




**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

**MEMORANDUM**

**OCDD-R-22-005**

**DATE:** August 19, 2022

**TO:** Self-Direction Participants and/or Employers

**FROM:** Julie Foster Hagan  
OCDD Assistant Secretary 

**SUBJECT:** Bonus Payments for Direct Service Workers Providing Self-Directed In CC, ROW and NOW

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities is pleased to announce the approval to authorize direct support professional (DSP) Workforce Retention Bonus Payments. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 has made these payments possible. Please see below for additional information.

**Direct Service Worker Workforce Retention Bonus Payments**

Self-Direction DSPs (employees) will receive a monthly bonus payment of \$125 per month for each month that the DSP worked with a participant for at least 16 hours that month. If your worker is eligible for a bonus payment, the fiscal employer agent (FEA) will issue the payment to your DSP.

These bonus payments are effective for all current DSPs of any working status, whether full-time or part-time. If a DSP works for more than one provider agency/FEA, the State will determine which provider agency will receive the bonus payment. A DSP is eligible for only one bonus payment per month. Once OCDD determines the start date, your FEA will notify you of that date.

DSP workforce retention bonus payments will end when the State's funding authorized under ARPA is exhausted. However, OCDD will notify self-direction participants/employers before the bonus payments end.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact OCDD at the following email:  
[OCDD-HCBS@la.gov](mailto:OCDD-HCBS@la.gov)

c: Local Governing Entities  
OCDD Support Coordination Agencies  
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