

Share of Cost – How does it work?

Some In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) consumers with total income above the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) level pay an IHSS Share of Cost.

Share of Cost (SOC) means the consumer must pay a part of the cost of their In-Home Supportive Services. Make sure to ask any consumer you work for if he/she has a SOC. If so, be sure to read this handout. If the consumer has no SOC, this handout does not apply to you.

How SOC works:

IHSS is now funded through Medi-Cal. As of June 5, 2006, the SOC for the IHSS program will be treated like any other SOC for Medi-Cal services. Each month, consumers with a SOC will pay their SOC to whichever Medi-Cal service(s) they use first. Consumers may need to pay some or all their SOC amount directly to you, the homecare worker, for IHSS services. This amount depends on whether they have already paid their SOC for that month for other medical services. Examples of other medical services are medications, or visits to their doctor.

Soon after you turn in your timesheet for the 1 – 15th of the month, the State will mail a letter to the consumer and to you, the homecare worker. This letter will tell you and the consumer how much of their SOC the consumer must pay you that month. Please note the following:

- a) If a consumer has two or more homecare workers, the SOC still owed for that month will be deducted from the check of the homecare worker whose *timesheet is processed first* by Payroll.
- b) If the consumer already paid the entire SOC for other Medi-Cal services, your check will have *no SOC deduction* and the consumer will not pay you a SOC that month.
- c) The amount of the SOC that the consumer must pay you may be *different each month*. This depends on whether any SOC was paid to other Medi-Cal providers.

Please see back for a Share of Cost Example!

Share of Cost Example:

For Consumer Ms. Wong, who has a \$200 SOC for the month of June.

June 1 st	Ms. Wong purchases her monthly medication, which cost \$50.	Ms. Wong will pay \$50 to the pharmacy.
June 5 th	Ms. Wong has a routine doctor's appointment. The cost of doctor's visit is \$125	Ms. Wong pays \$125 to her doctor.
June 15 th	Ms. Wong and her homecare worker submit IHSS timesheet for June 1 – 15 th .	IHSS payroll processes the timesheet on June 17 th .
June 19 th	The state sends both Ms. Wong and her homecare worker "Explanations of Benefits" letters. These letters tell Ms. Wong and her homecare worker the amount Ms. Wong should pay her worker.	Ms. Wong pays \$25 SOC to her homecare worker. <i>Why? \$200 SOC</i> <i>- \$ 50 (pharmacy)</i> <i>- <u>\$125 (doctor)</u></i> <i>= \$25 SOC to be paid to HCW</i>

**If you have any questions about Share of Cost,
call the California Department of Social Services at:**

1-877-508-1327

This is a handout of the Public Authority for IHSS training program. For more information on IHSS provider training, call 510-577-3554.