

Nov. 24, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice of Proposed Action for Updating Payment Rates for the Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID)

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS), pursuant to the requirements of Section 1902(a)(13)(A) of the Social Security Act, gives notice of the following proposed actions regarding its methods and standards for paying providers under the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid).

Effective for services provided on or after January 1, 2022, the Department proposes to amend the South Carolina (SC) Title XIX State Plan by updating the Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) Medicaid prospective payment rates using the most recent cost report data available (i.e., July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019) and the use of the midpoint-to-midpoint trending methodology and application of the CMS SNF PPS Market Basket rates. SCDHHS also proposes to include the last phase of the legislatively imposed Direct Care Worker add-on relating to direct care worker salary increases that was funded by the South Carolina General Assembly for services provided on and after July 1, 2019.

As a result of the above actions, the January 1, 2022, aggregate (i.e., institutional and community residences) weighted average rate is projected to be \$425.34. The current aggregate weighted average rate is \$400.25 and was last updated July 1, 2019. This represents an aggregate weighted average per diem increase of \$25.09 per Medicaid patient day, or a 6.27% increase. The rates reflected above include an allocation of the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs central office administrative cost.

SCDHHS estimates that the proposed actions above will increase annual aggregate Medicaid expenditures by approximately \$10.5 million (total dollars).

Copies of this notice are available for public review at each South Carolina Healthy Connections Medicaid county office and at www.scdhhs.gov for public review. Additional information regarding the proposed actions above is available upon request at the address cited below.

Written comments may be sent to the attention of Reimbursement Methodology and Policy, SCDHHS, Post Office Box 8206, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206. All comments must be received by close of business December 24, 2021.

Any written comments submitted may be reviewed by the public at SCDHHS, Bureau of Reimbursement Methodology and Policy, 1801 Main Street, Room 1219 Columbia, South Carolina, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Robert M. Kerr
Director

Notice of Non-Discrimination

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. SCDHHS does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

SCDHHS provides free aids and services to people with disabilities, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats (large print, braille, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats). We provide free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. If you need these services, please contact the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)/Civil Rights Official by mail at: PO Box 8206, Columbia, SC 29202-8206, by phone at: 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620), or by email at: civilrights@scdhhs.gov.

If you believe SCDHHS has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with the Civil Rights Official using the contact information provided above. You can file a grievance in person, by mail, or via email. If you need help filing a grievance, we are available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf> or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201 or by phone at: 800-368- 1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html> .