



NEW HAMPSHIRE
DHHS
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR:
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS AND SERIOUS
EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY ACCESS SECTION
1115(a) RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION WAIVER**

Presumptive Eligibility for Home and Community Based Services

AMENDMENT REQUEST

**Public Hearings: February 12, 2024 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
February 22, 2024 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM Virtual**

Agenda

- Presumptive Eligibility Overview
- Objective and Goals
- Eligibility and Benefits
- Budget Neutrality
- Timeline
- Opportunities for Public Input
- Contact Information

Overview of Presumptive Eligibility (PE)

- New Hampshire Chapter 79:568, Laws of 2023 establishes a System of Care for Healthy Aging.
- As part of the System of Care for Healthy Aging, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS, or the Department) Must submit an 1115 Demonstration Waiver in order to implement a robust presumptive eligibility (PE) for home and community based-care services (HCBS) on or before September 30, 2024.
- Through the system of care initiative, New Hampshire is working to build upon existing infrastructure to ensure that older adults and adults with disabilities have access to and timely delivery of supports and services.

Aims:

- Reduce cost by expanding HCBS
- Improve access to HCBS
- Promote healthy aging and ability to have meaningful choice

Presumptive Eligibility Overview Continued

Objective

The overall objective of this amendment request is to expand and improve access to home and community-based services for older adults and adults with disabilities to ensure access to and timely delivery of supports and services and to ensure a meaningful range of options.

Goals

1. Improve the ratio of people using HCBS compared to institutional settings such as nursing facilities;
2. Reduce utilization rate of institutional care while waiting for Medicaid eligibility determination;
3. Reduce the average length of delay from the time an individual submits a Medicaid application until the time the individual begins to receive their first services in order to improve health outcomes and prevent decompensation while awaiting services; and
4. Improve access to the range of options and consumer choice by coordinating with state designated Aging and Disability Resource Centers and person-centered counseling.

Presumptive Eligibility Overview Continued

Eligibility

- Presumptive Eligibility will be available Statewide to individuals aged 18 and older who qualify for an eligibility group approved in the current 1915(c) CFI HCBS Waiver.
- Will allow individuals to access HCBS benefits quickly, in the most appropriate and least restrictive setting, while full functional and/or financial eligibility are determined.
- The eligibility period will be no more than one period within a twelve-month period, starting with the effective date of the initial presumptive eligibility period.
- Participants in HCBS PE are subject to Medicaid estate recovery requirements.

Qualified Entity

- Presumptive eligibility will be determined by state designated qualified entities who will make a determination that the individual appears to meet functional and financial eligibility requirements.
- Under PE, Qualified Entities may include DHHS designated Aging and Disability Resource Centers and hospitals.

Benefits

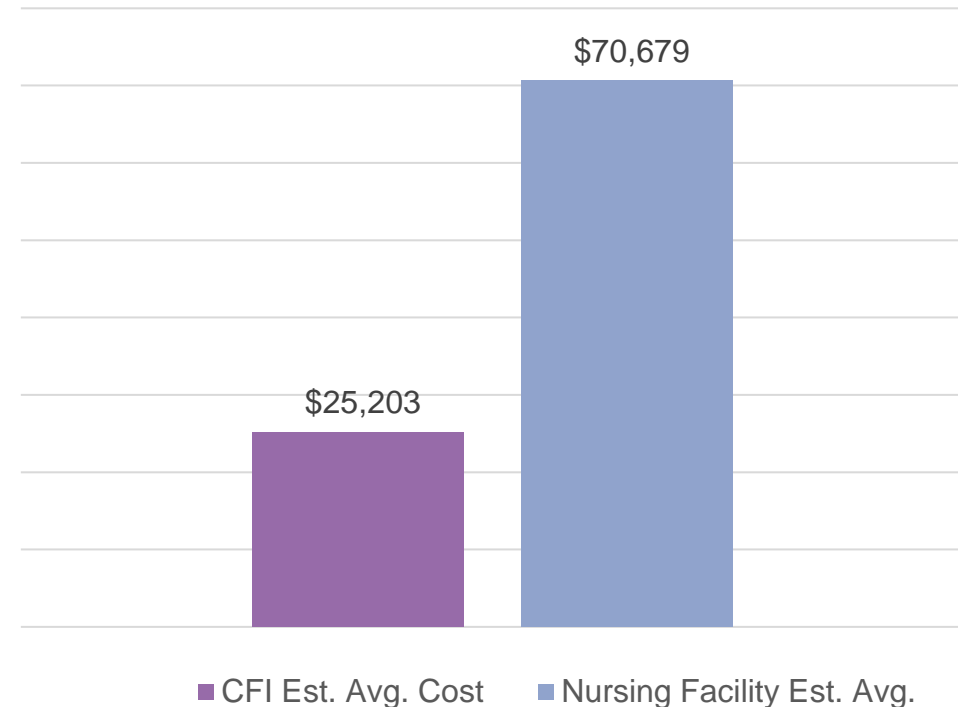
Through this requested demonstration amendment, the State will provide the following benefits to PE eligible individuals. PE eligible individuals will receive State Plan and CFI HCBS PE benefits through a person-centered planning process. The following list illustrates the select set of CFI waiver services intended to be covered under the PE Demonstration:

