

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2272-MC-FFS

DATE: October 26, 2021

TO: Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Habilitation Providers, Targeted Case Managers (TCM), Service Workers, Supervisors, Service Area Administrators, Case Managers (CM), and Integrated Health Homes (IHH)

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

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Delay in Implementation of HCBS 1915(i) Habilitation Program Changes and Upcoming Training

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 249A.4, DHS has submitted changes to the state plan under Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) Attachment 3.1-C 1915(i) State Plan HCBS Habilitation (IA-21-0010) and amended 441 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 77, “Conditions of Participation for Providers of Medical and Remedial Care,” and Chapter 78, “Amount, Duration and Scope of Medical and Remedial Services.”

These amendments implement the following changes to the HCBS Habilitation program:

- Replaces the interRAI assessment with the Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS)/Child and Adolescent Level of Care Utilization System (CALOCUS) assessment tool for needs-based eligibility determination.
- Amends the habilitation needs-based eligibility criteria.
- Amends the provider qualifications for home-based habilitation services.
- Adds provider qualifications and requirements for intensive residential habilitation services (IRHS).
- Adds the LOCUS/CALOCUS actual disposition score to determine the level of home-based habilitation service authorization.
- Adds the intensive residential habilitation service and service criteria.
- Adds the criteria for providing residential services to minors residing outside the family home.

The administrative rules implementing these changes to the Habilitation program have been promulgated with an implementation date of November 1, 2021. The Department is delaying implementation of the changes to the habilitation program which includes the

implementation of the LOCUS and CALOCUS assessment tool until December 1, 2021. This delay will allow additional time for the Department to work with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on SPA approval and to ensure that stakeholders can participate in training.

The Department, in partnership with the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), has scheduled two training sessions that will provide an overview of the Habilitation program changes noted above. Each session will cover the same material so interested stakeholders need only choose one session to attend. Each session will be recorded for future playback.

To join a training session, please select a session from the table below. Approximately 5-10 minutes before the session is scheduled to begin, click the Zoom meeting link, or call the phone number provided in the table below. Zoom meeting information is also available on the [DHS website](#)¹.

HCBS Habilitation Program Changes Training Sessions		
<p>Session 1 Tuesday, November 09, 2021</p>	<p>3:00PM to 5:00PM</p>	<p>Join ZoomGov Meeting https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1607217325?pwd=WVvK0VG9LWVVKU1dUS3MxSHJ6U3NWZz09</p> <p>Meeting ID: 160 525 9432 Passcode: 363522</p> <p>Dial by your location</p> <p>+1 551 285 1373 US</p> <p>Meeting ID: 160 525 9432 Passcode: 363522</p>
<p>Session 2 Monday, November 15, 2021</p>	<p>3:00PM to 5:00PM</p>	<p>Join ZoomGov Meeting https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1605259432?pwd=aVZjaDFIbFVNMWhZT1dXN1JuVW05dz09</p> <p>Meeting ID: 160 721 7325 Passcode: 927778</p> <p>Dial by your location</p> <p>+1 551 285 1373 US</p> <p>Meeting ID: 160 721 7325 Passcode: 927778</p>

¹ [Habilitation Services | Iowa Department of Human Services](#)