

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) Renewal and Rate Increase

Pending Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) approval and effective for services provided on or after July 1, 2021 and subject to payment at fee for service rates, the Department proposes to renew the Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) with a 10% rate increase to all services provided through the program.

This change is estimated to increase the ICWP expenditures for SFY 2022 as follows:

ICWP SFY 2022					
Service	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Adult Day Service (full day)	\$65.00 per diem	\$71.50	\$12,314.75	\$26,717.75	\$39,032.50
Adult Day Service (half day)	\$39.00 per diem	\$42.90	No impact	No impact	No impact
Alternative Living Service	\$70.00 per diem	\$77.00	\$32,171.22	\$69,797.78	\$101,969.00
Behavioral Support	\$14.00 per 15-minute unit	15.40	\$2,694.37	\$5,845.63	\$8,540.00
Case Management	\$6.25 per 15-minute unit	\$6.88	\$123,168.44	\$267,222.81	\$390,391.25
Counseling	\$21.40 per 15-minute unit	\$23.54	No impact	No impact	No impact
Enhanced Case Management	\$461 per month	\$507.10	\$20,958.70	\$45,471.40	\$66,430.10

Service	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Environmental Modification	\$8,000.00 lifetime limit per member	\$8,800.00	\$1,766.80	\$3,833.20	\$5,600.00
Fiscal Intermediary	\$75.00 per month	\$82.50	\$6,892.89	\$14,954.61	\$21,847.50
Hourly Skilled Nursing - RN	\$10.00 per 15-minute unit	\$11.00	\$126.20	\$273.80	\$400.00
Hourly Skilled Nursing - LPN	8.75 per 15-minute unit	\$9.63	\$8,928.69	\$19,371.44	\$28,300.13
Personal Emergency Response Installation	\$75.00 one time	\$82.50	\$430.66	\$934.34	\$1,365.00
Personal Emergency Response Monitoring	\$25.00 per month	\$27.50	\$4,824.00	\$10,466.01	\$15,290.00
Personal Support Services - Level I	\$17.96 per hour	\$19.76	\$1,880,030.65	\$4,078,862.07	\$5,958,892.72
Personal Support Services - Level II	\$20.20 per hour	\$22.22	\$685,421.81	\$1,487,072.03	\$2,172,493.84
Respite Care Services - Level 1	\$2.20 per 15-minute unit	\$2.42	\$4.16	\$9.04	\$13.20
Respite Care Services - Level 2	\$2.60 per 15-minute unit	\$2.86	\$5,867.36	\$12,729.66	\$18,597.02
Respite Care Services - Level 3	\$3.00 per 15-minute unit	\$3.30	\$22.72	\$49.28	\$72.00
Respite Service – Level 1 per diem	\$70.55 per day	\$77.61	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Respite Service – Level 2 per diem	\$83.00 per day	\$91.30	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact

Service	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Respite Service – Level 3 per diem	\$95.45 per day	\$105.00	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Skilled Nursing RN – Per diem	\$49.79 per day	\$54.77	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies	\$1026.00 max per month	\$1,128.60	\$3,289,275.66	\$7,136,320.74	\$10,425,596.40
Vehicle Adaptation	\$225.00 per year	\$247.50	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Total Fiscal Impact			\$6,074,899.07	\$13,179,931.59	\$19,254,830.66

Background

The current approved ICWP Medicaid Waiver expires in 2021 and must be renewed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The Department will request a five-year renewal of the program and proposes no changes to service type, description, or maximum allowable units. The 2021 Georgia General Assembly passed legislation to increase Waiver Program rates by 10% effective July 1, 2021. The increase will affect all services provided through the Waiver Program. DCH proposes to submit the waiver rate increases with the five-year Waiver Renewal request.

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **June 15, 2021 at 10:30 a.m., via WebEx audio**. There will be **no in-person** attendance at the Department of Community Health (DCH).

Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479 at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled public hearing to ensure any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Event number: 182 774 4635

Event password: Public

To join the online event

1. [Click here](#) to join the online event.

Or copy and paste the following link to a browser:

https://dchevents.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=dchevents&service=6&rnd=0.5960840889673373&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fdchevents.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26%26%26EMK%3D4832534b00000004702afe4152790d33043851616d42d72855041989f01bc93b9fa4cbd4c15a8cae%26siteurl%3Ddchevents%26confViewID%3D196021896987310575%26encryptTicket%3DSDJTSwAAAT1Ry6tz9da2sZWThCHueNgKy9gnGbYoBz75AZBExyi5g%26

2. Click "Join Now".

Join the audio conference only: Call-in toll number (US/Canada): 1-650-479-3207 Access code: 182 774 4635

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **July 12, 2021**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1966. You may also email comments to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov or fax to 404-651-6880.

Comments submitted will be available for review by submitting a request via email to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov. Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **August 12, 2021** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 10th DAY OF JUNE, 2021
Frank W. Berry, Commissioner