

PROVIDER ADVISORY #2023-012
CHANGES TO ADULT DAY TRAINING AND NEW PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES

ACTION REQUIRED

EFFECTIVE DATE: MAY 22, 2023

In 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) implemented the Federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Final Rule requiring states to increase opportunities for employment. Specifically, CMS disallowed vocational services delivered in facility-based or sheltered work settings where individuals are supervised for the primary purpose of producing goods or performing services. CMS also directed that states must institute limits for the length of time individuals can participate in pre-vocational services.

The purpose of this change is to accomplish two key components:

- Work opportunities should be integrated into the community.
- Individuals should earn at or above minimum wage.

The final federal rules took effect in March 2023 and the updates to the iBudget Handbook and iBudget Provider Rate Table took effect on May 18, 2023. Major changes include:

1. Removal of job-related training and paid employment in Life Skills Development Level 3 - Adult Day Training (ADT)
2. Addition of a new Life Skills Development Level 4 – Prevocational Service
3. Increase in rates for Life Skills Development Level 2 – Group Supported Employment Service to match the ADT rates.

APD will work with the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) and compliance vendor, Qlarant, to implement a tiered approach to quality assurance monitoring. For the first six months of implementation, if the provider is found to have issues with compliance of the rule, a corrective action plan will be required, and no financial penalties will be assessed.

Existing iBudget Florida waiver providers who wish to expand their services and enroll in Life Skills Development Level 4 - Prevocational Services must complete a Provider Expansion Request form and meet expansion criteria as specified on page 1-27 of the iBudget Handbook before rendering Prevocational Services.

New iBudget Florida waiver providers who wish to offer Life Skills Development Level 4 - Prevocational Services, will need to submit an iBudget Florida waiver provider application. For instructions on how to request enrollment as a waiver provider, please refer to Provider Advisory # 2022-029, dated November 10, 2022, found at: <https://apd.myflorida.com/providers/advisories.htm>

APD will begin issuing service authorizations for the new Prevocational Service on May 18, 2023. Providers must begin rendering services in accordance with the new iBudget Handbook on May 18, 2023.

To obtain a copy of the updated iBudget Handbook and iBudget Provider Rate Table, visit AHCA website at: <https://ahca.myflorida.com/medicaid/rules>

Please submit your questions related to the ADT and Employment Redesign to: ADTInitiatives@apdcares.org.