DATE: November 21, 2018

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Stefanie Nadeau, Director, MaineCare Services

SUBJECT: Proposed Rule: 10-144 C.M.R. ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 12, Allowances for Consumer-Directed Attendant Services

PUBLIC HEARING: December 11, 2018

COMMENT DEADLINE: December 21, 2018

This letter gives notice of proposed rules: 10-144 C.M.R. ch. 101, Chapter III, Section 12, Allowances for Consumer-Directed Attendant Services.


In addition, the following changes are made to Chapter II:

1) New definition added for Fiscal Intermediary (FI), an organization that provides administrative and payroll services on behalf of members self-directing their personal care services. The FI entity has an established contract with the Department, but its services are not billable under this section.

2) Authorized Agent is updated to Authorized Entity through the policy.

3) Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) requirements are added, effective January 1, 2020, pursuant to Section 12006 of the 21st Century CURES Act (P.L. 114-255), as codified in 42 U.S.C. § 1396b(l)(1).

4) Clarification of personal care services duplication with other sections of the MaineCare Benefits Manual is provided.
The Department is seeking, and anticipates receiving, approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for these changes. Pending CMS approval, the increased rates will be effective retroactive to July 1, 2018. A methodology change notice was posted on the Office of MaineCare Services website on July 31, 2018.

Rules and related rulemaking documents may be reviewed at, or printed from, the MaineCare website at http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/rules/index.shtml or for a fee, interested parties may request a paper copy of rules by calling (207) 624-4050 or Maine Relay number 711.

A concise summary of the proposed rule is provided in the Notice of Agency Rulemaking Proposal, which can be found at http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/notices.html. This notice also provides information regarding the rulemaking process. Please address all comments to the agency contact person identified in the Notice of Agency Rulemaking Proposal.
Notice of Agency Rule-making Proposal

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, MaineCare Services

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: 10-144 C.M.R. ch.101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapters II & III, Section 12, Consumer-Directed Attendant Services and Allowances for Consumer-Directed Attendant Services

PROPOSED RULE NUMBER:


P.L. 2017, ch. 459, Part B, requires the Department to amends its rules for reimbursement rates for the personal care services under the provisions of 10-144 C.M.R. ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 12, Allowances for Consumer-Directed Attendant Services to reflect the final rates modeled in the February 1, 2016 report “Rate Review for Personal Care and Related Services: Final Rate Models” prepared for the Department by Burns & Associates, Inc.

In addition, the following changes are made to Chapter II:

1) New Definition added for Fiscal Intermediary (FI), an organization that provides administrative and payroll services on behalf of members self-directing their personal care services. The FI entity has an established contract with the Department, but its service is not billable under this section.

2) Authorized Agent is updated to Authorized Entity throughout the policy.

3) Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) requirements are added effective January 1, 2020 pursuant to Section 12006 of the 21st Century CURES Act (P.L. 114-255), as codified in 42 U.S.C. § 1396b(l)(1).

4) Clarification of personal care services duplication with other sections of the MaineCare Benefit Manual is provided.

The Department is seeking, and anticipates receiving, approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for these changes. Pending CMS approval, the increased reimbursement rates will be effective retroactive to August 1, 2018. A methodology change notice was posted on the Office of MaineCare Services’ website on July 31, 2018.


STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 22 M.R.S. §§ 42, 3173; Public Law 2017, Chapter 459, Part B

PUBLIC HEARING:

Date: December 11, 2018
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Burton Cross Office Building
Conference Room 300
111 Sewall Street
Augusta, ME 04330
The Department requests that any interested party requiring special arrangements to attend the hearing contact the agency person listed below before December 4, 2018.

DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS: Comments must be received by 11:59 p.m. on December 21, 2018.

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Heidi Bechard, Comprehensive Health Planner II
AGENCY NAME: MaineCare Services
ADDRESS: 242 State St.
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine  04333-0011
Heidi.bechard@maine.gov
TELEPHONE: 207-624-4074 FAX: (207) 287-1864
TTY: 711 (Deaf or Hard of Hearing)

IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES (if any): The Department does not anticipate that these rulemakings will have any impact on municipalities or counties.

CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION (if different): N/A only. A more detailed summary / basis statement is attached.
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12.01 PURPOSE

The purpose of this benefit is to provide medically necessary consumer-directed attendant services for MaineCare members eighteen years or older and physically disabled.

