

Financial Management Services

Learning Objectives

- Understand the role of the Financial Management Services (FMS) provider and requirements for FMS participation in the Self-Determination Program
- Know the differences between 3 FMS models:
 - Fiscal Agent
 - Fiscal/Employer Agent (F/EA)
 - Co-Employer
- Understand the relationships between the Self-Determination Program participant, FMS provider, independent facilitator, and regional center

FMS Provider Description

- Ensures there are financial resources for participants to implement their Individual Program Plans throughout the year by helping participants to manage their funds
- Distributes and tracks the funds contained in their individual budgets
- Gets paid from funds allocated through participants' individual budgets

General FMS Responsibilities

- Required to be vendored by a regional center
- Provide participants and regional center service coordinators with a monthly individual budget statement
- Receive, track and disburse funds based on participants' IPP and budget
- Verify provider qualifications
- Ensure that service providers have all applicable state licenses, certifications or other documentation and are not on the federal debarment list.

FMS Models

- 1) Fiscal Agent – The FMS provider is the bill payer/check writer only
- 2) Fiscal/Employer Agent (F/EA) – The participant is the actual employer and the FMS provider helps the participant with specific employment tasks and processes payroll/withholds taxes
- 3) Co-Employer – The FMS provider is the Employer of Record, and has the employer responsibility/liability; shares employer roles with the participant

Cost of FMS

FMS Model Examples

	Situation	Fiscal Agent	F/EA	Co-Employer
Example 1	Annie, a 50-something regional center consumer lives in the home of her mother. Her sister who also resides in the home, attends to Annie and ensures she receives the services and supports listed in her IPP, including but not limited to, attendance at a day program twice a week, and incontinence supplies.	✓		
Example 2	Walter's son, Barry, who has been a regional center consumer since 1982, requires daily attendant services to help him with basic daily activities. Employees are recruited through the local community college's Gerontology Department. Barry is responsible for hiring and terminating caregivers, in addition to obtaining worker's compensation insurance.		✓	
Example 3	Marsha, a registered nurse, has 6-year old twins with intellectual disabilities and complex health care and social needs. To coordinate the significant array of services and supports, such as skilled nursing, therapies, and transportation, Marsha has elected to recruit help through her professional network, but has limited time and expertise to manage employees and the employer-related duties.			✓

RELATIONSHIPS TO THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES PROVIDER

Participant

- Selected by participant
- Relationship and duties vary based on model:
 - FA – few services purchased through any resource; primarily check-writing service
 - F/EA – many services and/or direct employees
 - Co-Employer – FMS and participant are co-employers of support workers

Independent Facilitator

- Relationship varies based on model chosen:
 - Few services purchased = minimal contact
 - More services = more contact

Regional Center

- Manages vendorization process
- Monitors for quality assurance
- Provides individual budget
- May be responsible for Independent Facilitator roles if participant chooses not to have one

Questions

