



Department
of Health

Viewing Anna Ko's screen

Appendix K Changes

As approved by the Centers for
Medicare and Medicaid Services
(CMS) effective May 13, 2022

June 2022

Workforce Stability Stipend

- Applies to direct service staff providing the following waiver services: HCSS (Nurses and aides), Respite, Service Coordinators, CIC, ILST, PBIS, Peer Mentoring (NHTD only), Substance Abuse services (TBI only), and Structured Day Program staff.
 - NYS will provide a stipend in the amount of \$2,500 for each direct service staff person the provider hires/hired during the PHE effective April 1, 2021 and maintains/maintained that employee for 30 days or more throughout the PHE and/or Appendix K period.
 - NYS will provide a stipend in the amount of \$3,000 for each direct service staff member hired prior to April 1, 2021, employed and providing direct services to waiver participants for 30 days or more during the period of the PHE and/or the Appendix K.
- Staff that qualify for either of the stipend categories above may also receive an additional \$500 if they are fully vaccinated.
- Staff may only receive a stipend from one provider/employer.

June 2022



Requesting Workforce Stability Stipend(s) and/or Training Stipend(s)

- There will be follow-up presentation describing the detailed process for requesting a Workforce Stability Stipend(s) and/or Training Stipend(s).
- Prior to the presentation, providers will be requested to complete a SurveyMonkey survey indicating initial projections.
- Final requests for Workforce Stability Stipend(s) and/or Training Stipend(s) will require RRDC prior approval.
- In order to streamline the process, both the Workforce Stability Stipend and Training Stipend must be requested through completion of the Workforce Stability & Training Stipend Request form.

June 2022



Training Stipend

- Providers may submit requests for training costs incurred, not to exceed \$350 per trainee, for each direct care staff (PCA) providing waiver services.
- Providers may also claim \$100 stipend for training costs incurred for each staff person trained on NHTD and/or TBI waiver services and assigned a TBI and/or NHTD caseload.
 - All waiver service providers may claim the \$100 for initial waiver staff training and an additional \$100 for annual training (for any annual waiver service training completed during the PHE). Providers may not claim for more than two \$100 NHTD/TBI training stipends per staff person.
- Staff must have been employed during the PHE period, beginning April 1, 2021, in order to qualify.
- The provider must be able to produce documentation of successful completion of the training (training certificate) and the staff must be working, or has worked, with a NHTD or TBI waiver participant.

June 2022



Home and Community Support Services (HCSS) Nursing Visit Rate

- Effective April 1, 2021, until the expiration of the Appendix K period, the HCSS nursing visit rate for NHTD and TBI will be changed to a rate of \$61.80 *per hour*.
 - Note: the Appendix K expires 6 months following the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE).
- More details on the specific process related to claiming and claims adjustments for this service will be forthcoming at the next webinar.

June 2022

SDP Rate Increase

Several SDP providers sought to offer waiver participants in-person services as an alternative to isolation throughout the pandemic by adapting/modifying their environment or re-locating service provision. These adaptations were done at a significant cost to the provider. NYS acknowledges those accommodations through a temporary rate adjustment.

- Effective April 1, 2021, until the expiration of the Appendix K, NHTD and TBI SDP providers will receive a supplemental rate increase of \$10/hr for any in-person services provided from April 1, 2021, forward until the end of the Appendix K period.
 - Note: the Appendix K will expire 6 months following the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE).
- More details on the specific process will be forthcoming.

June 2022

Other Changes

- Approval of this Appendix K confirms the termination of retainer payments.
- Update/completion of required UAS-NY CHA reassessments.
 - The Regional Resource Development Centers will work with service coordination providers to submit a transition and/or corrective action plan identifying new/updated re-assessment dates for all waiver participants assigned to their caseload. Overdue reassessments will be prioritized. The plan will be submitted to the RRDC by May 14, 2022. Each waiver participant who did not have a re-assessment completed within the required twelve month period will be prioritized for re-assessment by September 1, 2022.

June 2022

Next Steps

- A SurveyMonkey survey link will be distributed to providers by the RRDC. This survey will be utilized to project initial amounts needed for the Workforce Stability Stipend and/or Training Stipend requests. Providers seeking the Workforce Stability Stipend and/or Training Stipends **must complete** this survey. Failure to do so will jeopardize stipend payments.
- After receipt of the SurveyMonkey survey responses, an additional webinar will be provided to discuss the procedures for implementing the terms and conditions of the Appendix K.
- Information regarding processes for claiming the funds will be forthcoming.

June 2022