



HCBS/TBI Waiver

NHTD & TBI Approval of Training Stipends

Dear Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver Providers:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved an amendment to the Appendix K for the Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waivers on August 18, 2022. This Appendix K was amended to enact provisions of the CMS approved spending plan and narrative for Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

In response to the approved spending plan for implementation of ARPA section 9817 to expand service capacity, New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) implemented a series of enhancements to support the recruitment and retention of key staff. Due to the high volume of staff turnover as a result of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), providers were required to increase available staff training and supplement training related to waiver services. Costs associated with this training exceeded above and beyond expenses the provider typically sustains for training staff and ordinary operational costs for the delivery of waiver service(s). NYSDOH implemented a training stipend for all waiver service providers approved for and offering services during the PHE.

Providers submitted claims for training costs incurred, not to exceed \$350 per trainee for each direct care staff (i.e. Personal Care Aide (PCA)) providing waiver services. A registered nurse must be the instructor for content related to personal care skills. LHCSA providers must have an approved PCA training plan as approved by the licensing unit to be reimbursed for any training expense(s). Providers may be reimbursed for training expenses (not to exceed the \$350 limit) associated with those staff utilizing Alternative Competency Demonstration qualifications and working with waiver participants. Additionally, the provider may claim \$100 for all staff trained on waiver services and assigned a NHTD/TBI caseload. All waiver service providers may claim the \$100 for initial waiver staff training and an additional \$100 for annual training (for any annual training completed during the PHE). "Waiver service only" providers must have an approved training curriculum. Staff must have been employed during the PHE period beginning April 1, 2021. The provider must be able to produce documentation of successful completion of the training (i.e., Training Certificate) and the staff must be working or has worked with a waiver participant. Authorizations for training stipends were approved by the Regional Resource Development Centers (RRDCs) and NYSDOH.

These are retroactive one-time payments.

These stipends will be automatically paid to your MMIS Provider ID(s) in eMedNY cycle 2398 with a check release date of August 23, 2023.

For specific billing questions contact eMedNY/GDIT directly at: 1-800-343-9000.

A copy of the approved Appendix K Application can be found here: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt90/2022/docs/2022-12-07_appendix_k.pdf

Any questions regarding the NHTD Waiver may be submitted to: nhtdwaiver@health.ny.gov
Any questions regarding the TBI Waiver may be submitted to: tbi@health.ny.gov

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