Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Rate Increase Update

Rate Increases Effective 10/1/17
The Department received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a 1.4% rate increase, effective 10/1/17, for services provided through the Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT) program and for services in the following HCBS waivers:

- Brain Injury (BI)
- Elderly, Blind, and Disabled (EBD)
- Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)
- Children’s Home and Community Based Services (CHCBS)
- Children with Life-Limiting Illness (CLLI)

Additionally, effective 10/1/2017, the following waivers will have targeted rate increases for Non-Medical Transportation (7.01% increase) and agency-based Personal Care and Homemaker ($0.50 per hour):

- Brain Injury (BI)
- Elderly, Blind, and Disabled (EBD)
- Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

Community Mental Health Supports Waiver
All rates for services provided within the Community Mental Health Supports (CMHS) Waiver do not yet receive these increases.

The Department is awaiting CMS approval for the CMHS waiver renewal. To add rate increases to a waiver the Department must “amend” the waiver and request approval from CMS. The Department may not complete a waiver renewal and amendment at the same time. Therefore, the request to increase rates for the CMHS waiver as outlined above may not be submitted to CMS until the Department receives approval on the waiver renewal. The Department will submit a request to CMS for the rate increases immediately following receipt of approval from CMS for the renewal. Once the Department receives approval from CMS for the CMHS rate increases a communication will be sent to stakeholders.
Developmental Disabilities and Supported Living Services Waiver(s)
Approval from CMS to implement the across the board 1.4% rate increase for the HCBS-Developmental Disabilities (DD) and Supported Living Services (SLS) waivers was effective 7/1/2017. The Department has requested and awaits CMS approval for targeted rate increases for Non-Medical Transportation (7.01%) in both DD and SLS waivers. In addition, the SLS waiver is awaiting CMS approval for targeted increases for CDASS Personal Care and Homemaker services.

Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services
Personal Care ($0.50/hour), Homemaker ($0.50/hour) and Health Maintenance (1.4%) services provided under the Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) delivery option were approved for rate increases. However, implementation of rate increases for CDASS is awaiting system changes through the Financial Management Service (FMS) vendors. The Department estimates an effective date of December 1, 2017 for all CDASS rate increases. Participants will be informed of their increased CDASS allocation through their contracted case management agency prior to the increase implementation.

Billing and Next Steps
Rates have been loaded into the interChange (iC) and are able to be billed immediately. Fee schedules with approved rate increases are available on the Department’s external Provider website. Providers who usually bill less than the rate amount will need to submit adjustments. Providers who bill more than the current amount on or after October 1, 2017 will not have to act to receive the increased rates.

The Department will continue to provide updates on provider rate increases through provider bulletins and stakeholder communication.