Home & Community-Based Characteristics: Home-Like Environment & Community Integration for Medicaid Recipients in Assisted Living Facilities & Adult Family Care Homes

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Proposed Rule

- Requires that assisted living facilities (ALF) and adult family care homes (AFCHs) that serve Medicaid recipients maintain home and community-based characteristics, which includes person-centered services and a home-like environment.


- Online at [http://federalregister.gov/a/2012-10385](http://federalregister.gov/a/2012-10385) and on FDsys.gov.
**Programs Affected**

All Medicaid waiver programs providing services in ALFs/AFCHs are expected to provide a home-like environment and community integration to the fullest extent possible:

- Nursing Home Diversion Waiver
- Assisted Living Waiver
- Channeling Waiver (Facility-based Respite)
- Aged/Disabled Adult Waiver (Facility-based Respite)
- Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- Long-Term Care Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Waiver
- Any other Medicaid waiver program that offers services in assisted living facilities
Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers

• Provide funding for services for Medicaid eligible people with qualifying disabilities who want to live at home or in the community

• Home and Community Based Services Waivers
  ➢ Purpose: Allow state Medicaid programs to cover services traditionally viewed as “long-term care” and provide them in a community setting to individuals instead of nursing home or institutions
Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers Eligibility

Recipients must:

• Meet institutional level of care
• Meet Medicaid Institutional Care Program (ICP) income and asset limits
• Satisfy any additional impairment criteria
• Accept waiver services in lieu of institutional placement
Defining Characteristics of a Home-Like Environment

Each resident must be assured privacy in sleeping and personal living areas:

- Entrance doors must have locks, with appropriate staff having keys to the doors
- Freedom to furnish and/or decorate sleeping or personal living areas
- Choice of private or semi-private rooms
- Choice of roommate for semi-private rooms
- Access to telephone service as well as length of use
- Freedom to engage in private communications at any time
Defining Characteristics of a Home-Like Environment, continued

- Freedom to control daily schedule and activities (physical and mental conditions permitting)
- Visitation options of the resident’s choosing
- Access to food and preparation areas in the facility at any time (physical and mental conditions permitting)
- Personal sleeping schedule
- Participation in facility and community activities of the resident’s choice
- Ensuring that residents are allowed to participate in unscheduled activities of their choosing
Community Integration

- Access to the greater community is facilitated by the ALF based on the resident’s abilities, needs and preferences

- The ALF setting must offer meaningful community participation opportunities for their residents at times, frequencies and with persons of their choosing

- **Example:** The resident wishes to visit the senior center to participate in social activities
  
  **Barrier:** The resident does not have access to transportation
  
  **Intervention:** The case manager works with the ALF to ensure that transportation, such as Dial-a-Ride, is available to transport the resident to and from the senior center and to ensure that the resident is dressed and ready to depart
Person-Centered Care Planning

• The basis of a successful home and community-based setting is the creation of an individualized and inclusive person-centered plan of care that addresses services, supports, and goals based on the resident’s preferences.

• The person-centered plan of care is based on a comprehensive assessment that includes the resident and participation by any other individuals chosen by the resident.
Person-Centered Care Planning, Continued

• The plan of care must support the resident’s needs in the most integrated community setting possible

• The waiver recipient’s plan of care must include personal preferences, choices, and goals to achieve personal outcomes
Personal Goals

Examples of personal goals a resident may choose:

- Deciding where and with whom to live
- Making decisions regarding supports and services
- Choosing which activities are important
- Maintaining relationships with family and friends
- Deciding how to spend each day
Promoting Home and Community-Based Characteristics

The state will ensure the promotion of home and community-based settings and community integration through:

- Individualized person-centered care planning
- Goal planning activities
- Promotion of a home-like environment in assisted living facilities
Promoting a Home-Like Environment

To ensure that ALFs/AFCHs serving Medicaid recipients maintain a home-like environment and provide community integration, the state will implement the following new processes:

- Modification of current Department of Elder Affairs referral agreements and Managed Care Organization contracts
- Reviewing for these characteristics during credentialing and re-credentialing of waiver providers
- Monitoring ALFs/AFCHs for the characteristics of a home-like environment and community integration
Modification of Subcontracts

• Department of Elder Affairs is modifying its referral agreements with ALF providers to include language (to be provided by the state) that details the requirements for a home-like environment and community integration.

• Managed Care Organizations will include this language in their subcontracts with ALF/AFCH providers.
Credentialing and Re-Credentialing

• Dept. of Elder Affairs and Managed Care Organizations are required to:

  ➢ Verify during the credentialing and re-credentialing process that home-like environment and community integration exist in facilities they intend to contract with as well as in existing network ALFs
Remediation

• If at any point a managed care organization discovers that an ALF/AFCH is not maintaining a home-like environment or supporting full community integration, they must:
  - Report that finding to the DOEA contract manager immediately
  - Propose a remediation within three business days of discovery

• When the transition to the Long-Term Care Medicaid Managed Care waiver is completed, AHCA will provide the oversight of the monitoring process to ensure the MCOs will contract only with ALFs/AFCHs providing and supporting a home-like environment and community integration.
Monitoring Activities by the State

• Care Plan Development and Goal Planning:
  ➢ Monitoring of ALF resident case files by Quality Assurance team members
  ➢ Review of Community Integration Goal Planning Documentation

• Modification of Referral Agreements:
  ➢ Annual desk review of referral agreements or MCO subcontracts for inclusion of home-like environment and community integration language

• Credentialing and Re-Credentialing:
  ➢ Review of monthly provider network reports and MCO credentialing files

• On-site review of ALFs and AFCHs
For More Information

Go to http://ahca.myflorida.com

Email questions to:
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