County of San Bernardino
Department of Behavioral Health

Providing Services to Foster Care, Adoption Assistance Program (AAP), and Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (KinGAP) Children Placed Out-of-County Policy

Effective Date: 05/04/09
Approval Date: 10/01/09

Policy

It is the policy of the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to facilitate the provision of and payment for medically necessary specialty mental health services for children in a foster care, KinGAP or AAP Medi-Cal aid codes that are placed outside their county of origin in accordance Senate Bill (SB) 785.

Purpose

To provide the DBH with a process for facilitating the provision of medically necessary specialty mental health services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries with Foster Care, AAP, or KinGAP aid codes who are residing outside of their county of origin by authorizing, documenting, reimbursing, and being reimbursed for services in accordance with Title 9, CCR § 1830.220(b)(4)(A).

Definitions

County of Origin: The county where legal jurisdiction has been established and/or that has financial responsibility for the child or youth. Operationally defined as the county of responsibility for Medi-Cal listed within the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS).

Host County: The county where the child/youth is living when the child/youth is not living in the county of origin. May be referred to as the “County of Residence.”

Adoption Assistance Program (AAP): Assistance Program operated by California Department of Social Services for children and youth adopted through county programs. Operationally defined as a child/youth with a Medi-Cal aid code identified as an AAP aid Code

Mental Health Plan (MHP): The county mental health plan through which each county operates to provide and/or facilitate mental health services for Medi-Cal Beneficiaries.

Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program (KinGAP): Assistance Program through California Department of Social Services for minors exiting the juvenile court dependency system and being placed with a relative legal guardian. Operationally defined as a child/youth with a Medi-Cal aid code identified as a KinGAP aid code.

Continued on next page
County of San Bernardino
Department of Behavioral Health

Providing Services to Foster Care, Adoption Assistance Program (AAP), and Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (KinGAP) Children Placed Out-of-County Policy,
Continued

Definitions (continued)

**Foster Care**: Assistance program through California Department of Social Services for children and youth enrolled in foster care. Operationally defined as a child/youth with a Medi-Cal aid code identified as a Foster Care aid code.

**Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS)**: State-wide computerized tracking system in which salient information, including the county of responsibility and aid code, is maintained for all Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Aid Codes that Apply to SB 785

The Medi-Cal aid codes applicable to this policy and the attached procedures are as follows:

- **03**: Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) (FFP). A cash grant program to facilitate the adoption of hard-to-place children who would require permanent foster care placement without such assistance.
- **04**: Adoption Assistance Program/Aid for Adoption of Children (AAP/AAC). Covers cash grant children receiving Medi-Cal by virtue of eligibility to AAP/AAC benefits.
- **4A**: Adoption Assistance Program (AAP). Program for AAP children for whom there is a state-only AAP agreement between any state other than California and adoptive parent(s).
- **4F**: Kinship Guardian Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP). Federal program for children in relative placement receiving cash assistance.
- **4G**: Kin-GAP. State only program for children in relative placement receiving cash assistance.
- **4K**: Emergency Assistance (EA) Program (FFP). Covers juvenile probation cases placed in foster care.
- **40**: AFDC-FC/Non-Fed (State FC). Provides financial assistance for those children who are in need of substitute parenting and who have been placed in foster care.
- **42**: AFDC-FC/Fed (FFP). Provides financial assistance for those children who are in need of substitute parenting and who have been placed in foster care.
- **5K**: Emergency Assistance (EA) Program (FFP). Covers child welfare cases placed in EA foster care.

*Continued on next page*
County of San Bernardino  
Department of Behavioral Health

Providing Services to Foster Care, Adoption Assistance Program (AAP), and Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (KinGAP) Children Placed Out-of-County Policy,

Continued

### Authorizing Services and Payment

In order to determine the provision of and payment for services of children in which SB 785 applies to, the following chart shall be utilized:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If...</th>
<th>Then...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The child/youth is Medi-Cal eligible under a foster care aid code</td>
<td>Apply the processes outlined in the <a href="#">Providing Services to Foster Care Children Placed Out-of-County Procedure</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The child/youth is Medi-Cal eligible under an AAP or KinGAP aid code</td>
<td>Apply the processes outlined in the <a href="#">Providing Services to Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) and Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (KinGAP) Children Placed Out-of-County Procedure</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### References

California Department of Mental Health, DMH Information Notice No. 09-06
Title 9, CCR § 1830.220(b)(4)(A)
Welfare and Institutions Code, §§ 5777.7, 11376, 16120, and 16125
California Department of Mental Health, DMH Information Notice No. 08-24
California Department of Mental Health Aid Code Master Chart @ [http://www.dmh.ca.gov/MedCCC/Library.asp](http://www.dmh.ca.gov/MedCCC/Library.asp).

### Related Policies

DBH, Standard Practices Manual, [CHD0311-1-Providing Services to Foster Care Children Placed Out-of-County Procedure](#)
DBH, Standard Practices Manual, [CHD0311-2-Providing Services to Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) and Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (KinGAP) Children Placed Out-of-County Procedure](#)