

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Introduction

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program provides assistance to eligible aged, blind, and disabled individuals who are unable to remain safely in their own homes without this assistance. IHSS is an alternative to out-of-home care. (30-700.1)

- The focus of the IHSS Program is to assist eligible individuals with the activities of daily living, allowing them to remain safely in their own home when they might otherwise require out-of-home placement.
- Own home means the place in which an individual chooses to reside. It does not include an acute care hospital, skilled nursing facility, intermediate care facility, community care facility, or a board and care facility. A person receiving Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment (SSI/SSP) for a non-medical out-of-home living arrangement is not considered to be living in their home. (30-701.4)
- Services may not be authorized if an individual is able to safely perform the task(s) without an *unreasonable* amount of physical or emotional stress (30-761.25). The applicant's/recipient's convenience, comfort, or personal standards of cleanliness are not valid considerations.

Programs

The IHSS Program is subdivided into three separate programs: the IHSS Personal Care Services Program (PCSP), the IHSS Plus Waiver (IPW) Program, and the IHSS Residual (IHSS-R) Program. This program division was implemented August 1, 2004. Service provision to IHSS applicants/recipients is identical under each program, although funding, eligibility and case documentation requirements differ.

Delivery of Services

Services for eligible IHSS applicants/recipients are provided through an Individual Provider (IP) who is interviewed, hired, trained, supervised, and terminated by the IHSS applicant/recipient. The IHSS applicant/recipient is the employer and is responsible for work schedules and working conditions as they apply to the IP. (30-764.31) The IP receives payment from the State of California after timesheet data has been data-entered locally by the IHSS Public Authority.

Rate of Compensation

The county determines the compensation rate for the IP. The base rate shall not be less than the legal minimum wage in effect at the time that the services are performed. (30-764.21)

Maximum Hours of Service

The maximum number of hours that an IHSS applicant/recipient can be authorized, by law, is based on the severity of their impairment and their case funding source. The PCSP program has a single maximum of 283 service hours per month. This contrasts with the IPW and the IHSS-R

programs that have a limit of 195 service hours per month for non-severely impaired individuals and 283 hours per month for severely impaired individuals. (30-765.111)

Maximum Hours of Service	
PCSP recipient	283 hours
IPW recipient - Severely impaired	283 hours
IPW recipient - Non-severely impaired	195 hours
Residual recipient - Severely impaired	283 hours
Residual recipient - Non-severely impaired	195 hours

AB 1862, signed into law in August 1999, eliminated unmet need for all IHSS Residual recipients.

The Social Worker is reminded that, in many cases, the IHSS applicant's/recipient's needs do not reach the maximum authorization available. For this reason, Social Workers generally do not address possible hours of service authorization with an applicant/recipient until an assessment has been completed.

Case Management, Information and Payrolling System

The IHSS Program uses the State of California Case Management, Information and Payrolling System (CMIPS) to store, access, update and retrieve IHSS applicant/recipient and Individual Provider data. Case information obtained by Social Workers and clerical staff is entered manually on designated CMIPS forms and forwarded to data entry staff for input into the computer system.

IP timesheet information (hours worked) is also data entered into CMIPS. This data is electronically forwarded to the State Treasurer's office in Sacramento, California, where the IP's payroll warrant is issued.

Monthly reports are issued based on data entered into CMIPS and are available online. Reports are updated monthly or weekly for staff use as a case management tool. Please see the CMIPS Manual Chapter XIV for detailed information on the monthly reports available.