

AGENDA

- Temporary rate increase adjustments tutorial - Instructions
- Program Updates
 - Incident reporting reminder
 - Temporary rate increase
 - Conflict of interest
- Monthly Training Session - Implementing COVID-19 Flexibilities - [Slidedeck](#)

TOPICS

Incident reporting reminder

During the COVID-19 health emergency, the Division of Healthcare Financing (Division) recognizes the increased workload that many providers are experiencing. Please keep in mind that one method of communicating challenges faced by participants and providers is through incident reporting. Chapter 45, Section 20 of the Department of Health's Medicaid Rules outlines the requirements for providers and case managers to report incidents that occur. Please be sure to report incidents as outlined. Incidents are reviewed on a daily basis, and are one source of data used in examining the challenges providers are facing and the methods they are using to address these challenges.

Temporary rate increase

On April 23, 2020, the Division announced temporary rate increases for certain Comprehensive and Supports Waiver (DD Waiver) services. The rates are effective for services delivered March 13, 2020, until the State of Emergency is over. The increased rates apply to services listed on the [Division website](#). The COVID-19 Temporary Fee Schedule can be found on the [Service Definitions and Rates](#) page of the Division website.

The Division selected services that are offered by providers that are most likely to be impacted due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The focus of the temporary rate increases is to ensure the continuity of the direct support professional (DSP) workforce. These are services that have required providers to deliver more individual supports, pay for increased overtime, and where utilization has significantly decreased.

The increase was calculated based on the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which provided a 6.2% increase in the federal matching rate for Medicaid (the federal match rate for Wyoming increased from 50% to 56.2%). The temporary 12% rate increase amounts to the same state general fund expenditure as was paid in the payment rate previously in effect. The increase in federal funding is being passed along to providers in accordance with the federal regulations released in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Providers will need to bill at the temporary increased rate for services delivered March 13, 2020, until the end of the State of Emergency to receive the increase. If you bill at the lower rate, the payment will not be automatically applied.

Conflict of interest

As a reminder, providers and case managers function under conflict of interest requirements that are outlined in Chapter 45. Case management is conflict-free in Wyoming. Chapter 45, Section 5(b)(ii)(D) contains specific requirements that case managers must meet in order to remain conflict-free.

It is also important to keep in mind that all providers must follow conflict of interest guidelines established in Chapter 45, Section 13(k). This section states, *"Each provider shall identify, in writing, the potential conflicts of interest among employees, other service providers on the participant's plan, relatives to participants, or any legally authorized representative(s), and address how a conflict of interest shall be mitigated. The provider shall share this information with potential participants and legally authorized representative(s) before the provider is chosen to provide services."* Please be sure to review your policies and procedures related to conflict of interest, and ensure that they are in alignment with Chapter 45. Additionally, please ensure that you review potential conflicts of interest prior to offering services, and ensure that you have a plan to mitigate those conflicts. It is also best practice to ensure that potential conflicts are reviewed on a regular basis. The May 2020 Provider Support Call will focus on this topic.

WRAP UP

Next call scheduled for May 18, 2020