
INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2652-MC-FFS

DATE: December 11, 2024

TO: Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Providers, HCBS Habilitation Services Providers, Home Health Agencies, Targeted Case Management, Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Providers, Behavioral Health Intervention Services (BHIS), Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Services (CNRS), Behavioral Health Services, Mental Health Services, Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Service Providers, Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Providers

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Iowa Medicaid

RE: Update – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) HCBS Disaster Relief and Recovery Grant

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

***** This Informational Letter (IL) replaces [IL No. 2646-MC-FFS](#)¹ which was published on December 5, 2024. The names of the counties that are eligible for ARPA HCBS Disaster Relief that were not included in IL 2646 have been underlined in this IL.*****

This Informational Letter (IL) is to provide notification to eligible providers that Iowa Medicaid intends to distribute \$1.7M to eligible providers from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Disaster Relief and Recovery Grant. This grant is intended to provide funding to disaster affected HCBS providers operating in disaster affected counties to assist with relief and recovery efforts

¹ [https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/imp/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=\(c55c7a6c-23b7-43f6-9c26-2d519ea4e8d8\)](https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/imp/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=(c55c7a6c-23b7-43f6-9c26-2d519ea4e8d8))

directed at the maintenance and resumption of essential HCBS. Eligible providers may request up to \$200,000.

Eligible Providers

Providers delivering qualified HCBS in Iowa counties where significant damage was sustained from severe storms, flooding, straight-line winds and tornadoes beginning **May 21, 2024**, and continuing for the following counties: Adair, Adams, Black Hawk, Buena Vista, Butler, Cass, Calhoun, Cedar, Cerro Gordo, Cherokee, Clinton, Clay, Dickinson, Dubuque, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Hardin, Harrison, Humboldt, Iowa, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Keokuk, Kossuth, Lyon, Marion, Marshall, Mills, Montgomery, Muscatine, O'Brien, Osceola, Page, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Polk, Pottawattamie, Scott, Shelby, Sioux, Story, Tama, Union, Warren, Washington, Webster, Winnebago, Woodbury, Worth and Wright. Eligible provider types include:

- 1915(c) HCBS Waiver Providers, including Case Management
- 1915(i) State Plan HCBS Habilitation Providers, including Case Management
- Home Health Agencies delivering HCBS Waiver Services, and EPSDT Personal Care and Private Duty Nursing delivering services in HCBS participants' homes
- Targeted Case Management
- Rehabilitative Service Providers, including:
 - Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
 - Behavioral Health Intervention Services (BHIS)
 - Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Services (CNRS)
 - Behavioral Health/Mental Health Services
 - Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services
 - Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) organizations

To be eligible for grant funds, eligible providers must meet these requirements:

- Deliver HCBS in the disaster affected counties.
- Billed a managed care organization (MCO) or Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid for eligible services provided between **July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024**.
- Continued to provide patient care after **July 1, 2024**.
- Have not permanently ceased providing patient care directly or indirectly.
- With respect to Medicare, any state Medicaid program and any federal health care program, the recipient is not:
 - Suspended or excluded from participation.
 - Suspended from receiving payments.
 - Under any other sanction or penalty.

Eligible Expenditures

Eligible expenditures include losses that are a direct result of the natural disaster, are documented and are not otherwise covered through other funding sources including county, state and federal disaster recovery funds, organizational insurance coverage or personal insurance coverage for HCBS participants.

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), cleaning supplies, environmental restoration.
- Disaster pay for staff providing HCBS during the disaster and recovery period.
- Cost related to the relocation and temporary housing of HCBS participants during the disaster and recovery period. Room and board costs including rent and food related to a full nutritional regimen (three ((3)) or more meals per day) are excluded. Relocation and temporary housing expenses are those expenses that are necessary to enable a person to establish a basic household that do not constitute room and board and may include:
 - Security deposits that are required to obtain a lease on an apartment or home.
 - Essential household furnishings and moving expense required to occupy the home, including furniture, window coverings, food preparation items and bed/bath linens.
 - Set-up fees or deposits for utility or service access, including telephone, electricity, heating and water.
 - Services necessary for the individual's health and safety such as pest eradication and one-time cleaning prior to occupancy or re-occupancy.
 - Moving expenses including moving truck fees, packing supplies and storage.
- Costs related to the relocation and recovery of business operations related to the delivery HCBS including replacing essential furnishings, electronics, equipment and supplies.
- Replacing essential household goods, furnishings, appliances, electronics, equipment and supplies for provider owned or controlled residential settings where HCBS participants reside and receive residential services.
- Replacing essential goods, furnishings, appliances, electronics, equipment and supplies for provider owned or controlled nonresidential settings where HCBS participants receive HCBS.
- Replacing personal belongings of HCBS participants including clothing, furniture, furnishings and electronic equipment.
- Replacement of perishable items lost in the disaster including food and other consumable items lost. Repair/replacement of essential equipment. Food replacement costs are limited to two (2) meals or less per day per impacted HCBS participant.

Requesting Grant Funds

Agency providers that believe they are eligible may request up to \$200,000 in grant funds up by completing the online application and attestation to the Terms and Conditions for the grant **December 8 through December 29, 2024**. To complete the online request for funds and attestation please click [here](#)². [Terms and Conditions](#)³ and [Grant Project Information](#)⁴ are available on the [ARPA webpage](#)⁵ on [the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\) website](#)⁶.

If you have questions, please contact Iowa Medicaid Provider Services:

Iowa Medicaid Provider Services:

- Phone: 1-800-338-7909
- Email: imeproviderservices@hhs.iowa.gov

²https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=TXssjVoIF0aFNjinbRmw2sfoGc0pGD1Evq3VWP_HtT_dUQVFTRzIHUDE4V1haMUyWVBFRExXNjkwWC4u&route=shorturl

³<https://hhs.iowa.gov/media/15072/download?inline>

⁴<https://hhs.iowa.gov/media/15146/download?inline>

⁵<https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/welcome-iowa-medicaid/current-projects/arpa>

⁶<https://hhs.iowa.gov/>