



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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DEIDRE S. GIFFORD, MD, MPH
Commissioner

April 13, 2020

To All Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities Providers (ICF/IID's):

Under Section 17b-340(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), the Department has the authority to reimburse ICF/IID facilities for extraordinary and unanticipated costs necessary to avoid an immediate negative impact on the health and safety of residents.

In recognition of the current nationwide public health emergency, the Department of Social Services has implemented a temporary Medicaid rate increase effective for the period April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. The rate increase is being used to provide funds to ICF/IID providers rapidly and, for that reason, the Department will not issue individual rate letters. Related, this process will not be subject to the re-hearing process under C.G.S. § 17b-238 (b) and providers will have no need to file requests for rehearing or to file subsequent 90-day detailed items of aggrievement.

Specifically, all Medicaid ICF/IID rates have been increased by \$49.10, this is an average of ten percent over the current rates in effect for all ICF/IID's, in recognition of the extraordinary costs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The additional reimbursement is to be applied towards:

- employee wages, including staff retention bonuses, overtime, and shift incentive payments; and
- new costs related to screening of visitors, PPE, and cleaning and housekeeping supplies.

Current Department policies concerning unallowable costs and related-party reimbursement policies remain in effect.

Given the normal delay between service provision and billing, to facilitate more immediate relief for providers, the Department will advance one month of the estimated rate increase differential to each ICF/IID immediately, to be recouped at a date to be determined in SFY 2021. This will not require individual requests for interim payment.

If the public health emergency continues beyond the June 30, 2020 rate increase period, the Department will consider extensions of the rate increases. Please contact Kate McEvoy, Director Division of Health Services, at kate.mcevoy@ct.gov with any questions on the above. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Commissioner