What you need to know about the new federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rule

Services for older adults

Many older adults may need support to remain in their homes and communities as they age. The Elderly Waiver and Alternative Care programs can help pay for these services and supports. These programs are called home and community-based services. They are meant to help people live where they want to live, be a part of their communities and enjoy a high quality of life.

Why am I receiving this information?

You are receiving this information because you receive one of the following services: adult day services, adult foster care, or customized living funded by the Elderly Waiver or Alternative Care.

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) wants everyone who receives these services to:

- Understand that you have rights, including the right to live where you want to live, be a part of your community and enjoy a high quality of life
- Learn how a new federal Home and Community-based Services (HCBS) rule applies to you and your services
- Know how you can find more information about the HCBS rule.

What is the Home and Community-Based Services Rule?

The HCBS rule is a federal rule that further supports people’s rights to make informed choices and decide what is important to them.

The rule supports your rights and promotes better services for all people who receive services. The rule requires providers to support you in the choices that you make for your life, such as how you spend your time in your home or out in the community.
The rule also includes requirements about your right to choose where you live and how your choices are supported by your case manager and providers.

Is anything changing for me?

You can still receive the same services you receive now. The rule means that providers may have to change the way some services are provided. Through our assessment process, your provider will have the opportunity to show us how they are providing quality services in a way that supports you and your choices.

Home and community-based services that are located in or next to institutions, such as hospitals and nursing homes, will need to take additional steps to show they provide services that are different from the services provided in institutions.

Your service plan is about you

Your plan is a way to inform providers about what is important to you so they can deliver services in a way that reflects your choices. Your plan will include risks that were discussed with you and plans to keep you safe.

You, your case manager and members of your support team, including people chosen by you, help develop the plan for your services. This is known as a “person-centered plan.” Your case manager must meet with you at times and locations that are convenient to you to develop your plan. The case manager must provide a copy of your plan to you and your representative, if you have one.

Questions?

If you have questions about the rule or questions about your services, you can:

- Bring questions to your case manager, care coordinator or provider
- Call the Senior LinkAge Line® at 800-333-2433
- Send an email to DHS at: hcbs.settings@state.mn.us.

Learn more about the HCBS rule online at www.mn.gov/dhs/hcbs

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Attention. If you need free help interpreting this document, call the above number.

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