



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SETTINGS RULES

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 09/25/2020

In **March 2023**, certain types of residential and non-residential AHCCCS Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) providers will be required to align service delivery and business practices with the Home and Community-Based Settings (HCBS) Rules in order to continue to provide Medicaid-funded services. This includes providers who operate one or more of the following settings:

- DDD Group Homes
- DDD Adult and Child Developmental Homes
- DDD Day Treatment and Training Programs
- DDD Center-Based Employment Programs
- DDD Group-Supported Employment Programs

The HCBS rules are person-centered practices that have the power to shape a member's daily living, learning, working, recreational, and social experiences driven by the member's choices, supports, and services to ensure they have full access to the benefits of community living.

AHCCCS, in partnership with the ALTCS Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), will be initiating desk audits that prioritize providers that may benefit from enhanced technical assistance to become compliant with the HCBS Rules. These desk audits will allow the MCOs' quality monitoring teams to evaluate compliance with the HCBS Rules and provide technical assistance as early as possible to help the provider ensure compliance by March 2023.

As a result of the COVID-19 Public Health and Medical Emergency, the HCBS Assessment process and tools have been revised to accommodate modifications providers have made to service delivery in an effort to mitigate risks to individuals and staff. These modifications have presented barriers to implementation of some of the HCBS Rules compliance standards.

The ALTCS MCOs have utilized multiple sources to identify providers who may benefit from enhanced technical assistance. If you are required to participate in the desk audits, you will be contacted directly by an ALTCS MCO. You will be given a 30-day advance notice and provided with a copy of the assessment tool and accompanying guidance document. AHCCCS has posted recorded provider training sessions on the AHCCCS website at www.azahcccs.gov/hcbs to help providers assess, plan and align service delivery and business practices with the HCBS Rules to create a more satisfying member experience.