Public Notice

Public comment sought on proposed amendment to the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver

North Dakota’s 1915 (c) Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid waiver is being amended to include:

- Adding residential habilitation which is formalized training and supports provided to eligible individuals who require some level of ongoing daily support.
  - This service is designed to assist with and develop self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills that improve the participant’s ability to independently reside and participate in an integrated community.
  - Individuals receiving this service must be able to benefit from skills training, restoration or maintenance.
  - Individuals could also benefit from one or more of the following: care coordination, community integration/inclusion, adaptive skill development, assistance with activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, social and leisure skill development, medication administration, homemaking, protective oversight supervision, and non-medical transportation.

- Adding community support services which is formalized training and supports provided to eligible individuals who require some level of ongoing daily support.
  - This service is designed to assist with and develop self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills that improve the participant’s ability to independently reside and participate in an integrated community.
  - Individuals receiving this service must be able to benefit from one or more of the following: care coordination, community integration/inclusion, adaptive skill development, assistance with activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, social and leisure skill development, medication administration, homemaking, protective oversight supervision, and non-medical transportation.

- Adding companionship services to reduce social isolation in older adults and individuals with physical disabilities. Social isolation can have a negative impact to physical and mental health that can lead to institutional placement.
  - This service is non-medical care, supervision and socialization, provided to a waiver recipient who lives alone or with an individual who is not capable or obligated to provide the service.

- Requesting a waiver of the conflict free case management rules for Tribal nations that want to provide culturally competent case management services to eligible Tribal members.

- Expanding the definition of adult foster care to include agency adult foster care facilities.

- Modifying language to comply with changes made in SB 2124 which designates that HCBS Case Managers will become state employees.
• Removing the rural county social service conflict-free case management waiver because it will no longer be needed when HCBS case managers become state employees.

• During the 2019 Legislative session, $200,000 was appropriated to rebase adult residential care rates effective Jan. 1, 2020.

The entire DRAFT Medicaid HCBS waiver amendment can be viewed at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/homecare3.html and www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/waivers.html.

Copies of the draft waiver amendment will also be provided upon request.

**Comments and public input on these proposed waiver amendments will be accepted beginning Aug. 28, 2019 and ending at 5 p.m. Central Time on Oct. 3, 2019.**

Comments will be accepted in the following ways:

Email: dhshcbs@nd.gov  
Phone: 855-462-5465, or 711 (TTY)  
Fax: 701-328-8744  
Mail: North Dakota Department of Human Services  
Aging Services Division  
Attn: HCBS  
1237 W. Divide Ave., Ste. 6  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Individuals with comments, questions or concerns about the proposed waiver amendment can contact Jennifer Schlinger at jschlinger@nd.gov or by calling 701-328-8915 or 711 (TTY) or by mailing a written response to ND DHS Aging Services Division, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Ste. 6; Bismarck ND 58501.

**Date Revised and reposted:** Sept. 4, 2019 *(Comment period extended from Sept. 26 to Oct. 3, 2019)*  
**Date Posted:** Aug. 28, 2019