



CDSS

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

August 1, 2008

FOSTER CARE AUDITS AND RATES LETTER (FCARL) NO. 2008-02

TO: ALL GROUP HOME PROVIDERS
ALL COMMUNITY TREATMENT FACILITY PROVIDERS
ALL FOSTER FAMILY AGENCIES
ALL REGIONAL CENTER GROUP HOMES
ALL REGIONAL CENTER FOSTER FAMILY AGENCIES

**SUBJECT: NEW BIENNIAL RATE APPLICATION/REQUEST SUBMISSION
SCHEDULE**

Assembly Bill (AB) 1752, (Chapter 225, Statutes of 2003) enacted statute which requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish rates for group homes (GH) and foster family agencies (FFA) on a biennial basis (see Foster Care Audits and Rates Letter (FCARL) 2004-01, dated February 4, 2004). Furthermore, the Manual of Policies and Procedures Section 11-402.32 states that the due date for on-going biennial rate applications/requests shall be according to a schedule determined by the Department and that the Department shall provide prior written notice of the scheduled due date.

Based on workload issues and in response to feedback from providers, the CDSS has developed a **new** schedule for biennial rate application/request submissions. The new schedule requires providers to submit an on-going biennial rate application/request every two years based on the GH or FFA's provider number regardless of the provider's ending reporting period.

The following schedule is effective August 1, 2008:

If your provider number ends in an even number (for example: 123**4**.00.01), you must submit your ongoing biennial rate application/request on October 1st of each even numbered year (for example: 2008, 2010, 2012) beginning October 1, 2008.

If your provider number ends in an odd number (for example: 234**5**.00.01), you must submit your ongoing biennial rate application/request on October 1st of each odd numbered year (for example: 2009, 2011, 2013) beginning October 1, 2009.

Below is the link to the county assignments of the Rates Consultants and the schedule for GH and FFA providers biennial rate application/request filing due dates.

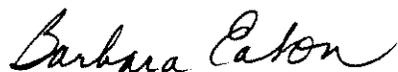
<http://www.childsworld.ca.gov/res/pdf/ProviderTimelines.pdf>

As a result of this new schedule some providers will be submitting their on-going biennial rate application/request sooner than anticipated. The Department will work with providers to ensure a smooth transition to this new schedule.

Providers are reminded to immediately notify the Foster Care Rates Bureau (FCRB) of any changes in their program and/or corporate structure, such as changes of board members. The FCRB must also be notified if the corporation ceases to operate as a non profit corporation. Failure to notify the FCRB of any changes may result in penalties and possible rate termination. Furthermore, all rates will continue to be subject to existing audit requirements.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes to the rate application/request process, please contact your Rates Consultant as soon as possible at (916) 324-4857.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Eaton".

BARBARA EATON, Chief
Foster Care Audits and Rates Branch