

**HFS****Illinois Department of
Healthcare and Family Services**JB Pritzker, Governor
Elizabeth M. Whitehorn, Director401 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Illinois 60607
Telephone: +1 312-793-4792, TTY: +1 800-526-5812

Public Comment Notice - Home and Community Based Services Waiver

3/18/2026

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) proposes to amend the Home and Community Based Services Waiver (HCBS) for the Persons with Brain Injury – IL 0329. Changes in the amendment include:

The proposed amendment for the Persons with Brain Injury waiver contains a few changes from the current waiver.

The narrative below explains the primary differences:

1. Increased the Individual Provider (IP) and Respite Individual Provider rates. The rates will increase in the following manner effective July 1, 2026, with CMS approval, in response to the Service Employee International Union (SEIU) Collective Bargaining Agreement.
 - Individual Provider and Respite Individual Provider increase from \$19.50 to \$20.00 an hour.
 - Individual Provider (CNA) and Respite Individual Provider (CNA) increase from \$22.50 to \$23.00 an hour.
 - Individual Provider (LPN) and Respite Individual Provider (LPN) increase from \$29.50 to \$30.00 an hour.
 - Individual Provider (RN) and Respite Individual Provider (RN) increase from \$36.25 to \$36.75 an hour.
2. Edited Main-2 and Appendix A-3 to remove the reference to the Medicare Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI) which ended 12/31/2025 and replace with the Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan program (D-SNP) model, which is called the Fully Integrated Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (FIDE SNP), which became effective 1/1/2026.
3. Edited Appendix B-2-a-Other to revise the service cost maximum (SCM) table to account for the 7/1/2026 rate increases. The new SCMs will be effective 7/1/2026, or upon CMS approval.
4. Edited Appendix B-3-a to update the phase-in/phase-out enrollment numbers for the 5-year waiver renewal period.
5. Edited Appendices C-2-d and C-2-e to remove language that prevented legally responsible individuals from working over 40 hours a week.

6. Edited Appendices C-2-e, C-5, D-1-d, D-1-ii, and D-2-a to reflect changes resulting from the 3.7 software change.
7. Edited Appendices F-3-b and F-3-c to include updated grievance procedures which meet the requirements in the Federal HCBS Access Rule implementation deadline of 7/1/2026.
8. Edited Appendix I-2-a to reflect the current provider rates for the renewal.
9. Edited Appendix J for waiver capacity and overall cost estimates for the 5-year waiver period.

HFS seeks public input on this proposed waiver amendment through two separate statements of public notice:

- 1) An electronic public notice is posted on the HFS website at <https://hfs.illinois.gov/info/legal/publicnotices.html>.
- 2) A non-electronic public notice may be viewed at the Department of Human Services (DHS) local offices (except in Cook County). In Cook County, the notice may be reviewed at the Office of the Director, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, 401 South Clinton Street, 1st Floor, Chicago, Illinois.

How to obtain a copy of the proposed waiver amendment:

A hard copy of the proposed waiver amendment may be downloaded and printed from the HFS website at <https://hfs.illinois.gov/medicalclients/hcbs.html> or may be requested by calling (217) 524-4148.

Copies are also available at the following locations:

Healthcare and Family Services
201 South Grand Avenue East
Springfield, IL 62763

Healthcare and Family Services
401 South Clinton
Chicago, IL 60607

How to submit public comments:

HFS is accepting public input regarding this proposed amendment for a 30-day public comment period from 3/18/2026 through 4/18/2026. Those interested in providing input are asked to email feedback to the HFS email address at HFS.HCBSWaiver@illinois.gov or mail their written input to:

Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
ATTN: Waiver Operations Management
201 South Grand Avenue East, 2FL
Springfield, IL 62763

State feedback on public comments:

A summary of the public notice and comments will be incorporated into the waiver amendment. The summary will include modifications to the initial waiver amendment and the reasons why the State of Illinois adopted or did not adopt specific comments or recommendations.