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## PROVIDER BULLETIN

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### **Comprehensive, Community Support, Partnership for Hope (PFH) and Missouri Children with Developmental Disabilities (MOCDD) Waiver Amendments**

The Comprehensive, Community Support, PFH and MOCDD Waiver Amendments were approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on December 12, 2022, with effective dates of January 1, 2023. The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Provider Manual will be updated with the information in this bulletin at a later date.

#### **CHANGES TO ALL WAIVERS**

1. Updated the Environmental Accessibility Adaptations-Home/Vehicle Modification maximum limitation.
2. Added Value Based Payments for enhanced provider payments to incentivize and reward best practice.
3. Added Level 2 Direct Support Professional (DSP) trained within a year of employment exception for Provider Qualifications, other standard provider types for direct contact staff who require high school diploma or GED within one year of employment.

#### **Environmental Accessibility Adaptations-Home/Vehicle Modification**

**Limits on the amount, frequency or duration of this service:** Costs are limited to \$20,000 biennially, per individual. The biennial limit corresponds with the individuals' annual support plan year and is renewable every two years.

Effective 1/1/23, the exception process is removed to decrease delays in approving the service. Single jobs over \$10,000 will continue to be reviewed by the state or TCM entity utilization using the review process and final approval procedure conducted by Division regional offices.

## **Supplemental or Enhanced Payments**

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) Division of Developmental Disabilities will implement nine incentive payments. The performance period will be a state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) starting with state fiscal 2023.

The Division developed a uniform process to analyze data reported to ensure consistency in reports completed and provider notification protocol. Final determination that a payment is earned will be made by the Division. Additional incentive detail is located in the provider's contract and on the Division's webpage Value Based Payments (VBP) | [dmh.mo.gov](http://dmh.mo.gov).

Value Based Payment incentives include:

1. Establish Incentive Payments for DMH DD Agency Personal Assistant Services (Not Self-Directed) where Personal Assistant Waiver Providers are engaged in Electronic Verification Visit (EVV) with the Missouri EVV Aggregator Payment earned and paid to DMH DD agency personal assistant service provider to interface with an EVV vendor, complete state system aggregator registration with on-boarding training, and successfully transmit verified personal assistant service EVV records to the state aggregator system.

The EVV incentive payment can be earned once every six months (i.e., once for the July-December time period and once for the January-June time period). To earn the payment, the agency personal assistant provider must successfully transmit verified EVV records for at least 80% of their paid personal assistant service visits for the given six-month period to the state aggregator system. The EVV records must contain all required data points. The incentive payment amount paid to the provider is equivalent to 1% of the total Medicaid paid personal assistant claims payment made to the agency personal assistant provider for the applicable six month period. HCBS waiver providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

2. Establish Pay for Reporting Incentive Payments for DMH DD waiver employment service providers who submit data elements that report outcomes and activities in the delivery of Career Planning, Prevocational, Job Development, Supported Employment, and Benefits Planning services.

Payment earned and paid to the DMH DD provider for each quarterly report that employment service providers complete and submit to the state.

A provider can earn the incentive payment for each quarterly report (i.e., four times per year), as outlined in the provider contract. The quarterly payment is equivalent to \$55 and is only paid for reporting where the provider completes 100% of the required data points. Payment is available for each employment service provided to an individual within a reporting period (e.g. multiple payment are available if a waiver recipient receives multiple services.) HCBS waiver providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

3. Establish Incentive Payments for DMH DD HCBS waiver providers who employ new Direct Support Professionals who participate in the US Department of Labor Missouri Talent Pathways Registered Apprenticeship (Missouri Talent Pathways | [dmh.mo.gov](http://dmh.mo.gov)).

Payment earned and paid to the DMH DD provider for each qualifying direct support professional that a waiver provider recruits to participate in the Talent Pathways apprenticeship program. This incentive payment is applicable when the DMH DD waiver provider organization contracts for one or more of the following waiver services: Personal Assistant, Personal Assistant - Medical Exception, Day Habilitation, Day Habilitation - Behavioral Exception, Day Habilitation - Medical Exception, Community Networking, Individualized Skill Development, Career Planning, Prevocational, Job Development, Supported Employment, In-Home Respite—Day, In-Home Respite—Individual, In-Home Respite—Group, Out-of-Home Respite—Day, Temporary Residential, Residential Group Homes, Individualized Supported Living, Shared Living, and Intensive Therapeutic Residential Habilitation.

There are two quality payments available:

- One payment of \$1560 is paid to the provider once the direct support professional achieves 50% completion (1,000 hours of on-the-job training and 50% of related technical instruction) of the Missouri Talent Pathways Certified Direct Support Professional registered apprenticeship program.
- A second payment of \$1560 is paid to the provider once a direct support professional achieves full (100%) completion of the Missouri Talent Pathways Certified Direct Support Professional registered apprenticeship program in accordance with required wage increase.

