

NOTICES OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

TANF Caseload Reduction Report

Pursuant to federal regulations at 45 CFR § 261.40 et seq., the Connecticut Department of Social Services is seeking public review and comment on the methodology and the case number estimates used in its Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Caseload Reduction Report to calculate the state's TANF Work Participation Rate for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025.

The federal TANF block grant includes specific performance expectations and requirements to help federal and state government measure program success. All states are required to meet specific work participation rates. Federal law requires work participation rates, which reflect the percentage of families receiving TANF assistance that must be engaged in federally defined work activities.

To ensure that states receive credit for families that have become self-sufficient, Congress created the caseload reduction credit. States must complete form ACF-202, the Caseload Reduction Report, and provide the public with an opportunity to comment on its methodology and estimates. The reduction report provides an analysis of monthly caseload, case closure, and application activity, including activity related to changes in eligibility criteria, to arrive at the estimated impact of eligibility changes on the state's average assistance caseloads in FFY 2025 (October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025).

The caseload reduction credit reduces the required work participation rate that a state must meet for a given fiscal year. It reflects the net percentage point reduction in the state's caseload in the prior fiscal year as compared to the caseload in base year FFY 2005. The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 recalibrated the base year to be FFY 2005. Thus, the caseload reduction credit for FFY 2025 reduces the state's work participation rate for that fiscal year based on the caseload decline in the prior year, FFY 2024, compared to FFY 2005.

Statement of Purpose: To solicit public comments on the Caseload Reduction Report in accordance with federal TANF regulations.

Written comments on Connecticut's Caseload Reduction Report must be received by the Department by December 26, 2024, attention: Daniel Giacomi, Director, Division of Program Oversight & Grant Administration, Department of Social Services, 55 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105 or by email to Daniel.Giacomi@ct.gov.

A copy of the draft report is available at no cost upon request to the Department, by email to Daniel.Giacomi@ct.gov. The final report will also be available on the web at [CT.gov DSS State Plans](https://www.ct.gov/DSS/StatePlans).

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

SPA 24-AD: Value Based Purchasing Benchmark Payments for Home Health Agencies, Community First Choice, 1915i Home and Community Bases Services and Connecticut Housing Engagement and Support Services (CHESS)

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). Public comment information is at the bottom of this document.

Summary of Changes to Medicaid State Plan

Effective on or after November 27, 2024, SPA 24-AD will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan. The purpose of this SPA is to change Benchmark payment dates and refine the scope of work to be eligible for the benchmark payments. This SPA continues the implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, Section 9817, as updated, which relates to Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) (ARPA HCBS Spending Plan). The purpose of the ARPA HCBS Spending Plan, in turn, is to improve the quality, access, and infrastructure for HCBS, as defined in federal law and associated CMS guidance. The language has also been revised to permit the continuation of outcome-based payments upon the expiration of the ARPA HCBS Spending Plan.

Quality Infrastructure Supplemental Payments

Payments will be made on or before March 31, 2025, and May 31, 2025, to eligible home health providers who have met the requirements for the November 2023 benchmark payment period and meet the benchmarks set forth below. The payment made on or before March 31, 2025, will be the greater of 5% of expenditures from March 31, 2024, to September 31, 2024, or \$5,000. The payment made on or before May 31, 2025, will be the greater of 5% of expenditures from October 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025, or \$5,000. For purposes of determining the applicability of the \$5,000 in lieu of the percentage,

expenditures used as the basis of the payment are total HCBS expenditures for the provider across all programs. The following benchmarks apply and must be met no later than the first day of the month in which the payment is made:

- (a) Benchmark for March 2025 payment – Providers submit to the department quotes, invoices or contracts for equipment, software, hardware and training to improve member service delivery and/or to modify delivery systems to support value-based payment integration with Connie (CT HIE – CT Health Information Exchange);
- (b) Benchmark for May 2025 payment – Providers implemented all improvements identified in the March 2025 payment for delivery system modifications and integrated into member service planning.

Fiscal Impact

These time-limited supplemental payments to home health agencies are estimated to increase annual aggregate expenditures by approximately \$6,154,864 in SFY 2025 and by \$0 in SFY 2026.

Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

The proposed SPA is posted on the DSS website at this link: <https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Health-And-Home-Care/Medicaid-State-Plan-Amendments>. The proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS resource center, 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: Department of Social Services, Medical Policy Unit, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105. Please reference “SPA 24-AD: Value Based Purchasing Benchmark Payments for Home Health Agencies, Community First Choice, 1915i Home and Community Bases Services and Connecticut Housing Engagement and Support Services (CHESS).”

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this SPA. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than **December 11, 2024**.

**CT PAID FAMILY & MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE
AUTHORITY**

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT REVISIONS TO ITS PRIVATE
PLAN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

In accordance with sections 1-121 and 31-49h of the Connecticut General Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority (“hereinafter the CT Paid Leave Authority”) intends to adopt revisions to its Private Plan Policies and Procedures, which provide details related to the application for and administration of private paid leave plans. Many of the changes are being made in order to comply with Public Act No. 24-5.

All of the proposed revisions will be found on the CT Paid Leave Authority’s website at: https://www.ctpaidleave.org/about-us/law-and-policies?language=en_US.

If you are unable to access the revisions at the above link and would like to request a copy, please email michael.cisar@ct.gov, including “Revised Private Plan Policies” in the subject line.

To submit comments regarding the Revised Private Plan Policies and Procedures, please email the comments to michael.cisar@ct.gov. All written comments regarding the revisions must be submitted by the end of the day on December 27, 2024. Please include “Revised Private Plan Policies” in the subject line.

Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority

Notice of Intent to Amend Alliance Educator and Counselor Refi Loan Program – Program Manual

In accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 1-121, notice is hereby given that the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (“CHESLA”), intends to amend the Alliance Educator and Counselor Refi Loan Program (the “Program”) – Program Manual (the “Program Manual”), for purposes of amending Section 8. c. by deleting and replacing the language in such section with the following language:

“Interest and Maturity. During the period of any or Financial Hardship Forbearance or Major Disaster Forbearance, any accrued and unpaid interest will be amortized over the remainder of the Repayment Period and will not be capitalized. If Forbearance is granted, the Loan maturity will not extend beyond the maturity date listed on the Final Disclosure Statement. Prior to granting a Forbearance request from any Borrower or Cosigner’s Loan, the Servicer shall provide notice to any such individual that the granting of the Forbearance request will change their monthly Loan payment at the conclusion of the Forbearance period, due to the amortization of any accrued and unpaid interest over the remainder of the Repayment Period and the forbearance of principal payments accrued during the Forbearance period.”

The amendment to the Program Manual shall become effective December 26, 2024, unless the CHESLA Executive Director, in her sole discretion, shall determine based on views and comments received from members of the public during the thirty day period after publication of this notice that it would be desirable or appropriate to defer such effectiveness so that the CHESLA Board of Directors (“Board”) may reconsider the proposed amendment to the Program Manual in light of such comments, such determination to be conclusively evidenced by the Executive Director’s notice thereof to the Board.

All views and comments regarding the proposed amendment to the Program Manual may be submitted in writing either by email to Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director at jweldon@chesla.org (please put “Pubic Comment – Alliance Educator and Counselor Refi Loan Program” in the subject line) or by mail addressed to Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director, Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority, 1 Financial Plaza, 20th Floor, Suite 2000, Hartford, CT 06103.

A copy of the proposed amendment to the Program Manual is available at no cost by sending a written request Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director, Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority, 1 Financial Plaza, 20th Floor, Suite 2000, Hartford, CT 06103 or via email to jweldon@chesla.org.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Fairfield intends to file an application for Certification for Affordable Housing Completion (temporary housing moratorium) with the Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) pursuant to Section 8-30g(1)(4)(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The proposed application, including all supporting documentation, is available for public inspection and comment in the Town Clerk's Office, located in the Old Town Hall Building, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut, during normal business hours from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Written comments may be submitted to Mark Barnhart, Director of Community & Economic Development, Old Town Hall, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06824 no later than **12/17/2024**. A copy of all written comments received and all responses prepared by the municipality will be included as part of the application to DOH.

Office of the First Selectman
William A. Gerber, First Selectman
Town of Fairfield
