August 3 – 16, 2021

Systems announcements

We will update this section with information about MN–ITS availability, technical information and other systems announcements when necessary.

Sign up for electronic funds transfer (EFT) for quick, hassle-free payments

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) recommends all providers sign up to be paid through EFT or direct deposit. EFT payments are a convenient alternative to receiving paper checks and feature many advantages.

EFT payments are:
- Faster – You can access your funds quicker. You don’t have to wait for a check to arrive and you don’t have to make a trip to the bank to make a deposit.
- Safer – You won’t deal with lost, stolen or misdirected checks.
- Easier – You can manage cash flow with less paperwork.

Providers who want to be paid through EFT from MHCP must have a vendor number from Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB). Follow these steps to establish a vendor number for MHCP payments:
1. Request a vendor number through the Minnesota supplier portal if you do not already have a vendor number.
2. Work with MMB to activate your vendor number for EFT. Call MMB at 651-201-8106 if you have questions whether your vendor number is active for direct deposit.
3. Fax a completed EFT Supplier ID Notification (DHS-3725) (PDF) with your assigned vendor number to Provider Eligibility and Compliance or use the MPSE portal to submit your EFT vendor number.

Customized living services claims denying

Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) will deny claims for customized living services for dates of service on or after Aug. 1, 2021, until we have updated provider records with the new assisted living facility license requirement. We are currently updating records and anticipate completing our updates by the end of the day Aug. 12, 2021.

If we deny your claim for customized living services on or after Aug. 13, 2021, email DHS at dhs_mhcp_provider_enrollment@state.mn.us, or call the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 to discuss your enrollment record.

Continue to refer to the License requirement changes for customized living services providers webpage for the most up to date information.

As a reminder, you may submit claims to MHCP no later than 12 months from the date of service. You can find information about our timely billing requirement in our MHCP Provider Basic’s Billing Policy Overview webpage. (pub. 8/10/21)

Personal Care Assistance (PCA) program policy updates due to the end of the state’s COVID-19 peacetime emergency

The Minnesota COVID-19 peacetime emergency ended July 1, 2021, and the Minnesota Department of Human Services will end one temporary peacetime emergency PCA program change and reinstate another based on new legislation.

Change that will expire
The remote qualified professional visits waiver was extended through Aug. 30, 2021, and then will expire. Follow the rules listed in the Qualified professional (QP) services PCA policy manual for these visits effective Aug. 31, 2021.

**Change reinstated**
Parents of minors and spouses may care for their family members and be paid for PCA services effective July 1, 2021. Parents and spouses must be enrolled with Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) as an individual PCA.

**Questions**
Call the MHCP Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411, option #4, if you have questions about this message. (pub. 8/4/21)

**Surveillance and Integrity Review Section (SIRS) of the Office of Inspector General in-person site visits have resumed**

SIRS of the Office of Inspector General has resumed in-person site visits. SIRS has a detailed COVID-19 protection plan in place and will work with you to ensure safety and compliance of your policies while at the site. (pub. 8/3/21)

**Revised: Minnesota Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) tuberculosis (TB) risk assessment requirement changing Oct. 1, 2021**

The Minnesota Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) Schedule of Age-Related Screening Standards requirement for TB risk assessments is changing. The current requirement calls for a TB risk assessment followed by appropriate action at every visit. The new requirement effective Oct. 1, 2021, calls for evaluation of children and adolescents for their risk of exposure to TB at 1, 6, 12 and 24 months and annually beginning at 3 years. The new requirement changes only the frequency of the TB risk assessment and follows American Academy of Pediatrics and the Minnesota Department of Health Tuberculosis program’s (medical) guidance. All risk assessments on the Minnesota Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) Schedule of Age-Related Screening Standards are required. We will update the C&TC periodicity schedule and other publications to reflect this change. (pub. 8/3/21, rev. 8/6/21)

**Pathway to autism services and supports resources for Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) providers webinar Sept. 22, 2021**

The Minnesota Autism Resource Portal team will host a provider webinar on Sept. 22, 2021, to increase awareness of the range of services and supports available to people with autism spectrum disorder throughout their lifetime. We will focus on resources to help EIDBI providers coordinate services across service teams and systems, and provide information about helping families access medical assistance, waivers and navigating the portal.

**EIDBI Providers Pathway Presentation**
- Date: Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021
- Time: 1 – 3 p.m.
- Registration: Go to the Register for EIDBI Providers Pathway Presentation webpage to register for the webinar.

