



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

Parents As Paid Caregivers (PPCG) Reminder

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 10/18/2024

On February 16, 2024, AHCCCS received formal approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to expand Arizona's Medicaid 1115 demonstration waiver to permanently allow parents of minor children to get paid attendant care and habilitation when it meets an "extraordinary" care definition.

On April 5, 2024, AHCCCS and the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD/Division) published a letter announcing their intent to collaborate on implementing this change to the demonstration waiver. The Division and AHCCCS will continue working together with members, families, and stakeholders over the next several months to develop the new policy and procedures.

In the future, parents will be limited to providing 40 hours of paid care per week per child. This will be phased in and communicated as it develops. According to the AHCCCS frequently asked questions, "AHCCCS plans to implement an incremental phased-in approach for the new 40-hour limitation including identifying the date after which new parents providing paid care under the new model will be limited to providing 40 hours of paid care and establishing incremental milestones to reduce the number of weekly paid parent hours to 40 hours per week. The timeline is not yet established and the development of a timeline is part of the planned implementation activities."

Qualified Vendors should not be communicating any restrictions related to the hours parents can provide under this program, as AHCCCS has not yet finalized its plan for this phased implementation. Visit the Division's [Parents as Paid Caregivers \(PPCG\) web page](#) for additional information.

It is important to remember that members can still be assessed for and receive more than 40 hours of paid care per week. However, an individual Direct Service Provider (DSP) or Direct Care Worker (DCW) can not provide more than 16 hours of care in a 24-hour period as outlined in [Provider Manual Chapter 2 Provider Responsibilities](#). This means that a Qualified Vendor should assist the member in identifying a non-parent DSP for any assessed hours that exceed 16 in a 24-hour period.

More information can be found on the [AHCCCS Parents as Paid Caregivers website](#) and the Division's [Parents as Paid Caregivers website](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to Provider Network Support at ProviderNetworkSupport@azdes.gov.