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**State/Territory Name:** New York

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 17-0026

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

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- 2) CMS 179 Form
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services New York Regional Office 26 Federal Plaza, Room 37-100 New York, NY 10278



#### DIVISION OF MEDICAID AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH OPERATIONS

DMCHO: JH:SPA-NY-17-0026-Approval

February 1, 2018

Jason A. Helgerson State Medicaid Director Deputy Commissioner Office of Health Insurance Programs NYS Department of Health Corning Tower (OCP-1211) Albany, NY 12237

Dear Commissioner Helgerson:

On January 27, 2017, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) received New York State Plan Amendment (SPA), transmittal number 17-0026, which proposes to revise the Personal Care Services reimbursement methodology to increase rates of payment due to a minimum wage increase effective January 1, 2017.

Enclosed is a copy of the HCFA-179 form as well as the approved pages for incorporation into the New York State Plan.

If you have any questions regarding this amendment, please call Joanne Hounsell at 212.616.2446 or e-mail at joanne.hounsell@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely.

Michael Melendez, LMSW Associate Regional Administrator Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations

Enclosures: HCFA-179 Form State Plan Pages

cc: J. Ulberg R. Weaver J. Hounsell R. Deyette R. Holligan M. Lopez P. LaVenia N. McKnight

M. Levesque M. Tabakov

## New York 6(a)(2)

Such rates of payment [shall] will be further adjusted to reflect costs associated with the recruitment and retention of non-supervisory workers. For programs providing services in local social service districts which include a city with a population of over one million persons, such rate adjustments will be calculated by allocating the total dollars available for the applicable rate period to each individual provider proportionally based on total claimed hours of services for personal care services provided in the district to recipients of medical assistance. The allocated dollars will be included as a reimbursable cost add-on to the Medicaid rates of payment based on the Medicaid utilization data as adjudicated through the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), or any successor entity, utilizing the most recently available total claimed hours of Medicaid services data, as agreed to by New York State and the district.

For payment periods January 1, 2017, and thereafter, the Commissioner of Health will increase the rates of payment for services provided by all Personal Care providers in accordance with the wage chart shown below to address cost increases resulting from increases to the minimum wage in New York State. Final rates for providers can be found on the Department of Health website:

#### For New York City Personal Care:

http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/hra/downloads/pdf/services/micsa/rate\_chart.pdf

#### For non New York City Personal Care:

https://www.health.ny.gov/facilities/long\_term\_care/reimbursement/pcr/

### Minimum Wage Chart

Minimum Wage (MW) Region	12/31/2016	12/31/2017	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021
New York City (Large employers)	\$11.00	\$13.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
New York City (Small employers)	\$10.50	\$12.00	\$13.50	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
Nassau, Suffolk, & Westchester counties	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00
Remainder of the State	\$9.70	\$10.40	\$11.10	\$11.80	\$12.50	\$12.50

Minimum wage costs will mean the additional costs incurred beginning January 1, 2017, and thereafter, as a result of New York state statutory increases to minimum wage. Minimum wage cost development will be based on survey data collected.

1. Survey data will be collected for facility specific wage data.

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# New York 6(a)(3)

- Facilities will report by specified wage bands, the total count of FTEs and total hours paid to employees earning less than the statutory minimum wage applicable for each minimum wage region.
- 3. Facilities will report an average fringe benefit percentage for the employees directly affected by the minimum wage increase.
- 4. The minimum wage costs are calculated by multiplying the total hours paid by the difference between the statutory minimum wage and the midpoint of each wage band where the facility has reported total hours paid. To this result, the facility's average fringe benefit percentage is applied and added to the costs.
- 5. The 2017 minimum wage costs will be developed based on collected survey data received and attested to by Personal Care Agencies. The cost report will not be used because it does not contain wage data at the level of detail needed to calculate a minimum wage adjustment. Therefore, if the providers do not respond to the survey they will not receive a minimum wage add-on.
- 6. In subsequent years until the minimum wage is completely implemented statewide, the Department will survey Personal Care Agencies (PCA). If a PCA fails to submit the survey its minimum wage add-on will not be calculated. Once the costs are included in the base year cost report, the minimum wage add-on will be excluded from the rate.
- 7. A minimum wage add-on will be developed by multiplying minimum wage costs pursuant to "4." above by a percentage of Medicaid hours to total hours, divide by total Medicaid hours for each rate.

Minimum Wage Reconciliation - After the end of each calendar year, the Department of Health will survey providers to obtain the following information for the purpose of reconciling annual minimum wage reimbursement. The state will release the survey by the end of March and providers will have two weeks to complete the survey or request an extension if a provider determines it is unable to complete the survey within that time. Approval of extensions, and the time of the extension, is at the discretion of the state. If the reconciliation survey is not submitted within the two weeks or within the extension time frame, should one be granted, the provider's minimum wage add-on for the calendar year covered by the survey will be recouped.

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## New York 6(a)(4)

- 1. Total annual minimum wage funding paid to the provider (as determined from the minimum wage addon to claims paid for services rendered in the prior calendar year) for the Medicaid share of the minimum wage law increase requirement. (This information will be supplied by the Department of Health.) Medicaid's share is the percentage of minimum wage costs that are attributable to Medicaid services based on the proportion of Medicaid services to a provider's total services.
- 2. Medicaid's share of the total amount the provider was obligated to pay to bring salaries up to the minimum wage for the calendar year. (This information will be completed by the provider.)
- 3. Minimum wage funds to be recouped or additional funds to be received by the provider. (This information will be completed by the provider.) This will be the difference between the amount paid to the provider for the Medicaid share of the minimum wage law increase requirement and the corresponding amount the provider determined it was actually obligated to pay.
- 4. The State agency will review providers' submissions for accuracy and reasonableness, following which it will process associated payments and recoupments via retroactive per unit rate adjustments as quickly as practical thereafter.

The agency's Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer must sign an Attestation verifying the data that is supplied in the survey.

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