

## **STAFFING REQUIREMENTS**

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has the responsibility to establish reasonable qualifications for providers to ensure that they are capable of providing services of acceptable quality to recipients. The provider qualifications delineated in this section are dictated by the needs of the population to be served, and by the duties and responsibilities inherent in the provision of services as defined by LDH. LDH has established these staffing requirements to maintain an adequate level of quality, efficiency and professionalism in the provision of all services in the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) program.

### **Individualized and Family Support**

The following exclusions apply to Individualized and Family Support (IFS) services:

- Reimbursement shall not be paid for services furnished by a legally responsible relative. A legally responsible relative is defined as the parent of a minor child, foster parent, curator, tutor, legal guardian or the recipient's spouse.
- Service may be provided by a member of the recipient's family, provided that the recipient does not live in the family member's residence and the family member is not the legally responsible relative as defined above. If the recipient and the family member have the same street address and one utility bill, it is considered to be the same residence for the purpose of this exclusion.
- Family members who provide IFS services must meet the same standards as providers or direct care staff who are unrelated to the individual.

### **Residential Habilitation – Supported Independent Living**

Family members who are not legally responsible relatives can be Supported Independent Living (SIL) workers provided they meet the same qualifications as any other SIL worker.

### **Substitute Family Care**

Immediate family members, such as a recipient's mother, father, brother, sister, spouse or curator, cannot be Substitute Family Care parents.