



Wisconsin Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Rate Setting Initiative

Deb Rathermel, Director
Bureau of Children's Services
Carrie Kahn, Bureau of Long
Term Care Financing

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History

- September 2014: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) determined Wisconsin's current county-based HCBS rate structure does not meet federal standards because it is inconsistent with the requirements that 1915(c) waivers be administered consistently across the scope of the waiver.
- October 2014: CMS required Wisconsin to develop and implement a uniform rate-setting methodology for HCBS.



Rate-Setting Guidelines

CMS outlined the following guidelines to be used when creating the statewide rate-setting methodology:

1. Describe the rate-setting methodology used for each waiver service.
2. Describe how the state exercises financial oversight to ensure that rates are determined and paid in accordance with a uniform methodology that ensures consistent rate structure for each specific service.



Rate-Setting Guidelines (Continued)

3. Describe how the state solicits public comment on rate determination methods.
4. Describe how information about payment rates is made available to waiver participants.
5. Describe whether this rate determination method is used for determining self-directed budgets or if some other method is used and applied consistently to each waiver participant.



Initiative Launched

- February 2015: The Department of Health Services (DHS) created a corrective action plan to create a uniform rate methodology for HCBS.
- July 2015: CMS approved the state's corrective action plan, which includes creating a method that will account for acuity and region.
- September 3, 2015: First communication of this initiative took place at the Wisconsin County Human Service Association meeting.



Scope of Initiative

This initiative will modify the existing rate-setting methodology for fee-for-service 1915(c) waiver programs, including:

- Children's Long Term Supports (CLTS)
- Community Options Program (COP)
- Community Integration Program (CIP)



Services included in Rate-Setting Project

- Adult Day Care
- Adult Family Home
- Case Management
- Community-Based Residential Facilities
- Childcare
- Community Integration Services
- Consumer Education and Training
- Counseling and Therapeutic Services
- Daily Living Skills
- Day Services



Services included in Rate-Setting Project (Cont'd)

- Financial Management Services
- Housing Counseling
- Mentoring
- Nursing Services
- Prevocational Services
- Respite
- Specialized Transportation



Services included in Rate-Setting Project (Cont'd)

- Supported Employment
- Supportive Home Care
- Training for Unpaid Caregivers



Services Exempt from Rate-Setting Project

- Adaptive Aid (vehicle)
- Adaptive Aid (other)
- Children's Foster Care / Treatment Home*
- Communication Aids
- Consumer-directed Supports
- Home-Delivered Meals

(*DHS is waiting for CMS Approval)



Services Exempt from Rate-Setting Project (cont'd)

- Home Modifications
- Personal Emergency Response Systems
- Relocation Services/ Housing Start-up
- Residential Care Apartment Complex
- Specialized Medical and Therapeutic Supplies



Project Timeline

- March 2017: The state will submit a draft of its new rate-setting methodology for CMS approval.
- September 2017: Final 2018 rates will be submitted for CMS approval.
- September 2017: Counties, providers, members, and other stakeholders will be notified of rate changes.
- September 2017: Rates will be posted to the DHS website.
- January 2018: DHS will implement new rates.



Stakeholder Outreach Plan

- Letter to all CLTS, CIP, and COP Waiver providers notifying them of CMS rate-setting requirements
- Dedicated website containing information about the rate setting initiative and timeline
- Email distribution list to keep stakeholders informed
- Webcast describing the rate setting process
- Stakeholder and provider surveys to gather service and expense information and other feedback



Questions?



Further Questions or Concerns

Email further questions or concerns about this initiative,
to:

DHSDLTCBFM@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Stakeholders may sign up to receive updates at:

https://admin.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDHS_337