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NEBRASKA

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DATE: June 17, 2021
TO: NDE Provisionally Approved Service Providers
FROM: Suzie Pierce, Office of Special Education
RE: 2021-22 NDE Service Provider Approval Process
CC: NDE Special Education Team; Special Education Directors

Online applications for the upcoming fiscal year, July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022, opened today.

The application link is: http://csp.education.ne.gov/Special_Education_Main.aspx.
The deadline for submitting 2020-21 applications is October 15, 2021. Following this deadline, few applications will be reviewed. Only special exceptions, such as out of state court placements may be considered for late review.

Please note there is a help guide prepared for those returning for their annual application update. The Service Agency web page can be accessed at <https://www.education.ne.gov/sped/service-agencies/>.

Mileage will be approved at the federal standard rate (\$.56 per mile). For agencies seeking a per pupil rate, mileage is already included in the rate calculation, therefore a separate service code rate is not needed and will be rejected.

Agencies operating programs at multiple locations must submit applications accordingly. (One application per site.) This will enable site specific staff credential verification and rate calculations. For those providing fiscal information for rate calculations, use your most recent completed fiscal year. Documentation of actual expenditures must be submitted for approval.

The service code, *9050 – Ward/Non-ward Placement*, has been established for state/court ward students and non-ward placements per Neb. Rev. Stat. Stat. 79-215. For Service Code 9050, rates are based on full education costs (general and special education combined). Again, documentation of actual expenditures must be submitted for approval.

If your agency plans to provide contracted special education services to school districts, then rate calculations should only be based on allowable special education expenses.

It may be appropriate for some agencies to have two separate rates (and accompanying service codes), one for Ward/Non-ward Placements and another for contracted special education services to districts.

Paraprofessionals must be supervised by a certified special education teacher. For paraprofessionals supporting students at a location without special education certified staff, there is an option to work collaboratively with the student's resident district to provide onsite supervision at a minimum of once per week. A cooperative agreement must accompany this application.

For more information, contact: suzie.pierce@nebraska.gov, 531-289-8190.