Email ASD.DHS@state.mn.us if you have questions about this message. (pub. 8/3/21)

**Revised: Updates to the “License requirement changes for customized living services providers” webpage**

The Minnesota Department of Human Services has updated information on the License requirement changes for customized living services providers webpage.

- The Minnesota Legislature passed language in the Health and Human Services Omnibus bill defining which providers can deliver customized living services without the new assisted living facility license. Click the Am I
exempt from this licensure change? toggle to see more information about the exemption requirements.

- Provider Eligibility and Compliance has added a PDF with step-by-step instructions to help providers upload their assisted living facility license in the Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment (MPSE) portal. The **customized living services PDF** is in the **Providers currently enrolled to provide customized living services** toggle on the website.

(pub. 7/20/21, rev. 8/2/21)

### Substance Use Disorder (SUD) providers must request client spenddown amounts

SUD providers must request the spenddown amounts from their clients effective immediately. Minnesota Department of Human Services no longer had authority to pay spenddown amounts for SUD clients beginning Aug. 1, 2020. This change is effective for claims with a date of service on or after Aug. 1, 2020.

Refer to **Spenddowns** in the Billing the Member (Recipient) section of the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Manual for more information.

Call the **MHCP Provider Call Center** at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this message. (pub. 7/30/21)

### Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) legislative updates

The following is a summary of the changes to EIDBI services that happened during the 2021 Minnesota Legislative Session. Visit the **Minnesota Session Laws - 2021, 1st Special Session** webpage to review the changes.

#### Background studies

EIDBI providers will soon be required to complete all **background studies** through the commissioner’s **NETStudy 2.0 system**. We will update you on this change on this webpage.

The following updates are effective July 1, 2021.

#### Telehealth

- Replaced “telemedicine” language with “telehealth”
- Removed “face-to-face” language from coordinated care conference and intervention service description
- Replaced “face-to-face” in the travel service description with “in-person”

The **Minnesota Telehealth Act affects these other EIDBI service provisions.**

- EIDBI services delivered via telehealth must now be delivered with the same service thresholds, authorization requirements and reimbursement rates as services delivered in-person as outlined on the EIDBI billing grid
- Until July 1, 2023, telehealth also includes audio-only communication between a health care provider and a participant according to subdivision 6, paragraph (b) of the Minnesota Telehealth Act.

We updated the Telehealth EIDBI policy manual to reflect these changes. See the **EIDBI - Telehealth services policy manual webpage**

#### Definitions impacted by uniform standards

- Mental health professional (Minnesota Statutes 256B.0949, subdivision 2 is amended by **Chapter 30, Article 17, Section 104**)
- Standard diagnostic assessment (Minnesota Statutes 256B.0949, subdivision 4 is amended by **Chapter 30, Article 17, Section 105**)
- Clinical trainee (Minnesota Statutes 256B.0949, subdivision 5a is amended by **Chapter 30, Article 17, Section 106**)

#### Questions
Email ASD.DHS@state.mn.us if you have questions about these EIDBI legislative updates. (pub. 7/22/21)

**90-Day Supply Prescription Drug List for fee-for-service (FFS) medical assistance (MA) members public comment period open**

Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) is requesting public comments on the 90-Day Supply Prescription Drug List for FFS MA members. See the [90-Day Supply Prescription Drug List (PDF)](#) to review the list.

MHCP will cover prescription drugs on this list for up to a 90-day supply in a single pharmacy claim based on maximum daily dosage established by the FDA. The 90-Day Supply Prescription Drug List will replace the 90-day supply waiver that was established during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The 90-day supply prescription drug list includes cost-effective FDA-approved legend generic drugs typically used for at least 90 days. The 90-Day Supply Prescription Drug List does not include brand-name drugs, controlled substances or drugs associated with an elevated potential for misuse.

FFS MA members are not required to fill a 90-day supply if their prescribed drugs are on the 90-Day Supply Prescription Drug List. DHS expects prescribers and pharmacists to continue to use their professional and clinical judgment as to the appropriate quantity to dispense to members.

