



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

Global Commitment Register

July 1, 2021

GCR 21-039
PROPOSED

Home and Community-Based Services Initial Spending Plan

Policy Summary:

The Vermont Agency of Human Services (AHS) is seeking stakeholder input on the set of activities included in the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Initial Spending Plan. AHS submitted the State's initial HCBS Spending Plan Projection and [Initial Spending Plan Narrative](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on June 14, 2021, per [federal policy guidance](#). The [Initial Spending Plan Narrative](#) is a plan for spending the projected funding received because of the unprecedented opportunity offered to states to implement activities to enhance, expand, and strengthen HCBS in the Medicaid program under Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The spending plan may be updated on a quarterly basis as early as mid-July or mid-October, 2021.

Written comments received by August 16, 2021, will inform the mid-October quarterly update of the Initial Spending Plan. This is an extension of the initial due date for comments that was posted on June 18th (see [GCR 21-039](#)). Comments received after this date will be considered for future quarterly updates.

Effective Date:

The enhanced FMAP is available April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022. States will be permitted to use the state funds equivalent to the amount of federal funds attributable to the increased FMAP through March 31, 2024.

Authority/Legal Basis:

[Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan](#)

[Medicaid State Plan](#)

[Global Commitment to Health Waiver](#)

Population Affected:

Medicaid

Public Comment Period:

Comment period open through August 16, 2021.

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.

AHS will host a public hearing to provide an overview and answer questions about the funding opportunity and to solicit stakeholder comments.

Public Hearing
July 22, 2021 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Call-in: +1 802-828-7667, 666001448#
Phone Conference ID: 666 001 448#
Video Conference: [Click here to join the meeting on July 22nd](#)

You can request reasonable accommodations by contacting AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov
Please submit requests by July 15th.

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

Additional Information:

Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan provides qualifying states with a temporary 10 percentage point increase to the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for certain Medicaid expenditures for HCBS. States must use the funds to supplement, not supplant, existing state funded expended for Medicaid HCBS, and states must use the funds to enhance, expand, and/or strengthen HCBS under the Medicaid program.

Services eligible for the 10 percent enhanced FMAP include HCBS authorized under the 1115 Global Commitment waiver and the Medicaid State Plan. Eligible services are:

State Plan Services	HCBS authorized under 1115 waiver
Home Health Care	Choices for Care Highest/High (excludes skilled nursing facilities)
Personal Care Services	Developmental Disability Services
Self-Directed Personal Care Services	Traumatic Brain Injury Program
Case Management	Children’s Mental Health
School Based Services	Community, Rehabilitation & Treatment (CRT) <i>(for participants who are Medicaid-eligible only)</i>
Rehabilitative Services	Choices for Care Moderate Needs <i>(for participants who are Medicaid-eligible only)</i>
Private Duty Nursing	

States can implement a variety of activities to enhance, expand, and/or strengthen Medicaid HCBS. Examples include infrastructure improvements and grants to providers. Activities must be prior-approved by CMS.