

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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Issue 18-09 Date: 03/01/18

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HOME-BASED FAMILY CARE LEVEL OF CARE (LOC) RATE DETERMINATION PROTOCOL

This FYI is to inform staff about the newly established Home-Based Family Care Level of Care (LOC) rate structure and to provide timelines for complete statewide implementation. Under the LOC rate structure, age-based foster care rates have been replaced by a four-tiered rate structure based on a child/youth/non-minor dependents (NMD's) needs and a caregiver's level of expected supervision and supports. The new LOC rate structure went into [partial effect](#) on January 1, 2018; all newly-placed children currently receive [LOC one \(1\)](#). LOC two (2) through four (4) will be implemented in two (2) phases, as follows: March 1, 2018 for children/youth/NMDs placed through Foster Family Agencies and May 1, 2018 for all other out-of-home placements.

In order to support regional offices with this new State mandate, a centralized LOC unit (see attachment) has been created under the Bureau of Clinical Resources and Services (BCRS). LOC rate determination staff will be co-located in the regional offices and will be responsible for completion of all LOC rate determinations. LOC social workers must gather information from various sources in order to establish a final LOC rate. Input from the child's team (including, but not limited to, case-carrying CSWs, caregivers, mental health clinicians and Public Health Nurses) is critical to this process. Line staff should familiarize themselves with the [five \(5\) core domains](#) used to determine a LOC and maintain adequate documentation in CWS/CMS to support LOC determinations completed by the LOC unit.

Note: The centralized LOC unit will be automatically notified of all placements. A referral by the CSW is not required. However, if a caregiver requests a rate re-determination outside of the automatic notification protocol, please forward the attached template to the LOC unit.

Policy is under development and will provide staff with additional guidance and instructions on the implementation of the LOC rate determination protocol. In the interim, inquiries may be directed to Deborah Silver at (213) 351-5538.

Background

As part of [Continuum of Care Reform](#) (CCR), the new HBFC LOC rate structure was designed to support positive outcomes for children/youth/NMDs in home-based family settings. The HBFC LOC rate structure applies to:

- Resource Families (RFs)
- Foster Family Agencies (FFAs)
- Foster homes transitioning to RF homes
- Approved Relative Caregiver (ARC) homes
- NMDs residing in HBFC family settings that are not Supervised Independent Living Placements (SILPs)
- Kinship Assistance Program (KIN-GAP)
- Non-Related Legal Guardians (NRLG)
- Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) homes

- LOC determination protocols will apply only to ARC, KIN-GAP, NRLG and AAP homes established on or after January 1, 2017.



If you have any questions regarding this release please e-mail your question to:

Policy@dcfs.lacounty.gov

Specialized Care Increments To Support Children, Youth, and NMDs In Placement

- D and F-rates will continue to be provided to caregivers for existing placements.
- Newly-placed children with behavioral and/or emotional concerns may be assessed under the D-rate protocol until further notice. Staff should continue to consult with the [Residential Care Liaisons \(RCLs\)](#) (formerly known as D-Rate Evaluators) for support.
 - If a replacement occurs, the D-rate provided to the former caregiver will not be provided to the new caregiver. The new caregiver will receive LOC 1 until the LOC rate determination protocol is completed. A rate increase will only be provided if the LOC rate determination reflects the need for a higher rate.
 - Newly-placed children who may require an F-rate may be assessed under the current F-rate protocol. Staff are advised that Public Health Nurses continue to be available for F-rate evaluations until further notice.
- Other specialized or enhanced rates will continue to be provided to caregivers for existing placements, until further notice.



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Level of Care (LOC) Determination/Redetermination Request

Child's Name:	Child's DOB:	Today's Date:
CSW's Name:	CSW's Phone Number:	Regional Office:
Resource Parent's Name:	Resource Parent's Address:	Placement Dates:

Reason for the Request

Child/youth's needs in the following domains have changed since the initial rate determination:

- Physical
- Behavioral/Emotional
- Educational
- Health
- Permanency/Family Services

Please note: The LOC Determination Unit receives automatic notification of all placements/replacements through the Foster Care Search System. A referral is not required for any placement/replacement for which a placement packet has been generated.

LOC DETERMINATION UNIT

Last Name	First Name	Item	Office
Cazzaly	Axa	ARA	Region- El Monte
Jeong	Anna	SCSW	Region- Santa Clarita
Rampley	Shanna	CSW II	CDSPT - WSFV
Mazmanyanyan	Kevin	TBA	Region- Van Nuys
Crayon-Miller	Shameka	CSW Trainee	CDSPT - Van Nuys
Robles	Regina	CSW II	CDSPT - Santa Clarita
Bradner	Johanna	CSW III	Region- Santa Clarita
Echols	Elisha	CSW III	Region- Lancaster
Chico	Leticia	SCSW	Region- El Monte
Nova	Aida	CSW Trainee	CDSPT - Pomona
Lau	Jennifer	CSW III	Region- Pomona
Velasco	David	CSW	Region- Pomona
Shackelford	Deonae	CSW II	CDSPT - El Monte
Balboa	Blanca	CSW III	Region- El Monte
Hernandez	Crystal	CSW II	CDSPT - Pasadena
Ellison	Beth	SCSW	Region- Belvedere
Scanlan	Barbara	CSW III	Region- Belvedere
Gharakhanian	Celine	CSW II	CDSPT - Belvedere
Drew	Jessica	CSW II	CDSPT - Compton
Lopez	Christina	CSW II	Region- Compton
Williams	Stacey	CSW II	CDSPT - Glendora
Chase	Gregory	SCSW	Region- Wateridge
Hernandez Lopez	Gisela	CSW II	CDSPT - Vermont Corridor
Suarez	Wendy	CSW III	Region- Vermont Corridor
Quelex	Sonia	CSW III	Region - Wateridge South
Allen	Marlisa	CSW Trainee	CDSPT - Wateridge South
Robinson	Stephanie	CSW II	CDSPT - Wateridge North
Reyes- Vasquez	Melissa	CSW II	CDSPT - Metro North
Pichon	Denise	SCSW	Region- South County
Walton	Arlana	CSW II	CDSPT - South County
Cleveland	Jaclyn	CSW III	Region- South County
Ware	Jonalisa	CSW II	CDSPT - Torrance
Polsky	Cherly	CSW III	Region- Torrance
Madrigal	Jackie	CSW III	Region- Santa Fe Springs
Soils-Coleman	Rosalyn	CSW II	CDSPT - West LA

MANAGERS

Name	Phone Number	E-Mail
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