DHS plans on reviewing the list at least twice annually to ensure that it is clinically appropriate, cost-effective and considers the impact of social determinants of health. DHS is requesting comments from all interested persons and entities regarding the initial 90-day supply prescription drug list in order to guide creation of an equitable policy that best serves Medical Assistance members. Submit comments by emailing chad.hope@state.mn.us no later than 5 p.m. Aug. 8, 2021. (pub. 7/22/21)

**OBRA Level II evaluative report submissions returning to pre-COVID-19 timelines**

Lead agencies must return to the original practice of completing the OBRA Level II evaluative report before the person enters the nursing facility effective Aug. 31, 2021.

View the full Joint AASD, BHD and DSD eList announcement [Joint message about OBRA II timelines from DHS Aging and Adult Services, Behavioral Health and Disability Services divisions](#) for more information. Email dsd.obra@state.mn.us with questions about this message. (pub. 7/22/21)

**Meet and greet for Early Intensive Developmental Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) providers and managed care organizations (MCOs) planned**

The EIDBI team will host a meet and greet for EIDBI providers and MCOs on Sept. 14, 2021, from 3 until 4 p.m. online via Webex.

This event is for EIDBI providers who want to increase their ability to serve children on Minnesota Medicaid.

MCO representatives will present to EIDBI providers. They will share information about where they serve, who to contact, how to get credentialed, how to submit authorizations and more.

Registration is required. Visit the [Register for MCO event for EIDBI Providers](#) webpage to register.

Email the EIDBI policy team at ASD.DHS@state.mn.us if you have questions about this event. (pub. 7/22/21)

**Rate reduction update for Housing Support Supplemental Services**

Minnesota Department of Human Services Housing Support team has successfully completed most of the required supplemental service rate reductions for cases approved for Housing Stabilization Services and connected to the following Housing Support Supplemental Services programs:

- Long-term Homeless Supportive Housing
Updated service authorizations for impacted cases will appear in your MN–ITS mailbox. Use the updated service authorization to bill for supplemental services. Contact us at dhs.dhs_grh@state.mn.us if you have not received a revised service authorization for a case that you believe should have a reduced rate.

We will continue to monitor new Housing Stabilization Services approvals and revise service agreements for cases that are associated with Housing Support Supplemental Services programs that require service rate reductions. (pub. 7/20/21)

Updates to the License requirement changes for customized living services providers webpage

Minnesota Department of Human Services has updated information on the License requirement changes for customized living services providers webpage.

The Minnesota Legislature passed language in the Health and Human Services Omnibus bill defining which providers can deliver customized living services without the new assisted living facility license. Click the Am I excluded from this licensure change? toggle on the License requirement changes for customized living services providers webpage to see the exemption requirements. (pub. 7/20/21)

HID resolves Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) drug prior authorization (PA) requests fax number issue, resume using 866-648-4574

The Minnesota Department of Human Services contracts with Health Information Designs (HID), the MHCP Prescription Drug PA Review Agent, to provide drug prior authorization services. HID has resolved the issue it had with the fax line, 866-648-4574. Please resume faxing all MHCP drug prior authorization requests to 866-648-4574. (pub. 7/19/21)

Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) policy updates due to end of state’s COVID-19 peacetime emergency

The Minnesota COVID-19 peacetime emergency ended July 1, 2021, and the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) will end some temporary peacetime emergency EIDBI changes and keep others based on new legislation and feedback from stakeholders throughout the past year.

Changes remaining in effect

The following changes will remain in effect:

- EIDBI providers will be able to continue to provide EIDBI intervention services (specifically, service codes 97153 and 97154) to a person via telehealth when medically necessary and appropriate for the person and family. The EIDBI provider or qualified supervising professional, in consultation with the DHS EIDBI policy team, if necessary, determine medical necessity. This is a change to the policy on EIDBI Intervention. See the Intervention EIDBI policy manual webpage.
- EIDBI providers will be able to continue to provide family caregiver training and counseling services without intervention or other EIDBI services. See the Family/caregiver training and counseling EIDBI policy manual webpage.

Changes that will expire

The state peacetime emergency ended July 1, 2021. The following changes will expire at the end of the 60-day transition period, which runs July 2, 2021, through Aug. 30, 2021:

- EIDBI providers must now request an exception on the comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE) if a member requires an exception to the recommended medical necessity guidelines. See the Comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE) and Medical necessity criteria webpages of the EIDBI policy manual.
- DHS will now require progress monitoring updates to the individual treatment plan (ITP) and annual updates to the CMDE to continue authorization for EIDBI services. We will no longer approve service authorizations after Sept. 1, 2021, without an updated ITP or CMDE. See the Individual treatment plan (ITP) development and
progress monitoring and Comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE) webpages of the EIDBI policy manual.

