

STUDY OF THE QUALIFIED SERVICE PROVIDER SYSTEM - BACKGROUND MEMORANDUM

Section 9 of 2011 Senate Bill No. 2012 (attached as an [appendix](#)) provides for a Legislative Management study of the state's qualified service provider (QSP) system. The Human Services Committee has been assigned this responsibility for the 2011-12 interim.

QUALIFIED SERVICE PROVIDER

A QSP is an individual or agency providing care for people to enable them to continue to live in their own homes and communities. A QSP does not need to have a special certificate or license but needs skills necessary to provide care.

There are two types of QSPs:

- An individual QSP needs to prove they have competency in all the standards to provide a specific service. They are self-employed contracts and responsible to withhold or pay any Social Security, federal or state income tax, unemployment insurance, or workers' compensation insurance premiums from the payment received as a QSP.
- An agency QSP needs to assure its staff has the skills necessary to provide a specific service.

A QSP may provide the following services:

- Adult day care.
- Adult family foster care.
- Adult residential service.
- Case management.
- Chore service.
- Emergency response system.
- Environmental modification.
- Extended personal care/nurse education.
- Family personal care.
- Home-delivered meals.
- Homemaker service.
- Nonmedical transportation.
- Personal care.
- Respite care.
- Specialized equipment.
- Supported employment.
- Transitional living service.

To become enrolled as a QSP, an individual or agency must submit appropriate forms to the Department of Human Services. The department will provide the individual or agency with a provider number, instructions on how to bill for services provided, and rules about providing services as a QSP. The department will also provide the QSP with a form detailing the services the QSP is allowed to perform. The QSP may bill the individual who is provided care or the department for each 15-minute block of time during which services were provided. The QSP may not bill for time or expenses associated with travel. The following is a summary of individual and agency QSP payment rates of the Department of Human Services in recent years:

	Individual Unit (15-Minute) Rate	Agency Unit (15-Minute) Rate
July 2007	\$3.29	\$4.68
July 2008	\$3.45	\$4.91
July 2009	\$3.92	\$5.47
July 2010	\$4.16	\$5.80
July 2011	\$4.28	\$5.97

As of July 20, 2011, the Department of Human Services had 1,516 individual-enrolled and 141 agency-enrolled QSPs.

PROPOSED STUDY PLAN

The committee may wish to proceed with this study as follows:

1. Receive information from the Department of Human Services regarding the state's QSP system, including information regarding the enrollment of a QSP, payment for QSP services, and any suggested changes.
2. Receive testimony from interested persons regarding the study of the state's QSP system.
3. Develop committee recommendations and prepare any legislation necessary to implement the committee recommendations.
4. Prepare a final report for submission to the Legislative Management.

ATTACH: 1