12.02 DEFINITIONS

12.02-1 Activities of Daily Living (ADLs): For the purpose of determining eligibility, ADLs include only the following:

(i) **Bed Mobility**: How a member moves to and from lying position, turns side to side, and positions body while in bed;

(ii) **Transfer**: How a member moves between surfaces to/from: bed, wheelchair, standing position (excluding to/from bath/toilet);

(iii) **Locomotion**: How a member moves between locations, in room and other areas. If in wheelchair, self-sufficiency once in chair;

(iv) **Eating**: How a member eats and drinks (regardless of skill);

(v) **Toilet Use**: How a member uses the toilet room (or commode, bedpan, urinal), transfers on/off toilet, cleanses, changes pad, manages ostomy or catheter, adjusts clothes;

(vi) **Bathing**: How a member takes full-body bath/shower, sponge bath and transfers in/out of tub/shower (exclude washing of back and hair); and

(vii) **Dressing**: How a member puts on, fastens, and takes off all items of street clothing, including donning/Removing prosthesis.

12.02-2 **Assessing Services Agency (ASA)** is the contractor selected by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS or the Department) to conduct face-to-face assessments and reassessments of consumer eligibility, using the DHHS’ Medical Eligibility Determination (MED) form, and the timeframes and definitions within it, to determine medical eligibility for covered services. Based upon a member’s assessment outcome scores recorded in the MED form, the ASA is responsible for developing a plan of care that shall specify the covered services and number of hours for services under this Section.

12.02-3 **Assisted Living Services** means the provision of assisted housing services, assisted housing services with the addition of medication administration, or assisted housing services with the addition of medication administration and nursing services; or supported living arrangement certified by DHHS Adult Mental Health Services. Assisted Living Services are provided by an assisted housing program, either directly by the provider or indirectly through contracts with persons, entities, or agencies.

12.02-4 **Attendant** is an individual who meets the qualifications outlined by the member and Provider Agency. The attendant must be certified by the member pursuant to Section
12.02 DEFINITIONS (cont.)

12.07-3(C) and, under the direction of the member, must competently assist in the fulfillment of the personal assistance service needs identified in the member’s authorized plan of care.

12.02-5 **Authorized Plan of Care** is a plan that is determined by the ASA or the Department, and that specifies all services to be delivered to a member as allowed under this Section, including the number of hours for any MaineCare covered services under this Section. The authorized plan of care must be based upon the member’s assessment outcome scores recorded in the Department’s Medical Eligibility Determination (MED) form, its definitions, and the time frames on the MED form. The authorized plan of care must be completed on the Department-approved form and must not exceed services required to provide necessary assistance with activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) items, and identified health maintenance activities in the MED form. All authorized, covered services provided under this Section must be listed in the care plan summary on the MED form. The authorized plan of care must reflect the needs identified by the assessment, giving consideration to the member’s living arrangement, informal supports, and services provided by other public or private funding sources to insure non-duplication of services, including Medicare and MaineCare hospice services. If the member receives attendant services under this Section and he/she also receives hospice services, then the provider's responsibility is to inform the hospice provider that attendant services are being provided and the number of hours must be identified as a need on the hospice plan of care.

12.02-6 **Care Coordination Services** are those covered services provided by a care coordinator who is employed, or contracted, by the Service Coordination Agency to help the Member access the services in the plan of care as authorized by the Department or its Authorized EntityAgent. The purpose of care coordination services is to assist Members in receiving appropriate, effective and efficient services, which allow them to retain or achieve the maximum amount of independence possible and desired. Care Coordination Services are designed to assist the Member with identifying immediate and long-term needs, so that the Member is offered choices in service delivery based on his/her needs, preferences, and goals. Care Coordination Services assist with locating service providers, overseeing the appropriateness of the plan of care by regularly obtaining Member feedback, and monitoring the Member’s health status.

12.02-7 **Consumer-Directed Attendant Services**, also known as personal care attendant (PCA) services, or attendant services, enable eligible members with disabilities to re-enter or remain in the community and to maximize their independent living opportunity at home. Consumer-Directed Attendant Services include assistance with activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, and health maintenance activities. The eligible member hires his/her own attendant, trains the attendant, supervises the provision of covered services, completes the necessary written documentation, and if necessary, terminates services of the attendant. Personal Care Services cannot be provided by a member of the recipient’s family. The Department of Health and Human Services or the ASA, consistent with these rules, shall determine medical eligibility for services under this Section, determine all covered services, and provide a plan of care for each new member prior to the start of services as well as all established members.
12.02 DEFINITIONS (cont.)

12.02-8 Covered Services are those services for which payment may be made by the Department under these rules pursuant to Title XIX and XXI.

12.02-9 Extensive Assistance means although the individual performed part of the activity over the last seven (7) days, or twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours if in a hospital setting, help of the following type(s) was provided:

- Weight-bearing support three (3) or more times, or

- Full staff performance during part (but not all) of the last seven (7) days

12.02-10 Family Member is a spouse of the member, the parents or stepparents of a minor child, or a legally responsible relative.

