

Personnel Management and Services  
Nelson E. Diaz, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: MEDICAL CONSULTING SERVICES CONTRACT WITH PHYSICIAN CONSULTING SERVICES, INC.**

The Board awarded its contract for medical consulting services to Physician Consulting Services, Inc. (PCS), Weston, Florida, at the Board meeting of May 13, 1998 for an initial three-year term, effective June 1, 1998. Physician Consulting Services provides a variety of medical consulting services to the District, pursuant to the terms outlined in Request For Proposal (RFP) # 229-VV-10. Among the medical consulting services requested as part of this contract were providing interpretation of:

- Issues related to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA);
- Issues related to return to work and light duty assignments for workers' compensation cases;
- Issues related to the Family Medical Leave Act; and
- Issues related to sick leave, hardship leave and return to work.

The pricing structure approved by the Board for these services is \$275/hour, with a maximum fee per case of \$5,000. Under the terms of the contract, PCS would provide consultative services on an as-needed basis, as long as it relates to medical consultation.

Prior to September 1, 1999, the Board had a contract with the Port of Miami Medical Clinic to review medical records of employees who were applying for and receiving benefits from Hardship/Dire Emergency Leave. When the contract was due to expire, the Board Attorney's Office determined that review of medical records for Hardship/Dire Emergency Leave were services which could be provided under the terms of RFP #229-VV-10. Staff negotiated fees with PCS and, effective September 1, 1999, PCS began providing this medical review service with a pricing structure of \$2,600 per month, plus \$30/case once a total of 800 cases had been seen.

PCS has now requested a rate increase for this medical review service for Hardship/Dire Emergency Leave medical records review. The proposed rate is \$68.75 per case, with the hourly rate not to exceed the already established maximum of \$275/hour, and a maximum fee per case of \$5,000. After reviewing the proposal, staff is recommending this increase, as the level of service being provided by PCS is very good, and proper medical record review will result in savings to the Board in Hardship/Dire Emergency Leave payments.

The Principals of PCS are Marie Weston, M.D., and Michael Weston, M.D.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 1999-2000 Adopted Budget, under Fund 0100, Program 8150, Function 7730, Object 5324, and Location 9112, and will be included in the General Fund of the 2000-2001 Tentative Adopted Budget to be approved by the Board

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve the revised fee structure from Physician Consulting Services, for medical records review for employees applying and receiving benefits from Hardship/Dire Emergency Leave, pursuant to the terms of RFP#129-VV-10, at a rate of \$68.75 per case with hourly fees not to exceed \$275/hour, with a maximum case charge not to exceed \$5,000, effective July 1, 2000.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 1999-2000 Adopted Budget; and will be included in the General Fund of the 2000-2001 Tentative Adopted Budget to be approved by the Board.

NED:sc