



ODP Communication

ISP Manual Update: Life Sharing Codes in the Consolidated and Community Living Waivers

ODP Communication Number: Memo 023-18

The mission of the Office of Developmental Programs is to support Pennsylvanians with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence, choice and opportunity in their lives.

AUDIENCE: Administrative Entities (AEs), Supports Coordinators (SCs), SC Supervisors, Supports Coordination Organizations (SCOs), Providers of Life Sharing and other interested parties.

PURPOSE: To inform interested parties of an omission in the Life Sharing section of the Individual Support Plan (ISP) Manual, issued Dec. 1, 2017, and to provide related clarification.

DISCUSSION:

The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) is issuing this communication to address an omission to the Life Sharing provider specialty codes on page 146 of the ISP Manual. The Life Sharing service is provided at two levels – over 30 hours per week (procedure codes W8593 and W8595) and under 30 hours per week (procedure codes W7037 and W7039). The specialty code 524 “Unlicensed” is listed as the pertinent provider specialty code for both levels of the service.

Specialty code 522 “Family Living Homes – 6500” was omitted as one of the pertinent codes when the person(s) receiving Life Sharing services in the home needs an average of 30 hours or more of direct training and assistance per week from the agency, the county intellectual disability program or the host family. The ISP Manual has been updated to fix this omission.

This omission created confusion regarding the service as provided by relatives (as defined in the Life Sharing service definition) or non-relatives, and which provider specialty codes should be used for enrollment and billing purposes. The modifier SE must be used with any Life Sharing procedure code when the service is provided by a relative:

- When the person(s) receiving Life Sharing services in the home needs an average of less than 30 hours of direct training and assistance per week from the agency, the county intellectual disability program or the host family, the provider specialty code will always be 524 “Unlicensed”, regardless of whether the host family is a relative of the individual or is not a relative. The available procedure codes and procedure code/modifier combinations for less than 30 hours per week of Life Sharing are W7037, W7037 SE (by relative), W7039 and W7039 SE (by relative).
- When the person(s) receiving Life Sharing services in the home needs an average of 30 hours or more of direct training and assistance per week from the agency, the county intellectual disability program or the host family and the host family is a relative, the provider specialty code must be 524 “Unlicensed”. The SE modifier must always be used to signify that the service is provided by a host family that is a relative. The procedure code/modifier combinations available for this service are W8593 SE (by relative) and W8595 SE (by relative).
- When the person(s) receiving Life Sharing services in the home needs an average of 30 hours or more of direct training and assistance per week from the agency, the county intellectual disability program or the host family and the host family is not a relative, the provider specialty code must be 522 “Family Living Homes – 6500”. The procedure codes available for this service are W8593 and W8595.

The service codes for the Life Sharing service have been updated in the ISP Manual available electronically at

http://dhs.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/bulletin_admin/c_268094.pdf.

The change below can be found on pages 146 of the Manual.

The procedure code and service unit for Life Sharing – over 30 hours per week on average:

Provider Type **52** – Community Residential Rehabilitation
Specialty **524** – Unlicensed; **522** – Family Living Homes – 6500

Age Limits & Funding:

Consolidated Waivers: 0 - 120 years old;

Base Funding: 0 - 120 years old

Allowable Place of Service: 12-Home; 99-Other (Community)

CONTACT: Questions about this communication should be directed to the appropriate Developmental Programs Regional Office.