

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**07/31/2024 PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RHODE ISLAND MEDICAID
STATE PLAN**

In accordance Rhode Island General Laws 42-35, notice is hereby given that the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) proposes to make the following amendment to the Rhode Island State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act:

Family Home Visiting

EOHHS is seeking approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to update Rhode Island's Medicaid State Plan to reflect changes in payment rates for home visiting services and codify the Nurse-Family Partnership and Health Families America into the State Plan. The state recently underwent a rate review for these services and subsequently increases were included in the state's FY2025 Budget. The proposed State Plan Amendment updates the State Plan with the rates as recommended in the state's budget.

The changes have an effective date of October 1, 2024 and have an estimated fiscal impact of \$45,484 in SFY2025 and \$74,152 in SFY 2026 (general revenues).

This proposed amendment is accessible on the EOHHS website (www.eohhs.ri.gov) or available in hard copy upon request (401-462-2407 or RI Relay, dial 711). Interested persons should submit data, views, or written comments by August 30, 2024 to Brittany Church, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, 3 West Rd, Cranston, RI, 02920, or Brittany.Church@ohhs.ri.gov or via phone at (401) 462-2407.

In accordance with the Rhode Island General Laws 42-35-3, an oral hearing will be granted on the proposed State Plan Amendment if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, an agency, or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of this notice.

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services does not discriminate against individuals based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religious belief, political belief, or handicap in acceptance for or provision of services or employment in its programs or activities.

**Original signed by Richard Charest, Secretary, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Signed this 31st day of July, 2024**

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13.c. Preventive Services

Home Visiting Services

Home visiting services will be used to provide support for pregnant individuals until the child reaches age four, which may improve birth-related outcomes, as well as infant and child health outcomes. Pursuant to 42 CFR 440.130(c), home visiting services are provided as preventive services and must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within their scope of practice under state law to prevent perinatal complications and/or promote physical and mental health.

1. The covered service must be provided by specially trained professionals to facilitate screening and provide informational support and care coordination as medically necessary to support healthy outcomes through pregnancy and beyond.
2. Home visiting service providers must be delivered in accordance with one of the State's approved evidence-based models.
3. Services may include:
 - a. Prenatal home visits:
 - i. Blood pressure and other pregnancy complications monitoring
 - ii. Diet and nutritional education
 - iii. Stress management
 - iv. Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) prevention education
 - v. Tobacco use screening and cessation education
 - vi. Substance use screening and counseling
 - vii. Depression screening
 - viii. Domestic and intimate partner violence screening and education
 - ix. Pregnancy education
 - x. Facilitation of access to benefits and community resources that can improve birth related outcomes such as transportation; housing; alcohol, tobacco and drug cessation; WIC and SNAP, and intimate partner violence resources.
 - b. Postpartum home visits
 - i. Diet and nutritional education
 - ii. Stress management
 - iii. Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) prevention education
 - iv. Tobacco use screening and cessation education
 - v. Substance use screening and counseling
 - vi. Depression screening
 - vii. Postpartum mental health disorders screening and education
 - viii. Domestic and intimate partner violence screening and education
 - ix. Chestfeeding support and education;
 - x. Guidance and education with regard to well woman visits to obtain recommended preventive services; Medical assessment of the postpartum mother and infant, as determined by medical necessity
 - xi. Child development education

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- xii. Maternal-infant safety assessment and education (for example, safe sleep education for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) prevention)
 - xiii. Counseling regarding postpartum recovery, family planning, and needs of a newborn
 - xiv. Assistance for the family in establishing a primary source of care and a primary care provider
 - xv. Parenting skills, parent-child relationship building, and confidence building
 - xvi. Facilitation of access to benefits and community resources that can improve birth-related outcomes such as transportation; housing; alcohol, tobacco and drug cessation; WIC and SNAP, and intimate partner violence resources.
- c. Infant and early childhood home visits
- i. Child developmental screening at major developmental milestones
 - ii. Parenting skills, parent-child relationship building, and confidence building
 - iii. Chestfeeding support and education
 - iv. Facilitation of access to community or other resources that can improve birth-related outcomes such as transportation; housing; alcohol, tobacco and drug cessation; WIC and SNAP, and intimate partner violence resources.

Qualified Providers

Providers must be designated as Healthy Families America and/or Nurse-Family Partnership providers by the Rhode Island Department of Health. Home visiting services shall be provided by program sites who are fully accredited or meet fidelity standards as designated by Healthy Families America and/or Nurse-Family Partnership. Home visitors employed by these accredited programs must meet national program education and experience standards, and receive comprehensive program specific training, to become qualified practitioners able to provide all necessary prenatal, postpartum or infant home visiting services as indicated by medical necessity.

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Reimbursement for Preventive Services – Home Visiting ProgramsPayment Methodology

Home visiting programs are reimbursed on a per visit basis.

Rates and Rate Increases

EOHHS does not increase rates based on a set inflation factor on a pre-determined basis. The current rates will be published at: <https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/fee-schedules> and are effective as of October 1, 2024.

Limitations or prior authorization requirements

There are no limitations or prior authorization requirements.