- A well-child checkup or medical evaluation within the past 12 months is now required for initial CMDEs and annual updates. Providers may still cite a screening exception under the Child and Teen Checkup guidelines. See the Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) section of the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) provider manual.

MHCP will communicate any additional information about the status of COVID-19 Waivers and modifications not specific to EIDBI, such as telehealth, as it is available.

Questions
Email the EIDBI policy team at ASD.DHS@state.mn.us if you have questions about this message. (pub. 7/16/21)

Training for currently enrolled PCPO agencies is now available

Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has begun the transition for currently enrolled personal care provider organization (PCPO) agencies to Community First Services and Supports (CFSS) agencies. Two online training modules and tests will be available during the transition.

Personal Care Assistance (PCA) Qualified Professional Training
Qualified professionals who provide supervision for individual workers at a PCPO are required to have credentials from the Steps for Success training. Right now, we are not offering PCA Steps for Success, so you will earn a certificate by completing this training and passing a test to meet the credentialing requirements for qualified professionals. QPs must have this credential within six months of hire.

CFSS training for current PCA agencies
This CFSS transition training is for all current PCPO owners, managers and qualified professionals. After reviewing the training, all PCPO agency owners, managers and QPs must pass a test on the content.

For agencies taking the CFSS training for current PCA agencies, remember that each owner, manager and QP will need their own certificate to meet the credentialing requirement. To add CFSS codes to your already existing record, you will need to submit these certificates along with all current bonds and insurance documents. Fax documents to 651-431-7465.

To register for either training, visit Personal Care Assistance (PCA) and Community First Services and Supports (CFSS) Training and Tests, select the training from the drop-down menu, enter your information and check your email for next steps.

Call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411, option 4, if you have questions about this message. (pub. 7/15/21, rev. 8/3/21)

Nonemergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) driver enrollment required, enrollment process has begun

Minnesota legislation beginning on July 1, 2021, requires NEMT drivers to enroll with Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) and affiliate with the NEMT provider organization by July 1, 2022. MHCP began enrolling NEMT drivers July 1, 2021.

Publicly operated transit systems, volunteers, not-for-hire vehicles and ambulance services are exempt from the requirements.

NEMT drivers
Providers must have their drivers enrolled by July 1, 2022.

Refer to the Transportation Enrollment Criteria and Forms webpage for enrollment instructions and other enrollment information.

Local county and tribal agencies
Local county and tribal agencies can start using the transportation driver’s UMPI as the rendering provider on claims after the driver enrolls with MHCP.
MHCP will post a list of all enrolled NEMT drivers in MN–ITS by the middle of July. We will have more information when the list is ready to post. Providers must enroll drivers by July 1, 2022, to avoid denied claims.

Contact the MHCP Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this message. (pub. 7/8/21)

**Update on COVID-19 waivers and end of the state peacetime emergency**

On June 30, the Minnesota Legislature voted to end the state peacetime emergency effective Thursday, July 1, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. This will end the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency authority the Department of Human Services (DHS) has under Executive Orders 20-11 and 20-12 to seek federal authority to change or waive federal requirements and to modify and waive certain statutes and rules related to DHS programs. We have used this authority to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are quickly working to analyze the language in the 2021 HHS Omnibus bill that modified the transition timeline for a number of the COVID-19 “CV waivers and modifications” and also made several pandemic changes a part of permanent state law. We will be making updates to our DHS waivers and modifications webpage to reflect revised dates soon. Please watch DHS bulletins, manuals and other regular communication channels for program-specific guidance over the coming weeks. (pub. 7/2/21)

**Revised: New Brain Injury (BI) and Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) customized living service settings in single-family homes can no longer enroll**

The 2021 Minnesota Legislature passed legislation (Minnesota Statutes 256B.49, subdivision 28) effective July 1, 2021, directing the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to stop enrolling new customized living settings serving four or fewer people in single-family homes for delivery of BI and CADI customized living or 24-hour customized living services.

This legislative change is for BI and CADI programs only and does not impact Elderly Waiver customized living services or the customized living services license requirement updates related to the assisted living licensure changes.

