



MEMORANDUM

TO: OPWDD Providers

FROM: Donna M. Cater
Deputy Director, Bureau of Mental Hygiene Services Rate Setting

DATE: August 14, 2020

SUBJECT: January 1, 2020 and April 1, 2020 **DRAFT** Rates

This serves as a notification that draft rates effective January 1, 2020 and April 1, 2020 for the following Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) programs have been posted on the Office of Pool Administration (OPA) website: Supervised IRA, Supportive IRA, ICF to Supervised IRA Conversion, Day Habilitation, Pre-Vocational, ICF/IID and Children's Residential Program. You can view your rates by logging into your agency's OPA account at: http://www.hcrapools.org/opwdd_index.cfm

The draft rates have been adjusted to update capacity levels for Supervised IRA, Supportive IRA, and ICF/IID services and authorized unit levels for Day Habilitation and Pre-Vocational services. The Supervised IRA and Supportive IRA rates were also revised to incorporate the 2020 SSI Benefit and Personal Allowance Amounts. The 2020 SSI Provider Payment for New York City, Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester Counties has been increased from \$1,035 to \$1,044 per month. For all other counties in the State, the SSI Provider Payment has been increased from \$1,005 to \$1,014 per month. Please note that the Food Stamp offsets for Supervised IRAs and Supportive IRAs will not be updated and will remain unchanged for 2020.

Additionally, the draft rates effective January 1, 2020 include a two percent increase in annual salary and fringe benefits for direct support professionals. Effective April 1, 2020, the draft rates include an additional two percent increase in annual salary and fringe benefits for direct support professionals as well as a two percent increase in annual salary and fringe benefits for clinical staff.

Pursuant to Article 19 of NYS Labor Law that establishes minimum wage increases for January 1, 2020, rates were revised to reflect the minimum wage adjustment component add-on. The rates were adjusted based on OPWDD provider attested survey data that was previously submitted. If a provider did not submit a survey, their 2015-16 (fiscal year filers) or 2016 (calendar year filers) Consolidated Fiscal Report data was used. Please note that the minimum wage adjustment, previously reflected as a flat dollar amount add-on, is now reflected as a per unit amount add-on in the methodology. This change was made to account for changes in capacity/units amongst providers.

The rates incorporate all Prior Property Approval and Property Cost Verification changes for Upstate providers for the rate period and any new sites that opened during the period July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 for New York City providers. Property back-up schedules and summaries have been posted to your OPA account.

You can access your agency's rates and property documentation by logging on to your OPA account. Please conduct a thorough and complete review of the agency rate and the property back-up schedules, which are also available on the OPA website.

Please be reminded that, pursuant to 14 NYCRR 641-1.7 of New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, arithmetic or calculation errors will be adjusted accordingly in instances that would result in a change of \$5,000 or more in a provider's annual reimbursement. To request a rate correction, the provider must send its request to the Department of Health within 90 days of receiving the rate computation.

The draft rates will be transmitted to eMedNY for processing on August 21, 2020. If you have any questions, please submit them to: mhrs@health.ny.gov.

cc: Jack Pitera
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