Australian Government
Department of Social Services



## CCMS Fact Sheet –2011 CCMS Changes (5)

**Operational Support Payments for Home Based Care** 

In this fact sheet:

- · What this means for data collected in the final Utilisation Report
- · How the automation process affects In Home Care payments
- · What to so if you believe your Operational Support rate should change
- · How this impacts on RTAG payments

#### Overview

CCB Approved Family Day Care (FDC) and In Home Care (IHC) services currently receive quarterly Operational Support payments through the Community Support Programme, following the submission of a quarterly Utilisation Report. From July 2011, Operational Support payments made to FDC and IHC will use attendance data entered into CCMS for CCB purposes. This data will automatically calculate Operational Support payments for FDC and IHC services.

### What this means for data collected in the final Utilisation Report

In July 2011, FDC and IHC services will provide data for the April to June 2011 quarter in their final Utilisation Report for 2010–2011. The automated calculation of Operational Support payments will commence on 4 July 2011 for the 2011–2012 Funding Agreements.

Final Utilisation Reports must be provided as required under the 2010–11 funding agreement.

#### How the automation process affects In Home Care payments

IHC services currently receive quarterly Operational Support payments based on their reported utilisation against their allocated places. From 1 July 2011, the attendance data that services input through CCMS will be monitored by the Department of Social Services (DSS) (formerly the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations).

IHC services have a maximum amount of Operational Support funding they are eligible to be paid based on their number of allocated places. At the end of each quarter, DSS will reconcile Operational Support payments made to services against their allocated places. If the amount of Operational Support paid to services exceeds their entitlement based on their allocated places, an offsetting recovery will be made against the next quarter's payments. Services will receive written notification if their future payments will be affected.

# What to do if you believe your Operational Support rate should change

If you believe your Home Based Operational Support (HBOS) rate should be reassessed due to educator movements, you should request a review by providing DSS with the physical address details of where all FDC/IHC is provided. If the reassessment indicates that a change to the HBOS rate is applicable, the new rate will be applied and all future payments will be calculated at this new rate. Previously, if a rate change was approved, the higher rate was payable from the next scheduled quarterly payment.

The format for the information you need to provide is detailed in the current FDC/IHC Guidelines on the <u>DSS</u> website at:

www.dss.gov.au

### How this impacts on Regional Travel Assistance Grant (RTAG) payments

Currently, RTAG payments are made quarterly in arrears following the submission of the RTAG claim by eligible services. There will be no change to this process. Claiming RTAG payments after July 2011 will not be part of the automation process.

For more information

Contact the CCMS Helpdesk or check the DSS website at

www.dss.gov.au

A Questions and Answers sheet is also available on the website and will be updated from time to time.