

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: dshscbs@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