iBudget Waiver Provider Supplemental Wage Agreement and Minimum Wage Requirements

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Question: How will the funds related to the minimum wage requirement be distributed to iBudget Florida waiver providers?

Answer: The funds appropriated to support the \$15.00 minimum wage have been applied to the iBudget Florida waiver service rates as directed by the Florida Legislature in the 22/23 General Appropriations Act (GAA).

Question: When will the iBudget Florida waiver provider rate increases related to the minimum wage requirement be effective?

Answer: The iBudget Florida waiver rate increases became effective on July 1, 2022. Providers will receive the additional revenue upon billing for the July 2022 eligible services.

Question: Which iBudget Florida waiver services qualify for the increases?

Answer: The following iBudget Florida waiver services received an increase to support the \$15.00 minimum wage requirements:

- Behavior Assistant Services
- Life Skills Development Level 1 (Companion)
- Life Skills Development Level 2 (Supported Employment Group)
- Life Skills Development Level 3 (Adult Day Training)
- Personal Supports Services
- Residential Habilitation Services
- Respite Services

Question: I am an iBudget Florida waiver provider, how do I complete the supplemental wage agreement?

Answer: The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) sent an email on September 23, 2022, to providers who are currently enrolled to provide at least one of the services which received an increase. Each email contained a fillable pdf form along with a <u>unique</u>, <u>provider specific link</u> to submit their completed and signed Supplemental Wage Agreement.

Question: I did not receive an email, what do I do?

Answer: Please check your spam folder for the email from APD. If you unable to locate the email, please contact the APD Helpdesk at https://apddirect.my.idaptive.app or by phone at 833-400-3420. APD used provider email addresses listed within APD iConnect.

Question: I received an email, but I do not think I should have, what do I do?

Answer: Emails were sent to providers who are currently enrolled to provide at least one of the services which received a rate increase, even if you do not have an active service

authorization. Please contact your local APD regional provider enrollment team to inquire about your approved services or changes needed.

Northwest.providerenrollment@apdcares.org Northeast.providerenrollment@apdcares.org Central.providerenrollment@apdcares.org Southeast.providerenrollment@apdcares.org Suncoast.providerenrollment@apdcares.org Southern.providerenrollment@apdcares.org

Question: I am a Florida Medicaid provider and am required to complete the supplemental wage agreement with the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). Do I also have to complete one with APD?

Answer: Yes. As a Florida Medicaid provider of iBudget Florida waiver services which are included in these increases and provisions, you must enter into a supplemental wage agreement with APD that includes this minimum wage requirement.

Question: Is there a deadline for providers to complete the supplemental wage agreement?

Answer: Providers must complete, sign, and submit the supplemental wage agreement by **December 1**, 2022, to comply with Florida law.

Question: Can a provider choose not to accept the funds appropriated/ can a provider choose not to be reimbursed at the increased rates?

Answer: No. All providers who are enrolled to provide any of the qualifying services must sign the Supplemental Wage Agreement.

Question: Are any providers exempt from the supplemental wage agreement?

Answer: iBudget Florida waiver providers who are NOT enrolled to provide any of the qualifying services, and only provide one or more of the following services then they are exempt from signing the supplemental wage agreement.

- Adult Dental
- Consumable Medical Supplies
- Dietitian Services
- Durable Medical Equipment
- Environmental Accessibility
 Adaptations and Assessment
- Life Skills Development Level 2 (Supported Employment - Individual)
- Nursing Services (Private Duty, Residential, Skilled and Skilled Respite)

- Personal Emergency Response System
- Special Medical Home Care
- Specialized Mental Health Counseling
- Support Coordination / CDC Consultant
- Supported Living Coaching
- Therapies (Occupational, Physical, Respiratory, and Speech)
- Transportation

Question: Which employees of an iBudget Florida waiver provider qualify as direct care employees?

Answer: A Direct Care Worker is defined as an individual that has direct contact with a Medicaid recipient for purposes of providing a Medicaid reimbursable service. Direct care workers do not include individuals who do not provide a Medicaid reimbursable service, whose primary duty is maintaining the physical environment of the workplace, or whose duties are primarily administrative.