

May 1, 2020

<Provider Name>
 <Provider Address 1>
 <Provider Address 2>
 <City> <State> zipcode5-zipcode4

Dear Provider:

Effective April 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 state of emergency, a temporary hourly wage increase (referred to as “Premium Pay”) will be applied to payment for in-home direct care workers providing certain services under the following programs:

Program Name	Services	Related HCPCS Codes
Home Help	Personal Care	
MI Choice Waiver	Community Living Supports, Respite	H2015, H2016, S5150, S5151
MI Health Link	Expanded Community Living Supports, Personal Care, Respite	H2015, H2016, S5150, S5151, T1019
Behavioral Health	Community Living Supports, Overnight Health and Safety Supports, Personal Care, Prevocational Services, Respite, Skill Building	H0043, H2015, H2016, T2027, T1020, T2015, S5151, T1005, H2014

The temporary Premium Pay for services provided in April, May and June 2020, is intended to cover a \$2.00 per hour increase in direct care worker wages, along with a \$.24 per hour increase for agencies to cover their additional costs associated with implementing this increase. These amounts are to be paid in addition to the wage the direct care worker was earning since April 1, 2020, and recorded separately from base pay. The \$2.00 per hour Premium Pay must be applied entirely to direct care worker wages. For programs billing in 15-minute increments, the payment would be \$.50 per 15-minute unit for the direct care worker, and \$.06 per unit for the additional agency cost.

Program participants receiving services through a self-determination arrangement under the behavioral health, MI Health Link and MI Choice Waiver programs must receive an additional \$2.00 per hour or \$.50 cents per unit Premium Pay to implement this increase for the hours worked in April, May, and June 2020.

Direct care workers should still follow the guidance issued in March titled “Actions for Caregivers of Older Adults During COVID-19” along with the document “Actions for Caregivers for Older Adults Addendum - Frequently Asked Questions”. These documents describe recommendations for in-home direct care workers and methods to assure a face-to-face visit is needed. These documents can be found at:

<https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/> and go to “Resources”, then “For Health Professionals”.

Direct care workers who are providing behavioral health services should also follow the additional guidance found here: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/BHDDACOV19>.

If you have questions, you can call Provider Support at 1-800-979-4662 or e-mail them at providersupport@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,



Kate Massey, Director
Medical Services Administration