The Level of Care Rate Determination Protocol (LOCP) is a strength-based rate methodology designed to identify the individual care and supervision needs of a child or youth which is translated to an appropriate LOCP rate to support their placement. Care and supervision needs will be identified based on five (5) core domains and scored based on a weighted point system.

**5 CORE DOMAINS**

**HEALTH**
- Healthcare
- Access for special needs

**PHYSICAL**
- Daily Living Needs

**EDUCATIONAL**
- Student achievement
- Educational excellence
- Equal access to services

**BEHAVIORAL/EMOTIONAL**
- Resilience
- Emotional Well-Being
- Pro-Social Behavior
- Healthy Relationships

**PERMANENCY/FAMILY SERVICES**
- Visitation, communication, development and maintenance of supportive connections with members of their biological/non-biological families
- Belonging, identity, and connection to culture

The LOCP is used by the Social Worker or Probation Officer.

The LOCP should be completed when a child or youth enters foster care, changes placement, if their needs have changed, or when either Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC) or Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) has ended.

Information gathering designed to focus on the needs of the child or youth may come from a variety of perspectives and sources including the Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings, Resource Parent(s), and/or other assessment tools.

For additional information or questions, please contact: LOC@dss.ca.gov