



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Bureau for Medical Services

Bill J. Crouch
Cabinet Secretary

Home and Community Based Services Unit
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Cynthia E. Beane
Commissioner

To: Intellectual/Developmental Disability Waiver Providers and Staff

From: Randy Hill, Director of Home and Community Based Services

Date: September 19, 2019

RE: Rate Reimbursement

West Virginia Senate Bill 1025 appropriated \$1,500,000 to the IDD Waiver and stipulated that the funding "shall be dedicated to provider staff compensation."

http://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Status/bills_text.cfm?billdoc=SB1025%20INTR.htm&yr=2019&sesstype=1X&i=1025

In response to this legislation, the Bureau for Medical Services is increasing the rates for certain direct-care services provided within the West Virginia Intellectual and Developmental Disability Waiver (IDDW). These increases go into effect on October 1, 2019 and to ensure the intent of the legislation is carried out, each IDDW provider is required to sign an attestation indicating that the rate increase will be used to increase staff compensation. It is hoped that the higher wages will help IDDW agencies to recruit and retain direct care staff.

The Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) has received questions regarding the attestation. This notification is being sent to all IDDW providers in order to provide some clarification.

- BMS does not dictate the rate of pay for direct care staff, nor does legislation specify the direct care staff pay rate.
- Wage increases that provider agencies may have given to direct care staff prior to October 1, 2019 do not meet the intent of Senate Bill 1025. Agencies that provide one or more of the services that are subject to the October 1 rate increases are expected to use the additional funds to increase direct care staff wages.
- Providers can utilize the increased rates amongst all direct care staff, not just those staff providing services that correspond to the increased rates.

- All IDDW agencies are to submit the signed attestation by October 1, 2019, regardless of whether the agency provides services that have been identified for a rate increase. An agency that does not provide services that have been identified for a rate increase may note at the bottom of the attestation that the agency does not provide services for which a rate increase was identified. These agencies are not required to increase the wages of their direct care staff.

The signed attestation must be returned to Nora Dillard, IDDW Program Manager, at Nora.L.Dillard@wv.gov prior to October 1, 2019. Failure to do so will result in a pay hold being placed on the agency's paid claims account.

Sincerely,



Randy Hill

Director of Home and Community-
Based Services