



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Amendment Fact Sheet

February 28, 2019

The Department intends to submit waiver amendments for the following Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers:

- Persons with Brain Injury (BI)
- Children's Home- and Community-Based Services (CHCBS)
- Children with a Life-Limiting Illness (CLLI)
- Community Mental Health Supports (CMHS)
- Persons who are Elderly, Blind, and Disabled (EBD)
- Persons with a Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

The Department will accept public comments from February 28, 2019 through March 30, 2019. The Department intends to submit the amendments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on April 2, 2019. The Department will request an effective date of June 30, 2019 for these waiver renewals.

Explanations of changes within the waiver applications can be found below.

Public Comments will be accepted starting February 28 through March 30, 2019.

Summary of Changes

Quality Improvement Strategies (QIS) Performance Measure Updates

- *The Department is updating Performance Measures throughout the BI, CHCBS, CLLI, CMHS, EBD, and SCI waiver applications.*

Summary: To operate a 1915(c) HCBS waiver, the State must address how it intends to meet specific CMS requirements known as the HCBS waiver assurances. The Department has updated Performance Measures in the below sections of the waiver applications in order to meet these assurances and ensure consistency across all 10 HCBS waivers in Colorado:

- Administrative Authority which demonstrates the Department retains ultimate authority over the waiver;
- Level of Care which demonstrates the Department appropriately evaluates a participant's level of care consistent with the waiver eligibility requirements;
- Qualified Providers which demonstrates the Department has qualified providers for all waiver services;

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while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.
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- Service Plan which demonstrates the Department has an effective system for reviewing service plans;
- Health and Welfare which demonstrates the Department has an effective system to assure the health and welfare of waiver participants; and
- Financial Accountability which demonstrates the Department ensures financial accountability of the waiver.

Post Payment Review (PPR) Function and Oversight

- *The Department is updating the BI, CHCBS, CLLI, CMHS, EBD, and SCI waivers to include an explanation of the role of the PPR vendor and a performance measure for the oversight of the PPR contract.*

Summary: The Department is updating the waiver application to include the description of the PPR process, the role of the vendor, and how oversight of this vendor is maintained. The Department is also including a Performance Measure (PM) to demonstrate its oversight of the Post Payment Review vendor. The Post Payment Review vendor will review claims to ensure financial integrity and accountability.

Supported Living Program (SLP) Rate Methodology

- *The Department is updating the SLP rate methodology in the BI waiver from a provider-based rate to a client-based tiered rate.*

Summary: Beginning in July of 2018, the Department contracted with a vendor to gather samples of statewide acuity scores. The scores were compared to national data to validate results and then analyzed with claims data and provider cost surveys to make the relationship between rates and client needs more precise. With the new rate methodology, the salary expectations are adjusted to account for differences in client acuity as determined by the BI SLP assessment tool.

Cost Neutrality Projections

- *The Department updated the forecast for expenditures for the BI, CHCBS, CLLI, CMHS, EBD, and SCI waivers.*

Summary: The Department is updating the forecasts for expenditures and client count to more accurately project the utilization and expenditures for the remaining life of the waivers.

Public Comment Opportunity

The Department will post drafts of the waiver amendment applications on the Department's website at www.colorado.gov/hcpf/hcbs-waiver-transition for public comment.

- The Department will make available a draft of the Waiver Amendments for a 30-day public comment period from February 28 through March 30, 2019.



- The Department commits to incorporating comments, concerns, and suggestions when possible.
- All comments and responses will be recorded in a listening log that will be published after the public comment period ends.

To request a paper or electronic copy of the waiver amendments including the full draft waiver and/or provide public comment please do so by:

- Phone: 303-866-3684
- Email: LTSS.PublicComment@state.co.us
- In-Person: 1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203
- Postal Mail: 1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203 ATTN: HCBS Waiver Amendments
- Fax: 303-866-2786 ATTN: HCBS Waiver Amendments

