



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Global Commitment Register

December 19, 2023

GCR 23-151
PROPOSED

Increase to the Personal Needs Allowance and Aid for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled – Medicaid State Plan Amendments

Policy Summary:

The Vermont Medicaid program proposes to amend the Medicaid State Plan to reflect an increase in the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) and an increase in the Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (AABD) state supplementary payments. The increase to the PNA will be applied to all Medicaid enrollees receiving long-term care, regardless of whether they receive supplemental security income (SSI). The Vermont State Legislature appropriated funding for these increases.

Personal Needs Allowance:

The increase to the PNA for institutionalized individuals/couples increases the amount that can be deducted for purposes of calculating post-eligibility treatment of income. This change will be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as State Plan Amendment #24-0006.

Optional State Supplement Beneficiaries Eligibility Group:

The income standards for the Optional State Supplement Beneficiaries Medicaid eligibility group vary by payment classification and are a product of the SSI federal benefit rate added to the maximum AABD payment level for each classification. The new standards can be found in the table under “Additional Information” below. This change will be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as State Plan Amendment #24-0004.

Effective Date:

January 1, 2024

Authority/Legal Basis:

[Medicaid State Plan](#)

[Act 138 of 2022](#)

[Act 185 of 2022](#)

Population Affected:

Medicaid beneficiaries receiving long-term care.
Medicaid beneficiaries receiving AABD payments.

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated gross annualized budget impact is \$1,500,000.

Public Comment Period:

December 19, 2023 – January 19, 2024

Send comments to:

Medicaid Policy Unit

280 State Drive, Center Building

Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Or submit via e-mail to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

Additional Information:

The draft SPA provides additional details on the proposed changes; copies of the draft SPA can be requested from local Department for Children and Families (DCF) offices or from DVHA at (802) 355-8843, or can be found on the [Agency of Human Services website](#).

The changes to the standards for optional state supplementary payments are as follows:

Payment Category (Reasonable Classification)	2023 Monthly Payment Level*		2024 Monthly Payment Level*	
	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple
Independent Living Inside or Outside Chittenden County	\$966.04	\$1,469.88	\$998.68	\$1,520.80
Another's Household	\$648.63	\$962.31	\$670.72	\$995.02
Licensed Residential Care Level III (Limited Nursing Care)	\$1,181.13	\$1,974.69	\$1,210.13	\$2,018.69
Licensed Residential Care Level III (Assistive Community Care)	\$962.38	\$1,467.77	\$994.77	\$1,518.54
Licensed Residential Care Care Level IV	\$1,137.94	\$1,933.06	\$1,182.62	\$2,016.40

Custodial Care Family Home	\$1,012.69	\$1,703.82	\$1,048.60	\$1,771.12
Long-Term Care (Medicaid Payment)	\$72.66	\$145.33	\$79.93	\$159.85

*Vermont applies federal SSI program eligibility criteria, income disregards, and resource limitations.