DMH DD HCBS waiver provider eligible employees are either: 1) New direct support professionals who enroll in the Certified Direct Support Professional Apprentice Program within the first 45 days of employment or 2) Previous employees who enroll in the Certified Direct Support Professional Apprentice Program and who have at least 6 months of employment separation from the HCBS waiver provider. HCBS waiver providers retain all 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

4. Establish incentive payments for DMH DD providers who demonstrate their non-licensed professional staff who deliver Home and Community Based services have completed certain levels of direct support professional training above the required training. This incentive payment is applicable when the DMH DD waiver provider organization contracts for one or more of the following waiver services: Personal Assistant, Personal Assistant - Medical Exception, Day Habilitation, Day Habilitation - Behavioral Exception, Day Habilitation - Medical Exception, Community Networking, Individualized Skill Development, Career Planning, Prevocational, Job Development, Supported Employment, In-Home Respite—Day, In-Home Respite—Individual, In-Home Respite—Group, Out-of-Home Respite—Day, Temporary Residential, Residential Group Homes, Individualized Supported Living, Shared Living, and Intensive Therapeutic Residential Habilitation.

Payment earned and paid to the DMH DD provider based on percentage of staff meeting a given training level.

Three levels of incentive payments are available as follows:

1. Provider can demonstrate that 90% of their DSP workforce that has at least 6 month tenure with the same agency has completed level 1 DSP training;
2. Provider can demonstrate that level 1 DSP benchmark has been met and maintained and 50% of DSP workforce that has at least 6 months tenure with the same agency has completed level 2 DSP training;
3. Provider can demonstrate that level 1 and 2 DSP benchmarks have been met and maintained and 50% of DSP workforce that has at least 1 year tenure with the same agency has completed level 3 DSP training.

A DMH DD provider may earn an incentive payment for each training level twice a year, once every six months (i.e., once for the July-December time period and once for the January-June time period). To earn the payment(s), the provider must provide verification to the state that shows their DSP workforce has met one of the above training levels. The incentive payment amount is equivalent to 1% per each training level (maximum of 3%) of the total applicable Medicaid paid claims made to the agency provider for the applicable six month period. Applicable Medicaid paid claims are: Personal Assistant, Personal Assistant - Medical Exception, Day Habilitation, Day Habilitation - Behavioral Exception, Day Habilitation - Medical Exception, Community Networking, Individualized Skill Development, Career Planning, Prevocational, Job Development, Supported Employment, In-Home Respite—Day, In-Home Respite—Individual, In-Home Respite—Group, Out-of-Home Respite—Day, Temporary Residential, Residential Group Homes, Individualized Supported Living, Shared Living, and Intensive Therapeutic Residential Habilitation. HCBS waiver providers retain all 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

5. Establish Incentive Payments for DMH DD HCBS Waiver service providers of residential, in-home, and non-residential services that complete the National Core Indicator (NCI) Staff Stability Survey and subsequent annual NCI Staff Stability Surveys.

Payment earned and paid to the DMH DD provider organization for annual survey completion in the NCI system.

There is one payment available per year per DMH DD provider organization. The payment is an annual lump sum payment of \$2,000. This incentive payment is applicable when the waiver provider organization contracts for one or more of the following waiver services: Personal Assistant, Personal Assistant - Medical Exception, Day Habilitation, Day Habilitation - Behavioral Exception, Day Habilitation - Medical Exception, Community Networking, Individualized Skill Development, Career Planning, Prevocational, Job Development, Supported Employment, In-Home Respite—Day, In-Home Respite—Individual, In-Home Respite—Group, Out-of-Home Respite—Day, Temporary Residential, Residential Group Homes, and Individualized Supported Living, Shared Living, and Intensive Therapeutic Residential Habilitation providers. To earn the payment, the provider must

submit a completed NCI Staff Stability Survey to the NCI system by April 30th. HCBS waiver providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

6. Establish Incentive Payments for DMH DD Agency Residential Service; Group Home, Individualized Supported Living, Shared Living, and Intensive Therapeutic Residential Habilitation where designated provider agency staff serving in the role of the Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST) Rater are engaged in completing the initial HRST for waiver participants.

Payment earned and paid to the DMH DD provider when designated provider agency staff successfully complete the initial HRST for waiver participants in the IntellectAbility electronic system.

There is a one-time payment of \$72.20 to the DMH DD provider for each individual initial HRST that a provider completes prior to end of State Fiscal Year 2023. HCBS waiver providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

7. Establish Incentive Payments for DMH DD Agency Respite and Agency Individualized Supported Living Services where waiver Agency Respite & Agency ISL providers have assisted waiver participants to implement Remote Supports.

