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Department of Developmental Services

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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

August 21, 2023

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: ABSENCE BILLINGS DURING A STATE OF EMERGENCY

When the Governor of California declares a State of Emergency, the Department of Developmental Services (Department), pursuant to Title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 54326(a)(11), authorizes regional centers to pay vendors for specified absences that are the direct result of the State of Emergency, pursuant to CCR, section 54326(a)(11), which states:

“[All vendors shall...] Not bill for consumer absences for nonresidential services. The Department shall authorize payment for absences which are the direct result of situations and/or occurrences for which a State of Emergency has been declared by the Governor. If payment for absences due to a State of Emergency is authorized by the Department, the vendor shall bill only for absences in excess of the average number of absences experienced by the vendor during the 12-month period prior to the month in which the disaster occurred.”

When the Governor makes a declaration or proclamation, the Department will notify affected regional centers via email regarding the Governor’s action and the Department’s authorization to pay vendors for such absences until the end of the state of emergency. If you have questions about this correspondence, please contact the Office of Community Operations at oco@dds.ca.gov or (833) 421-0061.

Sincerely,

ERNIE CRUZ
Deputy Director
Community Services Division

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Community Services
Association of Regional Center Agencies
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services
Pete Cervinka, Department of Developmental Services
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