MHCP considers customized living settings in operation on or before June 30, 2021, existing customized living settings. DHS may approve an exception to this legislative change when an existing customized living setting changes ownership at the same address. (pub. 6/30/21, rev. 7/16/21)

**Funds appropriated for Minnesota Department of Human Services; operations and payments will continue**

The Legislature has appropriated funds for our agency and our operations and payments will continue uninterrupted after June 30, 2021. We are pleased that we can continue working together and sincerely appreciate your patience and cooperation during this difficult period.

Call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have any questions about this message. (pub. 6/29/21)

**Billing system updated for Integrated Behavioral Health Care (IBHC) effective May 29, 2021**

We have updated our system effective May 29, 2021, to accommodate Mental Health Room and Board billing under the IBHC fund for Adult Residential Crisis Stabilization Services (RCS) and Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS). The workaround process for billing Mental Health Room and Board claims ended May 28, 2021. You must submit claims by using MN–ITS 837I to bill for revenue code 1001 (Room and Board) beginning May 29, 2021. You can back bill to July 1, 2020, which is the effective date of legislation for room and board.
MHCP covers Mental Health Room and Board for Medical Assistance coverage. MHCP does not cover Mental Health Room and Board for MinnesotaCare.

Contact the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 with billing questions. (pub. 6/25/21)

Training

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) on-demand video and online training updates

MHCP offers training for providers who provide services for members enrolled in MHCP. We have updated on-demand and online training opportunities on the MHCP provider training webpage.

On-demand videos
On-demand videos are arranged by category, including Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment Portal (MPSE), MN–ITS and Billing. Each video can be viewed in 10 minutes or less and provides instructions on a concept or technique.

Online training
Online training is arranged by content for all providers or specific providers. Training is led by an instructor who will help attendees navigate the Minnesota Department of Human Services website and locate and use MHCP provider information and other related webpages or internet-based applications such as MN–ITS. Due to COVID-19, all instructor-led training is online only. We will update you on this webpage when, and if, we will continue in-person training. We have recently updated the look of the provider-specific training webpages and added the 2021 training dates. (pub. 12/22/20)

Free online Resources and MN–ITS training available

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) offers free online training for MHCP-enrolled providers. Go to the MHCP provider training webpage to see the list of available training.

We have added new training sessions for the following service providers:
- Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities
- Waiver and Alternative Care

(pub. 6/22/21)

Changes to Waiver and Alternative Care (AC) Resources and MN–ITS Training sessions

We have made changes to the Waiver and AC Resources and MN–ITS training due to feedback we received from providers via the Minnesota Health Care Programs provider training surveys. Training will now be offered in two half-day sessions instead of one full-day session. This change will be effective starting August 2021. See the Waiver and AC Resources and MN–ITS Training webpage for more information. (pub. 6/23/21)

Free online Provider Basics and MN–ITS training available

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) is offering free online Provider Basics Resources and MN–ITS training to all enrolled MHCP providers who bill fee-for-services claims. This training is being offered monthly beginning Mar. 10, 2021.

You will learn how to navigate the MHCP provider webpages and the MHCP provider manual, and how to use MN–ITS administration, mailbox and eligibility requests (270/271) features. Go to the Provider Basics webpage to register for this training.

Claim training is not provided in this training. See our MHCP provider training webpage to register for provider-specific claim training. (pub. 2/11/21)
New on-demand training videos added

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) offers free on-demand training videos arranged by category on the MHCP provider training webpage. Each video can be viewed in 10 minutes or less and provides instructions on a concept or technique.

New videos:
- **Guide to the MN-ITS Home Page** – You will learn about the different resources found on the MN–ITS home page and how they can help you in your role at your organization.
- **Functions and Features of the MN-ITS Claim Screens** – We demonstrate the various navigation elements found on the MN–ITS claim screens in this video. We also explain the different resources located in the right navigation panel used when completing a claim.

(pub. 8/3/21)

Free online Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment (MPSE) training available, new videos added

Minnesota Health Care Programs is providing free online training for our MPSE online portal.

We have added two new videos:
- **Managing Existing Affiliations to an Individual Provider in MPSE**
- **Managing Existing Affiliations to a Direct Support Worker in MPSE**

See the MPSE portal training webpage for registration, brief online tutorials to help prepare you for class and more information. (pub. 2/1/20, rev. 2/19/20)

Additional information

- [Provider news and updates archive](#)
- [MHCP provider policies and procedures](#)
- [Latest Manual Revisions](#)
- [Grants and requests for proposals](#)

Call the MHCP Provider Call Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this information.

Sign up to receive provider news and other MHCP notices through our [free provider email lists](#).