- **Case Management**
- **Community Transition Services**
- **Personal Emergency Response Systems**
- **Home Delivered Meals**
- **Home Health Aide**
- **Home Maker**
- **Personal Care**
- **Skilled Nursing**
- **Specialized Medical Equipment**
- **Financial Management**
- **Participant Directed and Managed Services**

Cost Effectiveness of CFI vs Nursing Facility Care

- The demonstration will allow individuals to access HCBS benefits quickly, in the most appropriate and least restrictive setting, while full functional and/or financial eligibility are determined.
- Department analysis has shown that CFI is a significantly more cost-effective alternative to care in nursing facilities.
- Currently, individuals receiving HCBS through CFI represent an average cost of \$25,203 per fiscal year (based on SFY23 actuals).
- Comparatively, individuals receiving care in a nursing facility represent an average cost of \$70,679 (based on SFY23 actuals).

Cost of CFI vs Nursing Facility Care



Budget Neutrality

NH DHHS worked with its actuarial partners at Milliman to project budget neutrality limits for this amendment.

Projected Annual Budget Neutrality Expenditures for Presumptive Eligibility Authority

- \$2,335 per member per month in SFY25 (first year of demonstration extension)
- Figures are subject to change based on final technical specifications as determined in partnership with CMS

Projected Enrollment and Expenditures by Demonstration Year

	SFY25	SFY26	SFY27	SFY28	SFY29
Member Months	2,544	2,544	2,544	2,544	2,544
Expenditures	\$5,941,363	\$6,633,700	\$7,406,714	\$8,269,806	\$9,233,472
Individual Members	848	848	848	848	848

Timeline*

Public Comment and Submission		Planning and Development			
2/2024-3/2024	4/2024	6/2024	6/2024	6/2024-7/2025	7/2025
Public Comment Period 2/12/24 - 3/13/24	Submit Amendment to CMS	Anticipated Approval from CMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider Engagement & Training • Contracts & Contract Amendments • Business System Changes • Review Department Rules & Processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Awareness & Engagement • Operations Assessments 	Presumptive Eligibility Implementation

The demonstration will operate statewide. The State intends to implement the demonstration beginning July 1, 2025, through the end of the proposed demonstration extension period, which is June 30, 2029.

*Dates and activities are subject to change

Opportunities for Public Comment

DHHS will offer two opportunities for public hearings

Public Hearing #1

MCAC Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Fred H. Brown Building Auditorium

129 Pleasant Street

Concord, NH 03301

Microsoft Teams meeting

Meeting ID: 269 760 344 562

Passcode: WMfr2V

Or call in (audio only)

+1 603-931-4944,,558298096#

Phone Conference ID: 558 298 096#

Public Hearing #2

Virtual Session

Thursday, February 22, 2024

4:30 - 6:30 pm

Microsoft Teams meeting

Meeting ID: 295 912 849 177

Passcode: PpGZ94

Or call in (audio only)

+1 603-931-4944,,783209441#

Phone Conference ID: 783 209 441#

Contact Information

- Email: 1115EligibilityAmendment@dhhs.nh.gov
- Mail: Carolyn Richards
NH Department of Health and Human Services
Attn: SUD-SMI-SED-TRA Demonstration
129 Pleasant Street
Concord NH 03301
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The complete version of the Presumptive Eligibility for Home and Community Based Services Amendment is available for public review at: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/medicaid-waivers-and-demonstrations>. All public comments must be received by 5:00 pm (Eastern) on Wednesday, March 13, 2024.



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Comments