

NOTICES OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES

Department of Social Services

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

SPA 18-U: Community First Choice Pursuant to Section 1915(k) of the Social Security Act – Update to Reimbursement Methodology for Attendant Care Services and Worker’s Compensation Coverage to Incorporate Applicable Provisions of Collective Bargaining Agreement

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to submit the following Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Changes to Medicaid State Plan

In accordance with section 17b-8 of the Connecticut General Statutes, DSS gives notices that the Commissioner of DSS intends to amend the Medicaid State Plan provisions regarding the Community First Choice State Plan Option Pursuant to Section 1915(k) of the Social Security Act. Effective on or after April 1, 2018, SPA 18-U will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan to update the reimbursement methodology for attendant care services provided in the Community First Choice Program to conform to the range of permissible hourly wages for attendants set forth in the applicable collective bargaining agreement. If no collective bargaining agreement is in effect at the time a service is provided, the range of permissible hourly wages will be the range set forth in the most recent collective bargaining agreement. In addition, this SPA also incorporates the changes in the collective bargaining agreement that requires worker’s compensation coverage to be provided to attendants in accordance with the provisions set forth in the agreement. This SPA is necessary to enable the incorporation of the changes established by a new collective bargaining agreement, which has been negotiated and is being considered for approval by the Connecticut General Assembly.

Fiscal Impact

Based on the information that is available at this time, DSS estimates that this SPA will increase annual aggregate expenditures by roughly \$1.4 million in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018 and \$13.5 million in SFY 2019.

Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

This SPA is posted on the DSS web site at the following link: <http://portal.ct.gov/dss>. Scroll down to the bottom of the webpage and click on “Publications” and then click on “Updates.” Then click on “Medicaid State Plan Amendments”. The proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS field office, at the Town of Vernon Social Services Department, or upon request from DSS (see below).

To request a copy of the SPA from DSS or to send comments about the SPA, please email: Public.Comment.DSS@ct.gov or write to: Medical Policy Unit, Department of Social Services, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105

(Phone: 860-424-5067). Please reference “SPA 18-U: Community First Choice Pursuant to Section 1915(k) of the Social Security Act – Update to Reimbursement Methodology for Attendant Care Services and Worker’s Compensation Coverage to Incorporate Applicable Provisions of Collective Bargaining Agreement”.

Anyone may send DSS written comments about the SPA. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than April 26, 2018.
