

MEDICAID SERVICES UPDATE

To: All ADvantage Case Management Providers

Subject: CDPASS - Rate Increase and Budget Worksheet Version 24

Date: October 1, 2024

The Medicaid Services Unit (MSU) is pleased to announce the approval of the ADvantage Waiver Amendment by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) increasing the rates for Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services and Supports (CDPASS) Personal Service Assistant (PSA) and Advanced Personal Service Assistant (APSA) services.

The Waiver Amendment increases PSA and APSA service rates by 25% effective 10/01/2024.

The new unit rates for the AD*vantage* self-directed service option, **CDPASS**, can be found below. AD*vantage* CDPASS authorizations will be converted systematically in Harmony by 10/01/24. MSU will end existing authorizations for 9/30/24, and new authorization lines will be automatically added with a begin date of 10/01/24 at the new rate.

<u>Please note:</u> CDPASS PSA and APSA hourly wage rates will not be automatically adjusted for the rate increase. Case Managers (CM) will need to contact Members receiving the CDPASS service option and complete the steps outlined in this bulletin to increase CDPASS PSA/APSA hourly wage rates.

ADvantage Waiver Services	Code	Unit Type	Ending Rate	New Rate
Consumer-Directed Personal Services Assistance	S5125	15-min	\$4.45	<mark>\$5.56</mark>
Consumer-Directed Advanced Personal Services Assistance	S5125-TF	15-min	\$5.34	<mark>\$6.68</mark>
Consumer-Directed Goods & Services (OPX)	T2025	15-min	No change	No change

The CDPASS Budget Worksheet has been updated to accommodate the unit rate increases for the ADvantage Program. The new Budget Worksheet (Version 24, dated 10/01/2024) is now

available in the Harmony Library site and the Financial Management Services (FMS) CDPASS resource page.

The new Budget Worksheet must be used for all CDPASS service requests beginning 10/01/2024 or later. The MSU will not be able to process requests beginning 10/01/24 or after unless the new version of the Budget Worksheet is used.

Every Member's budget is different. The hourly maximum wage calculated on the Budget Worksheet includes all tax and worker's compensation deductions as required by Federal/State law and the AD*vantage* Waiver. The PSA/APSA maximum hourly wage cannot be determined by simply multiplying the 15-minute service unit rate by 4.

If a CDPASS Member requests their PSA(s)/APSA(s) receive a wage increase during the Member's current plan year as a result of the 10/1/2024 rate increase, a <u>one-time hourly wage</u> rate adjustment may be requested by CMs up until 1/1/2025.

Please follow the steps below to facilitate this adjustment.

STEPS TO REQUEST A PSA/APSA Hourly Wage Rate Increase

<u>Step 1:</u> The Case Manager must attach the new Budget Worksheet (v24) to a note in the Member's Harmony case. The begin date must be on or after 10/1/2024 or later. The begin date must be projected at least 3 weeks in the future from the plan submission date and must be for a Sunday. The end date must be the end of the Member's service plan year.

- Note Type = CDPASS,
- Note Sub-Type = CDPASS Budget Worksheet,
- Note Status = Communication,
- **Note Content** = Plan adjustment per 10-1-2024 unit rate increase.

<u>Step 2:</u> The Case Manager must attach a new PSA/APSA <u>CDPASS Employee Rate Form, which</u> <u>has been signed by the Member,</u> to a note in Harmony. The form is available on the FMS website and in the Harmony Library.

- Note Type = CDPASS,
- Note Sub-Type = CDPASS Pay Rate Form (Member must sign or it cannot be processed),
- Note Status = Communication,
- **Note Content** = Plan adjustment per 10-1-2024 unit rate increase.

To ensure the Pay Rate Form is processed timely, the CM should add the Programs Manager for CDPASS 'Rhonda Fisher (MSU AA)' as the note recipient. This is a temporary process that will end 1/1/2025.

<u>PSA/APSA Worker rate increases will be future dated and no out-of cycle or backdated pay</u> rate increases will be permitted.

Worker rate increases will not occur immediately and may be delayed if notes do not have 'Rhonda Fisher (MSU AA)' added as a recipient.

Multiple pay rate form submissions and resubmissions should be avoided to ensure timeliness.

The pay rate will reflect in the payroll cycle that corresponds with the newly submitted Budget Worksheet being authorized by MSU.

<u>All rate increases will be processed in the order received.</u> It is crucial that this is communicated with Members and PSAs/APSAs when applicable.

There is no change to the **T2025** Consumer-Directed Goods & Services (OPX) unit rate. The total number of OPX units will remain the same, and no changes will be made to the total number of OPX units currently authorized.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin or other CDPASS specific concerns, please submit a Provider Question in the Harmony System.

COMMUNITY LIVING, AGING AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CAP)

MEDICAID SERVICES UNIT (MSU)

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