Frequently Asked Questions: FY2020 DSP Wage Increase

Will everyone’s DDD budget increase?
The fee-for-service Medicaid rates are receiving the increase. All individuals enrolled in a fee-for-service program (Supports Program and Community Care Program under Fee-for-Service) will see an increase in their budget.

Will the rates and budgets be updated in the policy manuals?
Updated “quick guides” to the increased fee-for-service rates and budgets will be made available soon. The Supports Program and Community Care Program policy manuals will be updated and issued at a later date.

When will Medicaid provider payments reflect the rate increase?
Medicaid claims for services delivered on or after 7/1/2019 will be paid at the new rates. Medicaid will internally correct claims already received for services from July 1 forward. Alternatively, providers who have already submitted claims for services provided from July 1 forward can cancel and re-submit for the higher rates once the iRecord changes are made.

Provider agencies are required to utilize the higher payments for wage increases for direct support professionals and must be prepared to demonstrate that this law requirement was satisfied.

What if the rate increase causes my budget to become over-obligated?
In a limited number of plans where this could happen, the Division will perform a manual fix to the system. DDD-iT will perform an additional manual increase to these budgets that will only remain in place until plan renewal. At plan renewal, manually increased budgets will automatically re-set to the new standardized fee-for-service budget associated with the individual’s tier. Please note:
  - Manual increases due to budget over-obligation will not carry forward into the next plan year.
  - Manual increases will only be applied to budgets that become over-obligated as a result of the rate increase; manual increases will not be applied to unapproved plans whose budgets were already over-obligated.

Will there be an increase in self-directed employee wages?
Self-directed employees (SDE) will not receive an automated increase because SDE wages are privately negotiated and there are no standardized rates for SDE-provided services. An individual/family wishing to increase an SDE’s hourly wage should reach out to their support coordinator to discuss.