

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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Issue 21-07

Date: 04/14/21

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Referrals Are Transitioning to Supportive Therapeutic Options Program (STOP)

Effective April 14, 2021, clients who do not have Medi-Cal should be referred for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services to the Supportive Therapeutic Options Program (STOP) rather than to the Time Limited Family Reunification (TLFR) program.

- Note: Most DCFS clients with Medi-Cal can continue to utilize the Department of Public Health-Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC) referral system to access SUD services.

As of the effective date, clients who are not eligible to access SUD services through the DPH-SAPC enrollment system, should be referred to STOP for funding. The STOP referral process for payment of SUD treatment requires the following forms:

1. A 5540 signed by the CSW, SCSW, ARA, and RA if the amount is \$500 or over, with a check mark on the Counseling category.
 - The DCFS 5540 must show the:
 - Service provider's name, address, telephone number, email address and;
 - Tax Payer's Identification Number or Social Security Number.
2. The STOP justification form stating that other funding sources have been investigated, but no other funding source is available.
3. A quotation letter on letterhead from vendor/provider of the requested SUD service with the:
 - Cost per counseling/SUD session;
 - Number and type of counseling/SUD sessions anticipated;
 - Total cost;
 - Expected dates of services, (Start and anticipated End dates are required) and;
 - A W-9 for the agency.

STOP eligibility includes:

- Parents, adoptive parents or legal guardians receiving Family Maintenance or Reunification services.
- Non-Minor Dependents (NMD) with a permanency case plan.
- Verification is required that no other resource is available to pay for the requested SUD service.



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

Policy@dcfs.lacounty.gov

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The service requested must be in furtherance of one or more of the following STOP and Department goals:

- Prevention and increased child safety.
- Decrease detention/removals.
- Expedite reunification or exit from the child welfare system.
- Expedite permanency.
- Encourage or stabilize existing or prospective relative, sibling, legal guardian, adoptive or Nonminor Dependent (NMD) placements.

Payment will be made directly to the provider of services after service provision.

Please review the STOP Guidelines which includes the STOP referral procedures:

- [Referring TLFR Families to STOP](#)

Please consult with the STOP Manager, Ramon Chavez with any questions when considering making a request for STOP funds via the [STOP In-Box \(STOPfunds@dcs.lacounty.gov\)](mailto:STOPfunds@dcs.lacounty.gov)



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