inaction on the Governor’s FY21 budget in the Legislature, as well as considerations regarding the limitations of remote working, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) did not engage in normal contract negotiations in the spring. Instead, contracting processes were simplified and consisted of an agreement on rates of payment and establishment of placeholder encumbrances that allowed providers to continue to bill during the first two quarters of FY21. All contracts and Service Summary Forms were written for six months at 50% of FY20 funding which will cover anticipated expenditures from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. In the second quarter of FY2021, the department will work with providers to negotiate units of service, etc., for the second half of FY20