12.02-11 Health Maintenance Activities are activities designed to assist the member with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living, and additional activities specified in this definition. These activities are performed by a designated caregiver for a competent self-directing member who would otherwise perform the activities, if he or she were physically able to do so and enable the member to live in his or her home and community. These additional activities include, but are not limited to, catheterization, ostomy care, preparation of food and tube feedings, bowel treatments, administration of medications, care of skin with damaged integrity, occupational and physical therapy activities such as assistance with prescribed exercise regimes.

12.02-12 Limited Assistance is a term used to describe an individual’s self-care performance in activities of daily living, as determined by the Department’s approved assessment process. It means, although the individual was highly involved in the activity over the last seven (7) days, or twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours if in a hospital setting, help of the following type(s) was required and provided:

- Guided maneuvering of limbs or other non-weight-bearing assistance three (3) or more times, or

- Guided maneuvering of limbs or other non-weight bearing assistance three (3) or more times plus weight-bearing support one or two times.

12.02-13 MeCare is a computerized long-term care medical eligibility system facilitating the entire medical assessment process, from intake through information dissemination.

12.02-14 “Medical Eligibility Determination Form” (MED) means the form, approved by the Department, for medical eligibility determinations and service authorization for the authorized plan of care based upon assessment outcome scores. The definitions, scoring mechanisms and time-frames relating to this form are contained therein and provide the basis for services and the plan of care authorized by the ASA. The care plan summary, contained in the MED form, documents the authorized plan of care and to avoid duplication, services provided by other possible public or private program funding sources. It also includes service category, reason codes, duration, unit code, number of units per month, rate per unit, and total cost per month.
12.02 DEFINITIONS (cont.)

12.02-15 Medical Eligibility Determination Packet includes a signed release of information, the completed medical eligibility determination form, the eligibility notification, hearing and appeal rights, MECARE-generated care plan that explains benefits of the authorized care plan to the member, transmittal, and contact notes. The service plan and the transmittal must be submitted to the Department by the Service Coordination Agency once skills’ training has been completed and the member has hired a personal attendant. Service plans and transmittals that do not meet Department specifications and relevant policy will be returned to the Service Coordination Agency by the Department.

12.02-16 One-person Physical Assist requires one (1) person to provide either weight-bearing or non-weight-bearing assistance for an individual who cannot perform the activity independently over the last seven (7) days, or twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours if in a hospital setting. This does not include cueing.

12.02-17 Qualified or Eligible Member, is eighteen years or older with a disability who has functional impairments that interfere with self-care and activities of daily living and meets the medical eligibility criteria in Section 12.03. The member must have the cognitive capacity, as measured on the Medical Eligibility Determination form, to competently direct and manage the attendant on the job to assist and/or perform the self-care and daily ADLS, IADLS, and health maintenance activities. The member must be determined eligible for services under this Section.

12.02-18 Service Coordination Agency is an organization that has the capacity to provide Care Coordination and Skills Training to eligible Members under this Section, and has met the MaineCare provider enrollment requirements of the Department. In addition to Care Coordination and Skills Training, the Service Coordination Agency is responsible for administrative functions, including but not limited to, maintaining Member records, submitting claims, conducting internal utilization and quality assurance activities, and meeting the reporting requirements of the Department. The Service Coordination Agency must coordinate with the Department’s contracted Fiscal Intermediary that will be handling attendant payroll. The Service Coordination Agency providing care coordination services may not be a provider of direct care services.

12.02-19 Self-Direct means the member has management responsibility and directs the provision of attendant services. Specifically, the member hires, discharges, trains, schedules and supervises his/her attendant(s). The member’s ability to self-direct must be documented on the Medical Eligibility Determination Form as defined in this Section.

12.02-20 Service Plan is the document used by the Service Coordination Agency to assist the member to direct his or her attendant to provide services as specified on the authorized plan of care. The service plan must outline the ADL, IADL, and health maintenance activities, the time authorized to complete the tasks, and the frequency of the tasks that will be the basis for the attendant’s job description and weekly schedule. The service plan must reflect the total authorized hours available each week for the member to manage and direct the attendant. The hours must not exceed the hours authorized on
12.02 DEFINITIONS (cont)

the MED form care plan summary and must include only the covered services from Section 12.05. The service plan must not be completed until the MED form is completed, medical eligibility is determined, and the hours of care are authorized by the ASA as allowed under this Section.

12.02-21 Significant Change means a major change in the member’s status that is not self limiting, affects more than one (1) area of functional or health status, and requires a multi-disciplinary review or revision of the authorized plan of care. A significant change assessment is appropriate if there is a consistent pattern of change, with either two (2) or more areas of improvement or decline that affect member needs.

12.02-22 Skills Training is a service that provides Members with the information and skills to assist them in carrying out their responsibilities when choosing this self-directed option. All members receiving services under this section are required to receive this service.