Payment earned and paid to the DMH DD Agency Individualized Supported Living and Agency Respite provider based on cost savings realized through the implementation of Remote Supports in the Assistive Technology service and the correlating decrease in Agency Respite and Agency Individualized Supported Living services. The goal of remote supports implementation is person-centered to attain a level of independence and self-sufficiency while maintaining and supporting community integration. The State supports remote supports to address goals related to self-direction, independence, and control of their own home. Increased independence and self-direction positively impacts a person's ability to participate in community activities and develop non-paid relationships with community members. Remote monitoring will assist the individual to fully integrate into the community, participate in community activities, and avoid isolation.

The payment to the DMH DD provider is equivalent to 15% of the savings realized due to the reduction of individualized supported living or respite paid supports with the implementation of remote supports. The savings is calculated as follows:

### **Individualized Supported Living**

- a. The hours authorized to Individualized Supported Living in the month prior to remote support implementation at the current ISL unit rate reimbursed OR when the two services are implemented simultaneously and no previous month of Individualized Supported Living exists, the savings is based on the individual's share of twenty-four hours a day of Individualized Supported Living at the current unit rate reimbursement supports. LESS

- b. The hours authorized to Individualized Supported Living at the current unit rate in the remote support implemented eligible month of the quality incentive payment LESS
- c. The monthly authorized amount for remote support components (purchase, lease, monthly service agreement, and remote response staff).

**Agency respite**

- d. The difference of average respite hours per month utilized in the previous individualized support plan year less the respite hours utilized in the remote support implemented eligible month of the quality incentive payment equals the number of hours saved.
  - e. The number of respite hours saved at the current respite reimbursement rate LESS
  - f. The number of respite hours saved at the hourly cost of all remote support components (purchase, lease, monthly service agreement, and remote response staff).  
The savings is calculated monthly and summed across the previous six (6) calendar month period. Then this is multiplied by 15% to obtain the provider's incentive payment. A provider may earn the quality payment up to twice a year. HCBS waiver providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.
8. Establish Pay for Reporting incentive payments for DMH DD waiver providers who deliver Individualized Supported Living (ISL) services and submit identified positive behavior support data elements.

Payment earned and paid to the DMH DD provider for active Tiered Agencies that provide Individualized Supported Living and submit 100% of data elements identified in the tiered supports monthly data share (Tiered Supports | dmh.mo.gov).

Twelve payments of \$174 paid to ISL agencies are available, one for each month in which 100% of data elements for the previous calendar month are reported. Payments will be dispersed quarterly. DMH DD HCBS waiver providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

9. Establish quality incentive payments for DMH DD Agency Individualized Supported Living providers who successfully implement Tiered Supports

Payment earned and paid to DMH DD ISL agencies who implement Tiered Supports system using criteria defined in the provider contract.

Three levels of payment are available on a quarterly basis:

- 1. High Implementation Payment: The agency demonstrates evidence of substantial implementation of best practice positive behavior support on quarterly Tier One Systems Assessment. This includes adoption and execution of PBS values, regular data-based problem solving, regular communication channels, competency-based training and ongoing coaching of direct support staff, and data systems that capture agency processes and immediate outcomes. Payments of \$15,000 paid to the provider are available, one for each quarter in which this level of implementation is met for the previous quarter. HCBS

providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

2. **Moderate Implementation Payment:** The agency demonstrates evidence of moderate implementation of best practice positive behavior support on quarterly Tier One Systems Assessment. This includes partial adoption and execution of PBS values, regular data-based problem solving, regular communication channels, competency-based training and ongoing coaching of direct support staff, and data systems that capture agency processes and immediate outcomes. Payments of \$10,500 paid to the provider are available, one for each quarter in which this level of implementation is met for the previous quarter. HCBS providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.
3. **Low Implementation Payment:** The agency demonstrates evidence of minimal implementation of best practice positive behavior support on quarterly Tier One Systems Assessment. This includes planning for adoption and execution of PBS values, regular data-based problem solving, regular communication channels, competency-based training and ongoing coaching of direct support staff, and data systems that capture agency processes and immediate outcomes. Payments of \$6,000 paid to the provider are available, one for each quarter in which this level of implementation is met for the previous quarter. HCBS providers retain 100% of the value based payment incentive supplemental, including the Federal and State Share.

**Level 2 Direct Support Professional (DSP) trained within a year of employment exception for Provider Qualifications**

**This exception:** Direct contact staff must have: A high school diploma or its equivalent, or Level 2 Direct Support Professional (DSP) trained within a year of employment for provider qualification section for the following services:

Career Planning  
Community Networking  
Crisis Intervention  
Day Habilitation  
Family Peer Support Service  
Group Home  
Individualized Skill Development  
Individualized Supported Living Provider  
Intensive Therapeutic Residential Habilitation  
In-Home Respite  
Out of Home Respite  
Personal Assistant  
Prevocational Services  
Support Broker  
Temporary Residential Service