

DDD SHOUT

PROVIDER NEWSLETTER

Volume V - July 2019

PROVIDER RATE INCREASE FORUMS

Governor Doug Ducey and the Arizona State Legislature approved funding in the most recent Legislative session that will allow the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) to increase rates paid to Providers for DDD funded services.

Before implementing any rate increases, the Division is seeking input from the Provider and Member communities. Division representatives will host forums in seven locations across the state between July 9 and 25, 2019. The forum goals are to: 1) enable the Division to present its initial plan for Provider rate increases to address the services it believes will contribute to a strengthened provider network and 2) hear from the DDD community about which services they feel are most in need of rate increases. Based upon the feedback received in these forums, the Division will adjust its rate increase methodology as appropriate.

Due to space constraints, please send no more than one representative per agency. Remaining scheduled events will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the following locations:

- July 16, 2019 - DES/DDD Flagstaff Office, 1701 N 4th Street, Flagstaff, AZ 86004
- July 17, 2019 - Lake Havasu City Community Center, 100 Park Ave, Rooms 155-156, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403
- July 24, 2019 - Yuma Civic Center East Wing, 1440 W Desert Hills Dr, Yuma, AZ 85364
- July 25, 2019 - Easterseals, Easter/Tiger Lily Conference Room, 7750 E Broadway Blvd #C150, Tucson, AZ 85710

The presentation is available [on the DDD website](#) and comments can be submitted directly through the website. Comments and feedback submitted through the website will be accepted through August 8, 2019.

QVA AMENDMENT #7 PUBLIC COMMENT

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is soliciting written comments and opinions from the public on proposed changes to the Qualified Vendor Agreement and the Request for Qualified Vendor Application No. DDD 71-0000.

The draft changes proposed by DDD for Amendment #7 [can be downloaded here](#) and are available for public review and comment for thirty (30) days beginning June 28, 2019. The document can also be accessed via the vendor announcement page on the [Division website](#).

Written comments and opinions will be accepted by the Division until July 28, 2019 at 11:59 p.m. and will be considered when the document is finalized. Comments should be submitted to the Division via email at

DDDQVAAmendment@azdes.gov. Please include the subject line "Proposed Changes to RFQVA # DDD 710000 _ A 7" and include the following information: full name, organization's name and contact phone number. To clearly identify the document section referenced, please add the document line number for each comment in the left-hand margin of the draft copy.

DDD HEALTH PLANS OPEN ENROLLMENT

The first open enrollment period for DDD Health Plans closed at 5:00 p.m. on July 15, 2019. Members who did not make a choice during open enrollment will be auto assigned to their existing plan if they already are receiving services from Mercy Care or UnitedHealthcare. If they currently receive services through Care1st, they will be auto assigned to either Mercy Care or UnitedHealthcare.

Effective October 1, 2019, Mercy Care and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will provide statewide integrated health care for:

- Physical health services
- Behavioral health services
- Children's Rehabilitative Services (CRS) (if eligible)
- Limited long-term services and supports (LTSS): nursing facilities, emergency alert system services, and habilitative physical therapy for members age twenty-one (21) and over

All other LTSS will continue to be provided by DDD's network of Qualified Vendors and Providers.

Open enrollment for members who become DDD and ALTCS eligible between April 5, 2019, and September 30, 2019, will begin at 8:00 a.m. on October 1, 2019, and end at 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2019.

AHCCCS Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

On Tuesday, February 26, 2019, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) announced the selection of Sandata Technologies, LLC, as the statewide electronic visit verification (EVV) vendor. Sandata will deliver the statewide EVV system that will be made available to all service providers required to use EVV.

Beginning in 2020, AHCCCS will require Medicaid providers of personal care and home health services to use Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) pursuant to Section 1903 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b). EVV is an electronic system that verifies when caregiver visits occur and documents the precise time services begin and end. It ensures that members receive their medically necessary services. Service providers may choose to use an alternate EVV system vendor (at their own cost) and must interface with the statewide system as a data aggregator. More information on AHCCCS' plans for EVV is outlined on the [AHCCCS website](#).

Policy Public Comment

DDD is soliciting public comments regarding a new AdSS Medical Policy Manual and new AdSS Operations Policy Manual. These proposed changes are open to public comment until June 23, 2019. More information regarding these proposed changes and instructions for submitting comments can be found on the [DDD website](#).

Send an email with your contact information to DDDPolicy@azdes.gov to receive notification of changes to DDD policies and publications by email.

HIPAA Online Reporting

DDD is making changes to current practices to enhance reporting of potential HIPAA breaches. These changes will provide a consistent method for DDD personnel, members, Qualified Vendors and Providers to report a potential breach. Everyone is encouraged to use the new online form to report suspected HIPAA breaches. Please contact DDD Privacy Officer, Shawna Odorizzi, at DDDPrivacy@azdes.gov with any questions.

Get Caught Up

Did you know DDD posts PDF versions of vendor announcements on its website? Get caught up on all of the recent vendor communications and stay informed: <https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-disabilities/vendors-providers/vendor-announcements>.

Read previous volumes of the DDD Shout:

[Volume I, March 2019](#)

[Volume II, April 2019](#)

[Volume III, May 2019](#)

[Volume IV, June 2019](#)

If you have any information that you would like to see in the DDD Shout, please email your suggestions to DDDCommunications@azdes.gov.

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