

In March 2107, SD Senate Bill 147 was passed. This bill requires The Department of Social Services and the Department of Human Services to jointly establish a rate-setting methodology for services delivered by home and community-based service providers. The bill requires each category of service to undergo a comprehensive rate modeling analysis at least every five years. The Assisted Living Rate methodology workgroup was held, as required by SB 147, and as a result an updated tiered Rate Methodology was recommended. The tiered methodology, along with funding to support it, was approved during the FY20 Legislative Session. The primary purpose of this amendment is to secure approval for the approved rate methodology.

South Dakota is committed to a rebalancing of Medicaid expenditures through several initiatives led by the Division of Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) to ensure South Dakotans can live and receive services in the most integrated setting according to the individuals preferences and needs. This amendment also includes updates that will allow for continued progress toward LTSS' initiative to expand and enhance home and community-based services for individuals eligible for the HOPE Waiver. These enhancements include the addition of adult day centers as a provider type for personal care and respite care to ensure the most integrated access to service; modifications to projections to increase the number of participants that South Dakota can support through the HOPE waiver; addition of language to ensure HOPE waiver consumers participate in the most appropriate service/program available to them when it is the most cost effective option for the State.

Finally, a correction to required background checks from "FBI Background Checks" to "State Fingerprint Background Check", as well as an update to the frequency of onsite reviews for in home services provider from once a year to once every third year.

In summary, the following amendments are being requested to the HOPE Waiver:

1. Update the Assisted Living rate methodology to include rate tiers as proposed by the Assisted Living Rate Methodology Workgroup
2. Addition of adult day as a provider type for personal care and respite care to ensure HOPE waiver participants are able to access services in the most integrated setting available to them
3. Addition of language to ensure consumers participate in most appropriate service/program available to them when it is the most cost-effective option for the State.
4. Update HOPE waiver projections to include new assisted living rate methodology, and increased participants and increased expenditures
5. Update background check requirement from "FBI Background Checks" to "State Fingerprint Background Check"
6. Update to the frequency of onsite visits for in home service providers.