



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Home and Community Based Services Waiver Amendment for the Brain Injury (BI) and Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Waivers

October 13, 2016

Legislation passed to allow the Department to seek federal authorization to implement Medicaid Buy-In for adults who are eligible to receive Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). The Department is requesting federal authorization to implement the Medicaid Buy-In program for Working Adults with Disabilities (Adult Buy-In) for adults who are eligible to receive Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). Adult Buy-In is being added to the Brain Injury (BI) and Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Waivers. This program provides Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) benefits for working individuals with disabilities, ages 16 through 64, whose adjusted individual income is at or below 450% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Eligible individuals will receive Health First Colorado benefits by paying a monthly premium on a sliding scale based on their adjusted individual income. Applicants are considered a family size of one for the program and waiver services can be covered through the Adult Buy-In program.

Individuals on the Adult Buy-In program will have access to these benefits as long as they meet the program's level of care requirement and targeting criteria through a functional needs assessment. Adding the Adult Buy-In program to the waivers provides individuals the opportunity to receive services to assist in meeting their daily needs while working. The Adult Buy-In program is funded through the Hospital Provider Fee cash fund. The Department does not foresee any negative implications as a result of these Waiver Amendments.

In order to make this change official, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is required to submit an HCBS Waiver amendment to our Federal partners for approval. As part of this process, the Department is federally required to provide a 30-day public notice and comment period, as well as at least one additional opportunity for public comment.



Please review the following information for your opportunity to participate in this process if you choose.

Summary of Waiver Amendment

Medicaid Buy-In Program for Working Adults with Disabilities

A new eligibility group will be served in the Brain Injury (BI) and Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) waivers. This will allow working individuals with disabilities to buy into Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) (TWWIIA Basic Coverage Group as provided in §1902(a) (10) (A)(ii)(XV) of the Act).

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS

- The Department will have a draft of the BI and SCI Waiver Amendments open for public comment from 10/13/2016 to 11/11/2016. The amendments will be posted on the Department's website: www.colorado.gov/hcpf/hcbs-waiver-transition
- Individuals may request draft Waiver Amendments materials via email at: LTSS.PublicComment@state.co.us
- Comments regarding the draft Waiver Amendments can be emailed directly to: LTSS.PublicComment@state.co.us
- Comments can also be addressed to the following:
ATTN: Erica Weidenfeld
1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203
303-866-5913
- All comments will be maintained and responses provided in a regularly updated listening log kept on the Department's website: www.colorado.gov/hcpf/hcbs-waiver-transition

The Department commits to incorporating comments, concerns, and suggestions into the proposed waiver amendment plan when possible.

