



RI EOHHS MEDICAID POLICY

Subject:	Electronic Visit Verification “Geo-fence” Distance		
Applicability:	Home Care and Health Agencies		
Issue Date:	Effective Date:	Transmittal #:	Supersedes #:
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Purpose

To outline the requirements for the permitted size of the “geo-fence” that may be used by alternate, third-party EVV vendors.

Background

Electronic visit verification (EVV) is required for Personal Care and Home Health Care Agency services provided in the home. EOHHS has contracted with an EVV vendor to provide the state EVV system. Home Health Agencies may use the state vendor as their EVV vendor or agencies may also use an “alternate” third-party EVV vendor.

EOHHS’ contracted vendor “aggregates” the data from third-party EVV vendors for review and processing by the state. For that reason, if a Home Health Agency selects an alternate EVV vendor, that vendor must comply with all elements of the “RI Alternate EVV Specifications,” which describes the technical specifications that must be met in order for the state vendor to properly aggregate the data from these third-party vendors.

The “RI Alternate EVV Specification” describes the required mechanism to calculate the GPS-measured distance between the home address of the individual receiving services and the location where services are provided and states that a visit “shall not be verified within the vendor system when the distance between the two points is greater than 500 feet. An exception for the agency to review and acknowledged that they know about this distance gap is required and written documentation must be provided to RI EOHHS upon request.” The distance between the two points (the individual’s home and the location of the visit) is called a “geo-fence.”

Scope

This policy pertains to all EVV systems used by RI Medicaid-enrolled Personal Care and Home Health Care Services Agencies.

Statement of Policy or Procedure

Personal Care and Home Health Agencies can only meet RI EVV requirements by using the EOHHS-contracted vendor EVV system or an alternate, third-party EVV system that complies with the “RI Alternate EVV Specification.” Compliance with the “RI Alternate EVV Specification” includes the requirement that the EVV system only verifies visits within a 500-foot geo-fence unless an exception is properly documented.