



## **1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Waivers**

### **Comprehensive Waiver for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities**

Approval Date: 06/17/2019

Effective Date: 07/01/2019

End Date: 06/30/2023

The approved amendment:

1. Transitions waiver providers from hourly to daily invoicing for the following congregate services: Supported Employment – Small Group, Residential Habilitation, Day Supports and Activities, and Retirement services.
2. Recalculates rate estimates for Waiver Years two through five based on rate changes approved by the Montana Legislature and based on changes as noted above.
3. Transitions waiver invoicing into the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS).
4. Makes minor language changes from “personal goals” to “assessed needs.”
5. Corrects confidence intervals from 5% to 95%.

### **Children’s Autism Waiver**

End Date: 06/30/2019

The final two enrollees were exited from the Children’s Autism Waiver effective 06/30/2019 after reaching their capped length of service, three years. This waiver will be terminated effective 06/30/2019.



## **Big Sky Waiver for the Elderly and Adults with Physical Disabilities**

Approval Date: 02/11/2019

Effective Date: 02/11/2019

End Date: 06/30/2020

**And**

## **Behavioral Health Waiver for Individuals with Severe Disabling Mental Illness**

Approval Date: 02/08/2019

Effective Date: 02/11/2019

End Date: 06/30/2020

DPHHS determined an increase to the Private Duty Nursing (PDN) fees is necessary to serve high-needs Montana Medicaid members in the least costly setting. According to the Montana Medicaid 2017 Access Monitoring Plan, one PDN provider withdrew as a Medicaid provider between state fiscal years 2016 and 2017, leaving four providers available to serve Montana's Medicaid population. In 2018, one of the four remaining providers notified the Department that it could no longer provide PDN at the reimbursement rate currently paid by the Medicaid program and that it would discontinue services within three months.

In response, DPHHS analyzed the Medicaid population served, the number of PDN agencies across the state, the existing labor market for nurses, the cost of providing PDN benefits to Medicaid members, and the higher level of care costs avoided by providing the PDN benefit.

The approved amendment:

1. Reimburses PDN providers at the rates of \$8.95 per 15 minutes of care by a licensed practical nurse (LPN), \$11.28 per 15 minutes by a registered nurse (RN) and \$15.31 per 15 minutes of care by a registered nurse (RN) supervisor. The rates are currently \$7.38 for LPN services, \$8.69 for RN services and \$11.79 for RN Supervision services.

The PDN rate calculation included the following steps: 1) determining the number of PDN providers across the state and how the number of providers impacts access; 2) reviewing entry-level nursing salaries in a cross-cutting sample of hospitals across the state; 3) estimating the employment and provider agency costs in addition to salaries; and 4) calculating a rate that would reasonably cover employing nurses at a minimally competitive entry salary level.