

FY22 PAYMENT RATES ARPA RATES AND LEVEL ENHANCEMENTS FOR CERTAIN DAY PROGRAMS July 30, 2021

On July 19, 2021, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) promulgated a new rate regulation, 101 CMR 447.00: Rates for Certain Home and Community-based Services Related to Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), that established enhanced payment rates for various Home and Community Based Service Waiver (HCBS) programs operated by the Department. For additional information regarding ARPA and HCBS services please refer to the EOHHS website.

Additionally, the Department will continue to authorize changes in the assessed service level for individuals participating in certain employment and day programs as described below.

Rate enhancements from 101 CMR 447 and service level changes are effective July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

I. Enhanced Payment Rates from ARPA Regulation

101 CMR 447.00 established payment rates at a level 10% higher than currently promulgated rates for an array of HCBS and State Plan (MassHealth) programs. As outlined in previous EOHHS communications, these additional funds through 10% across-the-board rate enhancements are intended to strengthen and stabilize the HCBS workforce. A specific listing of impacted DDS services may be found in Section III below, as well as in the FY22 Regulated Rate Table posted on the DDS website. These enhanced payment rates are effective from July 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021. This guidance shall detail how DDS will be implementing these rate enhancements for each program type.

Day & Employment Programs, Individual Supports, and Family Supports

All applicable rates for these programs will be updated in EIM during the week starting August 2nd. These rates will be dated retroactive to July 1st and providers will be paid at these higher rates for their July invoices. Due to differences in how some activity codes are configured in EIM, rates will not all update at the same time. Providers should check that the rate has been updated to the new rate before submitting July SDRs. If an SDR is submitted before rates are updated, they will be reimbursed at the standard rate for the program, and a retro payment will be made at a later date.

Adult Long-Term Residential Services and Shared Living

Due to the blended rate structure of these programs and limitations of ICMS in managing multiple rate levels in the same fiscal year, implementation of enhanced rates will not occur until the 2nd quarter of FY22. DDS will provide supplemental guidance to providers once the implementation plan has been finalized. Implementation of enhanced rates will be applied retroactively to July 1st.

In the interim, providers should continue to submit normal billing and will be reimbursed at the standard rates.

II. Enhanced Service Levels: 3163, 3168 and 3181

DDS will be maintaining enhanced service levels for certain day and employment programs in accordance with the table below. These enhanced levels will be in place from July 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021. Enhanced levels are the same as those in place during FY21, except that CBDS Level D will now be enhanced to Level C. Rates will be automatically updated in EIM to reflect level enhancements along with the enhanced ARPA rates described above.

Individuals will remain enrolled in their current contract, and payment rates will be updated for those contracts to reflect the new service level. *Providers must continue to report attendance in EIM using the attendance status codes associated with the "current" service level.*

All in-person and remote services, delivered in accordance with allowable remote service delivery guidelines for day/work services, will be reimbursed at the new service level. Providers will be reimbursed at the same rate for both in-person and remote services, however, are still required to report attendance using separate attendance status codes as detailed in earlier guidance.

III. ARPA Rate Enhancements – Activity Codes

Activity code	Service		
3150	Shared Living		
3153	Adult Long-Term Residential Services		
3163	Community Based Day Supports		
3168	Individual Supported Employment		
3181	Group Supported Employment		
3196	Transportation (to/from job)		
3285	Day Habilitation Supplement		
3664	Day Habilitation		
3701	Respite in Recipient's Home (Daily)		
3702	Respite in Caregiver's Home		
3703	Individualized Home Supports		
3707	Adult Companion		

Activity code	Service		
3710	Behavioral Support Services		
3712	Stabilization Care Giver's Home		
3716	Peer Support		
3731	Respite in Recipient's Home (Hourly)		
3735	Child Respite in Caregiver's Home		
3751	ABI - Residential Services		
3752	ABI - Shared Living		
3759	Site-based Respite		
3798	In Home Supports		
7100	ASD Pre-Engagement Coaching		
7102	ASD College Navigation		

IV. CBDS and Support Employment Service Level Crosswalk

Activity Code	Current Service Level	New Service Level (7/1/21 – 12/31/21)	New Rate In-Person (15 min)	New Rate Remote (15 min)
3163 - Community Based Day Supports: 101 CMR 415.00	CBDS A	CBDS A	\$12.05	\$12.05
	CBDS B	CBDS I	\$9.00	\$9.00
	CBDS C	CBDS B	\$6.97	\$6.97
	CBDS D	CBDS C	\$5.04	\$5.04
	CBDS Z	CBDS I	\$9.00	\$9.00
3168 - Individual Supported Employment 101 CMR 419.00	ISE A: Initial Supports	ISE A: Initial Supports	\$14.94	\$14.94
	ISE B: Ongoing Supports	ISE A: Initial Supports	\$14.94	\$14.94

3181 - Group Supported Employment: 101 CMR 419.00	GSE Standard	GSE High Intensity	\$6.40	\$6.40
	GSE High Intensity	GSE High Intensity	\$6.40	\$6.40
	GSE 1:1	GSE 1:1	\$9.80	\$9.80
	GSE 1:3	GSE High Intensity	\$6.40	\$6.40