



Respite Care



SERVICE DEFINITION

Respite services means services provided to individuals unable to care for themselves that are furnished on a short-term basis because of the absence or need for relief of those persons who normally provide care for the individual. Respite can be provided in the individual's home or place of residence, in the respite caregiver's home, in a camp setting, in a DDARS-approved Day Habilitation facility or in a nonprivate residential setting (such as a respite home). Respite may be used intermittently to cover those hours normally covered by an unpaid caregiver.

Reimbursable Activities

Reimbursable activities under Respite care services include the following:

- Assistance with toileting and feeding
- Assistance with daily living skills, including assistance with accessing the community and community activities
- Assistance with grooming and personal hygiene
- Meal preparation, serving and cleanup
- Administration of medications
- Supervision/support
- Individual services
- Group services (unit rate divided by number of individuals served)



Service Standards The following service standards apply to Respite care services:

- Respite must be reflected in the PCISP.
- Respite Nursing Care (RN or LPN) services may be delivered only when skilled care is required and documented in the PCISP.

Documentation Standards

A service note can include multiple discrete services, as long as discrete services are clearly identified. A service note must include:

- Individual name
- IHCP Member ID of the individual
- Date of service
- Provider rendering service
- Primary location of services rendered

An activity summary for each block of time this service is rendered must exist and must include duration, service, a brief description of activities, significant medical or behavioral incidents requiring intervention, or any other situation that is uncommon for the individual. A staff signature must be present for each block of time claimed on a service note. A new entry is not required unless a different discrete service is provided (that is, one continuous note may exist even if the ratio changes). As applicable, monthly/quarterly reports must be uploaded to the document library of the state's case management system by the chosen service provider on or before the 15th day of the following month.

For Group Services

On request, the provider must be able to verify, in a concise format, that the ratio for each claimed time frame of service did not exceed the maximum allowable ratio, whether or not all group individuals use a waiver funding stream. Electronic signatures are acceptable if the provider has a log on file showing the staff member's electronic signature, actual signature, and printed name.

Limitations The following limitations apply to Respite services:

Waiver-funded respite services may not be rendered in a nursing facility

Activities Not Allowed The following activities are not allowed under Respite services:

- Reimbursement for room and board
- Services provided to an individual living in a licensed facility-based setting
- Cost of registration fees or cost of recreational activities (for example, camp)
- Service provided when Structured Family Caregiving service is being furnished to the individual
- Services provided when the individual is in children's foster care
- Other family members (such as siblings of the individual) receiving care or support from the provider while Respite is being provided/billed for the waiver individuals
- Respite used as day/child care
- Respite care provided to an individual while the individual is attending school (Note: Respite care is not intended to be provided on a continuous, long-term basis as part of daily services that would enable the unpaid caregiver to go to work or to attend school.)
- Respite care used to replace skilled nursing services that should be provided under the Indiana Medicaid State Plan
- Respite care duplicating any other service being provided under the individual's PCISP
- Services furnished to a minor by parents, stepparents or legal guardian
- Services furnished to an individual by the individual's spouse

Additional Information

- Available under the Family Supports Waiver and the Community Integration and Habilitation Waiver.
- Respite may be used intermittently to cover those hours normally covered by an unpaid caregiver.