Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Fiscal Procedures

Reference: FP02.07

Effective Date: 09/09/2013 Revision Date: 6/29/2015

SUBJECT: STIPENDS

I. INTRODUCTION:

- 1. This procedure describes the eligibility determination, authorization, and invoicing processes related to stipends paid by the Division.
- 2. Stipends are issued to assist individuals in paying the costs associated with attending Monthly Mental Health Block Grant and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Planning Council/Executive Committee/Sub-Committee meetings or Youth Council Advisory Board meetings; including participating in meetings by remote attendance; e.g., by telephone, internet based meeting connection or other remote attendance mechanism.
- 3. This fiscal procedure encourages compliance with State and Department policy, supports compliance with contract requirements related to invoices, and promotes timely payment for goods and services purchased by the Division.
- 4. Timely processing of invoices is important. DSAMH staff should coordinate with stipend recipients so that invoices are received monthly. It is critical at the end of each fiscal year (6/30 of each year) that invoices are received and processed by the deadline established by DHS that year.
- 5. Division Financial Staff shall not prepare invoices on behalf of a stipend recipient (Due to segregation of duties requirements).
- 6. Stipend invoices are subject to the provisions of FP02.01 Invoice Processing
- 7. Departures from this procedure are not authorized. Any deviation from this procedure requires **pre-approval** from the Administrative Services Director or Financial Manager.

II. PROCEDURE:

- 1. Program Administrator or Program Manager identifies potential stipend recipient(s) based on the following criteria:
 - a. Recipient will be a voting member of the Council who has been designated as a voting member (submitted a membership application and confirmed by Council vote)
 - b. Attendance at a complete Mental Health Block Grant and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Planning Council/Executive Committee/SubCommittee Meeting or Youth Council Advisory Board Meeting.

c. Duration of meeting is at least 1 hour.

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- d. Recipient will not receive payment from any other source to attend the meeting(s).
- e. Recipient will attend the entire meeting.
- f. The meeting must be scheduled in advance.
- g. There must be a written agenda and minutes taken of the meeting.
- h. Attendees must sign in on paper or have their attendance recorded by the host support staff if participating by a remote attendance mechanism.
- i. Stipends can be paid for up to 4 meetings per month that meet the above criteria.
- The Director of the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health may also approve other stipend requests deemed appropriate and under special circumstances.
- 2. Program Administrator or Program Manager completes Form S Stipend Approval Form. A single Form S may be prepared for multiple meetings related to the same purpose. An approved Form S is effective from the approval date until the end of the current fiscal year. The Program Administrator or Program Manager submits the Form S to the Division Director or the appropriate Assistant Division Director for pre-approval.
- 3. Division staff will obtain the stipend recipient(s) signature(s) at the meeting or participation by remote attendance will be noted by the host support staff.
- 4. Division staff will monitor and document who attends the meetings. The Program Administrator or Program Manager will work with the Office Specialist I to prepare and submit a monthly Stipend Request to the Financial Analyst I that contains the following information:
 - a. Date of the meeting
 - b. Purpose of the meeting
 - c. Name and address of the stipend recipient attending the meeting
 - d. Signature of stipend recipient from meeting
 - e. Program Administrator or Program Manager approval
- 5. Stipends are taxable to the recipient. Stipend recipients are required to complete a Form W-9 prior to a stipend being paid.
- 6. The Division Financial Analyst I will prepare stipend checks monthly based on \$35 per Planning Council/Executive Committee/Sub-Committee meeting or Youth Council Advisory Board meeting attended, documented, and approved.
- 7. If travel to the above meetings is more than 100 miles round trip then voting members (as defined above) qualify for \$35 stipend, in addition to the stipend for attending the meeting, if they are not reimbursed by an agency or other means.