

Personal Choice

Integrated Care Initiative
Consumer Advisory Council

October 1, 2014



Introduction

The Personal Choice Program is designed to give Long Term Care Medicaid eligible individuals more control over how they receive personal care services.

Goals

Personal Choice is a home and community-based program where individuals who are eligible for Long Term Care services have the opportunity to exercise choice and control of:

- The hiring, firing, training, supervision, and management of individuals who provide them with their personal care.
- The ability to determine how a specified amount of funds in a participant-directed budget will be utilized.

Goals (continued)

- Participants work with a Service Advisement and Fiscal Intermediary agency who offer assistance to participants in making informed decisions that are consistent with participant needs and that reflect the participant's individual circumstances.

Who is Eligible?

- Individuals with disabilities over the age of eighteen (18) or elders aged sixty-five (65) or older and
- Individuals who meet LTC Medicaid financial and clinical eligibility requirements.

Who is Eligible? (continued)

- Individuals who want to purchase their own care and services from a budget based on their individual functional needs.
- Individuals who have the ability and competence to self-direct care or who have a qualified designated representative who is able to direct care for the participant may be candidates for the Personal Choice Program.

MA Eligibility Determinations

- The Medicaid Long Term Care/Adult Services Unit (LTC/AS) determines financial eligibility and calculates the participant's income to be allocated to the cost of care.
- Office of Medical Review determines Level of Care.
- The Service Advisement and Fiscal Intermediary must confirm the participant's eligibility before Personal Choice services are initiated and also at the time of each reassessment.

Services Available to Personal Choice Participants

- Service Advisement
- Fiscal Intermediary Services
- Personal Care Assistance
- Personal Choice Participant–Directed Goods and Services
- Home Modifications
- Home Delivered Meals
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Minor Assistive Devices

Personal Choice Service Components

Service Advisement Agency

- Assess, enroll, train, and assist with development and implementation of the individual service and spending plan (ISSP).
- Monitor participants to ensure health, safety, satisfaction, adequacy of current spending plan and progress toward participant goals.

Personal Choice Service Components Assessments

- Three assessments are completed initially and annually by the service advisement agency:
 - Functional assessment– Social worker
 - Mobility assessment– Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant
 - Nursing assessment– LPN or RN
- The Functional Assessment is entered into the Consumer Directed Module (CDM) and is used to develop the monthly budget.
 - Assessment is reviewed and approved by Medicaid.
- The Individual Service and Spending Plan (ISSP) is developed based on the monthly budget.

(These assessments are completed annually unless change in circumstance warrant an earlier assessment)

Individual Service and Spending Plan

- ▶ The individual Service and Spending Plan (ISSP) is a written plan describing goals and personal care needs which include the following:
 - Personal care attendants (PCA's) schedule, tasks, wages, taxes and workers compensation.
 - Emergency back up plan
 - Savings for purchased goods and services
 - Other purchased goods and services
 - Fiscal Intermediary and Service Advisement fees
 - BCI checks for PCA's

Personal Choice Service Components

Fiscal Intermediary

- Fiscal Intermediary receive permission from the participant/representative to conduct business on behalf of the participant.
- Perform all necessary payroll functions.
- Oversee budgetary compliance/spending.
- Conduct Criminal Background Checks and Abuse Registry Screenings for all PCAs/Representatives.

Personal Choice Service Components Monitoring

EOHHS Medicaid, the Service Advisement Agency and the Fiscal Agency will also monitor the participant to ensure health and safety, program satisfaction, the appropriateness of current spending plan, and progress toward goals by:

- Completing regular home visits, telephone contact and annual assessments.
- Completing a Critical Incident Reporting Form and submitting the completed form to EOHHS Medicaid Personal Choice Program within 24 hours of a reported incident.
- Reporting either known or suspected Medicaid Fraud is to the EOHHS Medicaid Personal Choice Program.

Rate/Payment Structure

- Fiscal Intermediaries are paid \$100.00 per person per month for services completed in accordance with policy guidelines.
- Service Advisement Agencies are paid \$125.00 per person per month for services completed in accordance with policy guidelines.
- PCA wages can vary from the current minimum wage up to a maximum of \$15.00 per hour.
- Participants must carry worker's compensation insurance.

Service Advisement Agencies

Tri-Town

Personal Choice Program

1126 Hartford Avenue

Johnston, RI 02919

Phone: 401-349-5760

Fax: 401-349-3125

Fiscal Intermediary Agencies

Options

(Ocean State Community Resources)

Personal Choice Program

310 Maple Avenue Suite 102

Barrington, RI 02806

Phone: 245-7900

EOHHS Medicaid Contact

Office of Long Term Services and Supports Personal Choice Program

Hazard Building
74 West Road
Cranston, RI 02920

Michelle Szylin
Phone: 401-462-2127
Fax: 401-462-4266

UPDATES

- ▶ PARI Independent Living Center discontinued FI Services on 7/1/2014. Options has taken FI responsibility for all Personal Choice recipients at this time.
- ▶ PARI Independent Living Center discontinued Service Advisement Services on 9/12/14.
- ▶ Tri-Town community Action has accepted some of the PARI case load
- ▶ EOHHS is in the process of contracting with a new Service Advisement agency.
- ▶ All Personal Choice Recipients continue to receive personal care services at this time.
- ▶ A letter was sent to all participants by PARI and EOHHS.
- ▶ All personal care services continue.