

Hazard Payments for Qualifying Aides

Governor Ralph Northam recently announced that aides and attendants who provided personal care services to Medicaid members from **March 12, 2020, through June 30, 2020**, qualify for a one-time hazard payment of \$1,500 (employee taxes will be deducted from the final payment).

This initiative is funded by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, passed in March 2020. The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) is finalizing details and will share more information as it becomes available.



Who qualifies for payment?

Qualifying service providers are attendants or personal care aides delivering consumer-directed or agency-directed personal care/personal assistance, respite and companion care services between March 12, 2020, and June 30, 2020. You only qualify if the service was delivered through one of the following programs: the Community Living waiver; Family and Individual Supports waiver; Commonwealth Coordinated Care Plus (CCC Plus) waiver; Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT); Medicaid Works; and the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

Other criteria include:

- Aides no longer employed by the agency delivering services still qualify if they provided services during the specified dates.
- Aides providing any amount of service during the designated time period qualify. If you work for multiple agencies and/or for multiple Medicaid members, you will only receive one \$1,500 payment (employee taxes will be deducted from the final payment). The actual payment amount will be determined by your individual tax withholding status.
- You must have passed all required background checks and be eligible to deliver services in the Medicaid program. Anyone on the List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (LEIE) does not qualify for payment.
- Temporary aides who are spouses or parents of minor children qualify.

When will payments be made?

DMAS anticipates payments will be made after January 1, 2021, with more information coming soon. Except for unique circumstances, aides will receive their payment from the personal care agency. As more details are available, we will post information [on the DMAS website](#).

How does the payment affect my income overall?

The \$1,500 one-time payment will not affect your eligibility for Medicaid benefits.

Questions? Email HazardPay@dmass.virginia.gov.