



**vaACCSES Budget Amendments (As Published – Est 012618)**

Explanation/Language	Patron	FY19	FY20
<b>LTESS</b>			
This amendment provides \$500,000 from the General Fund the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year for the Long-Term Employment Support Services (LTESS) program. LTESS provides a full array of employment support services to meet the needs of individuals with significant disabilities to maintain employment. Amendment provides funding to address the program's projected shortage of available funding to meet the needs of an additional 1,730 individuals placed in supported employment services in FY17.	Hanger – (329#1s) Favola - (329#3s) Vogel – (329#2s) Sickles - (329#2h) (Boysko; Carr) Hope – (329#8h) Pogge - (329#3h)	\$500,000. GF	\$ 1,000,000. GF
<b>Waiver Group Supported Employment</b>			
<p>“The Department of Medical Assistance Services shall adjust the direct support staff wage assumption from 50% of the federal FY14 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) included in the DD Waiver program to 90% of the FY18 BLS for Northern Virginia and to 75% of the FY18 BLS for the rest of state for reimbursing providers of group supported employment. The Department shall have the authority to promulgate emergency regulations to implement this amendment <i>within 280 days or less from the enactment date of this Act.</i>”</p> <p>This amendment adds language to increase the group supported employment (GSE) reimbursement rate in the <i>recently redesigned</i> DD Waiver programs. <del>The GSE rate was reduced 4% during the redesign of the DD waiver program and as a result in the loss of over 100 jobs for Virginians with disabilities since Sept 2016 because providers cannot afford to provide this service. This The current rate was reduced during the redesign of the waiver programs and jeopardizes employment for individuals with significant disabilities that need supervision in the with their community. employment.</del> A more realistic reimbursement rate will assist in the recruitment and retention of competent professional staff to provide quality community-based employment.</p>	Hanger – (303#24s)  Sickles – (303#3h) (J Bell; Boysko; Bulova; Carter; Delaney; Guzman; Keam; Levine; Plum; Rasoul; Reid; Roem; Sullivan; Watts)  Hope – (303#4h)	\$175,000. GF \$175,000. NGF  DBHDS = \$1.7M \$850k GF \$850k NGF	\$175,000 GF \$175,000 NGF  DBHDS = \$1.7M \$850k GF \$850k NGF
<b>Waiver Rates – (NoVa)</b>			
This amendment provides funding to adjust the direct support staff wage assumption from 50%ile of the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to 75%ile of the FY18 BLS included in the DD Waiver rate methodology for Northern Virginia (NoVa). A “living wage” assumption will assist in the recruitment and retention of competent professional staff to provide quality community-based waiver services. The current	Favola – (303#5s) (Barker/Ebbin/ Marsden/Peterson/Surovell/ Howell/Wexton/McPike)  Hope – (303 #6h)	\$1,800,000. GF \$1,800,000 NGF  DBHDS=\$18.7M \$9.35 GF	\$ 1,800,000. GF \$ 1,800,000. NGF  DBHDS=\$18.7M \$9.35 GF

staff wage assumption used for DD Waiver provider rates is currently based on 50%ile of the FY14 BLS.		\$9.35 NGF	\$9.35 NGF
<b>In-Home Support Services – Rate Increase</b>			
<p>“The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) shall adjust the direct support wage assumption from 50% of the federal FY14 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) included in the DD Waiver program to 90% of the FY18 BLS for Northern Virginia and to 75% of the FY18 BLS for the rest of the state for reimbursing providers of In-Home Support Services. The Department shall have the authority to promulgate emergency regulations to implement this amendment <i>within 280 days or less from the enactment date of this Act.</i>”</p> <p>This amendment adds language to increase the In-Home Support Services reimbursement rate in the DD Waiver program. The current low In-Home Support Services rate has resulted in the inability of individuals and families to access providers because providers cannot afford to provide the service. The current rate jeopardizes the ability of individuals and families to secure services in their own homes to prevent institutionalization or out-of-home placement. A more realistic reimbursement rate will assist in the recruitment and retention of competent professional staff to provide quality community-based In-Home Support Services.</p>	<p>Howell – (303#17s) Sickles – (303#5h) (J.Bell; Boysko; Bulova; Carter; Delaney; Guzman; Hope; Keam; Levine; Plum; Rasoul; Reid; Roem; Sullivan; Watts)</p>	<p>\$250,000. GF \$250,000. NGF</p> <p>DBHDS=\$10.4M \$5.2M GF \$5.2M NGF</p>	<p>\$250,000. GF \$250,000. NGF</p> <p>DBHDS=\$10.4M \$5.2M GF \$5.2M NGF</p>
<b>Waiver Audit Recovery - Hold Harmless</b>			
<p><b>LANGUAGE</b> “The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) shall hold DD Waiver providers harmless from the recoupment of Medicaid funds through audits for clerical or minor administrative documentation errors for the period beginning September 1, 2016 until 180 days after publication and distribution of the DD Waiver provider manual by DMAS”.</p> <p>This amendment adds language to hold Medicaid DD Waiver providers harmless from audit findings for clerical or minor administrative document errors from the commencement of the newly designed DD Waiver (September 2016) until 180 days after the publication and distribution of the DD Waiver provider manual. The provider manual serves as the operational manual and provides specific guidance on policies and procedures used to implement the DD waiver regulations.</p>	<p>McPike – (303#8s) Sickles – (303#7h) (Filler-Corn) Pogge – (303#8h)</p>	Language	Language
<b>Staff Competencies – Supported Employment</b>			
<p><b>LANGUAGE</b> “The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) shall modify competency requirements for Supported Employment providers in the DD Medicaid Waiver to allow providers that are Department of Aging and Rehabilitative</p>	<p>Sickles – (310#1h) (Filler-Corn)</p>	Language	Language

<p>Services (DARS) vendors that hold a national three-year accreditation from the National Council on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) be deemed qualified to meet any staff competency requirements”.</p> <p>This amendment provides that Supported Employment providers in the DD Medicaid Waiver that are DARS vendors and hold a national three-year accreditation from the National Council on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) shall be deemed qualified to meet any DMAS or DBHDS staff competency requirements. DARS supported employment providers are encouraged to continually incorporate best practice staff competencies into their administrative and human resource policies and procedures</p>			