

ODP Policy Panel

The Provider Alliance - 2023 Conference
Launching from Common Ground

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Overview

1. Waiver Amendments
2. Needs Group 5
3. Supplemental Payments
4. Community Participation Support
 - Variance Process
5. Enterprise Case Management Update



Waiver Amendments



- **Anticipated implementation November 2023**
 - Specialty Telehealth and Assessment Teams
 - Assistive Technology/Remote Supports Equipment and Technology
 - Supported Employment
 - Addition of NG 5
 - Group Music, Art, & Equine therapy

Public Comment Process/Submission



- Public comment ended on June 27th.
 - ODP received over 500 comments from 33 stakeholders (individuals and organizations)
- Waivers submitted to CMS on July 25.



Specialty Telehealth and Assessment Team (STAT)



- The goal of the Specialty Telehealth and Assessment Team service is to provide a **right-on-time telehealth assessment**.
- Available when the participant's primary care **physician is unavailable or unable** to determine the best clinical course of action
- This service can promote better health outcomes and **avoid unnecessary emergency room visits**.

Assistive Technology Changes



Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices for the participant. **Leasing of equipment and devices is only allowable short term:**

- **For emergency substitution of a device or equipment until repairs are made or a replacement can be purchased; or**
- **To allow a participant to try equipment and device(s) to determine whether the equipment or device(s) will be a good fit for the participant's needs.**

Enhanced Levels of Service: Provider Qualifications

The following change applies to enhanced levels of service in Community Participation Support, In-Home and Community Support, and respite:

At least one staff person must have one of the following certifications or degrees to provide enhanced levels of service to participants who do not require a nurse to provide the enhanced level of service:

- Bachelor's Degree or higher in Psychology, Education, Special Education, Counseling, Social Work, Gerontology **or Therapeutic Recreation.**

Rates: Needs Group 5 (NG5)

- Effective January 1, 2024 existing exceptional residential rates will transition to NG5 Fee Schedule
- Sufficient historical data exists on exceptional rate process and individuals to reduce administrative burden for providers and ODP
- There will continue to be an exceptional rate request process for individuals whose needs exceed NG5:
 - Individuals must have a current HRST
 - Service Location must have at least 6 months of historical cost information with the individual(s)

Music, Art and Equine Therapy



- Based on public comment, added a group option
- Therapy services consist of the following individual **and group** therapies **for no more than 4 individuals** that are not primarily recreational or diversionary:
 - Art Therapy;
 - Music Therapy; and
 - Equine Assisted Therapy

ARPA Supplemental Payments



- **Supplemental Payments for Recovery & Service Expansion: Community Participation Supports**
- **Tiered one-time supplemental payments will be available based on provider recovery or expansion status as of June 2023 in the following amounts:**

Standard for payment eligibility	Payment Amount Per Individual Receiving CPS
Providers exceeding pre-pandemic service capacity*	\$2500
Providers achieving 75-100% of pre-pandemic capacity	\$1500
Providers achieving 50-75% of pre-pandemic capacity	\$1000
Providers achieving under 50% of pre-pandemic capacity	\$ 500

- ***Provider recovery or expansion status is determined by comparing the provider’s pre-pandemic number of program participants (discrete participants in service during FY 2019/2020 with the number of participants in service during FY 2022/2023)**

Community Participation Support



Removed individual variance process in favor of a process to address more systemic community integration.

- Service locations with more than 10% of individuals spending less than 25% of their time in community settings on average...
- are required...
- ...to describe strategies for improvement within the provider's Quality Management Plan (6100.45).

Enterprise Case Management



System Integrator procurement complete & vendor on-boarding occurring

Selected Case Management Platform -



Selected Integrator –



- **Phase 0 (est. 2022):**
 - ECM Pegasystems Platform (upon which subsystems will be implemented)
- **Phase 1 Beginning 2023**
 - Hearings & Appeals,
 - Home and Community-Based Services Subsystem (HCBSS),
 - Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) Enrollment Services
- **Phase 2 Beginning late 2024**
 - Child Welfare Case Management (CW CM)

More Information Available

Enterprise Case Management project website:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/ECM/Pages/Home.aspx>



Questions?