



MONTANA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS NOTICE

May 1, 2020

Developmental Disabilities 0208 Comprehensive Waiver Providers

Effective Immediately

Changes to Developmental Disabilities 0208 Comprehensive Waiver

Montana Healthcare Programs is continually working to improve safe access to Medicaid services throughout the public health emergency declared in Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020. This provider notice describes some changes made to the 0208 Comprehensive Waiver.

This notice shall remain effective for the duration of the state of emergency declared in Executive Order No. 2-2020.

Retainer Payments

Retainer payments are available for days the service or the member is unavailable due to the COVID- 19 emergency. The retainer time limit will not exceed the lesser of 30 consecutive days or the number of days for which the state authorizes a payment for “bed hold” in nursing facilities.

DDP is increasing the services available for retainer payments. Retainer payments are available for the following additional 0208 Comprehensive Waiver services:

- Residential habilitation supported living
- Day Supports and Activities
- Retirement Services
- Companion
- Personal Care Services
- Supported Employment Follow Along Support
- Supported Employment Individual Employment Support
- Supported Employment- Small Group Employment
- Adult Foster
- Assisted Living

Providers may bill the full daily rate for members when they are unable to attend or participate in services due to COVID-19 emergency. A provider is not eligible to bill the retainer payment if they have already billed the Program Related portion of the rate for applicable services. A provider is not eligible to bill the retainer payment if the member is currently committed to Montana State Hospital. Retainer payments for hourly services can be billed using the member’s average hours of services they receive per day. Providers can use the following formula to derive the daily hours that would be available to bill the retainer payment for hourly services: $\text{monthly hours allocated in ICP}/\# \text{ of days in the month} = \text{daily hours allocated to a member.}$

Providers must use a CR modifier when submitting a claim for a retainer payment. No ICP or Prior Auth adjustments need to be completed. Provider submits claims for retainer payments using a CR modifier, provider tracks the total number of days to be within 30 days per member per fiscal year.

Temporary Services Increase (TSI)

DDP will approve funding to enable family member or alternative service provider to deliver services and supports to individuals who are not currently receiving services as outlined in the plan of care during the COVID-19 emergency.

Request for TSI's should go to the Regional Manager and include:

- Client AWACS ID
- Service lines Requested
- Number of Units/total costs associate per service
- Dates of service span request, end date being June 30th, 2020.
- Service span can be increased if necessary

Regional Managers will build the line and authorize it in the MMIS within 5 days of request.

The provider will receive the Prior Authorization letter with the PA number and information for the new TSI service line. ***When submitting a claim, there must be a TU modifier on it.***

Submitting Claims for Tiered Services that are Prior Authorized

In an effort to support contracted providers and enable flexibility, while also ensuring the health and safety needs of members are being met during the COVID-19 emergency, DDP is permitting the Following Tiered wavier services to be reimbursed at the Tier that is prior authorized, provided staffing hours never fall below 80% of the lower end of the tier threshold.

- Residential Habilitation – Congregate Living
- Residential Habilitation – Supported Living
- Day Supports and Activities
- Retirement Services
- Supported Employment – Small Group Employment
- Supported Employment – Follow Along

In effect, this lowers the service hour requirements at the lower end of the Tier.

For example, a provider who serves a member who has Supported Living flex prior authorized would be able to continue to submit a claim for Supported Living. Flex, as long as they provided 24.8 hours of service instead of the typical minimum of 31 hours.

Prior Authorizations

The current Prior Authorization process remains in effect for Developmental Disability Program 0208 Comprehensive Waiver Services.

See the [Suspension of Prior Authorizations or Continued Stay Reviews and Clinical requirements for Some Medicaid Programs provider notice](#) for additional information.

Medication Administration and Certification

Extend medication certification for 60 days past the current individual expiration date. Re-certification will be completed as soon as possible once the emergency is declared over, but not longer than 90 days following the end of the declared emergency.

Please contact your Regional Manager for information on how medication certification test proctoring is currently being conducted.

Training Requirements

Temporarily extend deadlines for all training requirements for 60 days from the original due date.

All direct care staff should continue to receive training on the participant's plan of care for whom they are providing support. Training on the plan of care must consist of basic health and safety support needs for that individual.

Providers must continue to ensure that direct care staff are able to demonstrate competency in the skills and techniques necessary to perform their assigned tasks under the participant's plan of care.

Settings Change

The following services are temporarily permitted to be delivered in a participant's home environment or alternative provider or community setting:

- Day Supports & Activities
- Retirement Services
- Supported Employment-Follow Along Support and Individual Employment Support)
- Personal Care
- Companion
- Personal Supports
- Homemaker
- Residential Habilitation

Legally Responsible Individuals Can Deliver Services

The following services can now be delivered by legally responsible individuals, meaning a parent of a minor child or spouse.

- Day Supports & Activities
- Retirement Services
- Supported Employment-Follow Along Support and Individual Employment Support)
- Personal Care
- Companion
- Personal Supports
- Homemaker
- Residential Habilitation
- Respite

Contact Information

[Lindsey Carter, Developmental Disabilities Program Bureau Chief, email LCarter2@mt.gov](mailto:LCarter2@mt.gov), or
telephone (406) 444-2799

[For claims questions or additional information, contact Montana Provider Relations at \(800\) 624-3958 or \(406\) 442-1837 or email MTPRHelpdesk@conduent.com.](tel:(800)624-3958)

[Visit the Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website at https://medicaidprovider.mt.gov.](https://medicaidprovider.mt.gov)