12.02-23 Total Dependence means full staff performance of the activity during the entire last seven (7) day period across all shifts because of the member’s complete inability to participate in all aspects of the Activities of Daily Living (ADLs).

12.02-24 Fiscal Intermediary (FI) is an organization that provides administrative and payroll services on behalf of members directing their own personal care services. FI services include, but are not limited to preparing payroll and withholding taxes, making payments to suppliers of goods and services and ensuring compliance with State and Federal tax and labor regulations and the requirements under this Section. The Fiscal Intermediary Entity has an established contract with the Department, but is not a billable service under this Section. The use of a FI is required under this Section.

12.03 ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES

12.03-1 Determination of Eligibility

A. Members must meet the financial eligibility criteria as set forth in the MaineCare Eligibility Manual. Some members may have restrictions on the type and amount of services they are eligible to receive. It is the responsibility of the provider to verify a member’s eligibility for MaineCare prior to providing services, as described in MaineCare Benefits Manual (MBM) Chapter I;

B. Applicants for services under this Section must meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in this Section and as documented on the Medical Eligibility Determination form. A member meets the medical eligibility requirements if he or she requires a combination of assistance with the required activities of daily living, as defined in Section 12.03-1(D) and as set forth elsewhere in this Section. The clinical judgment of the Department’s ASA is the basis of the scores entered on the Medical Eligibility Determination form. The clinical judgment of the Department’s ASA is determinative of the scores on the medical eligibility determination assessment;
12.03 ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES (cont.)

C. The member must have a disability with functional impairments, which interfere with his/her own capacity to provide self-care and daily living skills without assistance. The member’s disability must be permanent or chronic in nature as verified by the member’s physician.

D. A registered nurse trained in conducting assessments with the Department’s approved MED form must conduct the medical eligibility assessment. The assessor must, as appropriate within the practice of professional nursing judgment, consider documentation, perform observations, and conduct interviews with the applicant/member, family members, direct care staff, the applicant’s/member’s physicians, and other individuals and document in the record of the assessment all information considered relevant in his or her professional judgment. The following levels of eligibility are determined at assessment:

**Level I** A member meets the medical eligibility requirements for Level I if he or she requires at least limited assistance plus a one person physical assist with at least two (2) of the following ADLs: bed mobility, transfer, locomotion, eating, toilet use, dressing, and bathing.

**Level II** A member meets the medical eligibility requirements for Level II if he or she requires at least limited assistance and a one person physical assist with at least three (3) of the following ADLs: bed mobility, transfer, locomotion, eating, toilet use, dressing, and bathing.

**Level III** A member meets the medical eligibility requirements for Level III if he or she requires at least extensive assistance and a one person physical assist with two (2) of the following five ADLs: bed mobility, transfer, locomotion, eating, or toileting; and limited assistance and a one person physical assist with two (2) of the following additional ADLs: bed mobility, transfer, locomotion, eating, or toileting.

E. The member must agree to complete initial member instruction and testing within thirty (30) days of completion of the MED form to determine medical eligibility in order to develop and verify that he or she has attained the skills needed to hire, train, schedule, discharge, and supervise attendants and document the provision of personal care services identified in the authorized plan of care. Members who do not complete the course of instruction or do not demonstrate to the Service Coordination Agency that they have attained the skills needed to self-direct are not eligible for services under this Section;

F. The member must not be residing in a hospital, nursing facility, or Intermediate Care Facility for the Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) as an inpatient;
12.03 **ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES** (cont.)

G. The member must not reside in an Adult Family Care Home (as defined in *MainCare Benefits Manual*, Chapters II and III, Section 2,) or other residential setting including a Private Non-Medical Institution (MBM, Chapters II and III, Section 97), sometimes referred to as a residential care facility or supported living, regardless of payment source, (i.e. private or MaineCare);

H. The member must not be receiving personal care services under Private Duty Nursing/Personal Care Services, Section 96, or be receiving any In-home Community and Support Services for Elderly and Other Adults, Section 63, or participating in other MaineCare programs where personal care services are a covered service.

I. The member must have the cognitive capacity, as measured on the MED form to be able to “self-direct” the attendant. The ASA will assess cognitive capacity as part of each member’s eligibility determination using the MED findings. The Service Coordination Agency will assess cognitive capacity as part of consumer instruction. Minimum MED form scores are:

   (a) decision making skills: a score of 0 or 1;

   (b) making self understood: a score of 0, 1, or 2;

   (c) ability to understand others: a score of 0, 1, or 2;

   (d) self performance of managing finances: a score of 0, 1, or 2; and

   (e) support for managing finances, a score of 0, 1, 2, or 3.

An applicant not meeting the specific scores above during his or her eligibility determination will be presumed not able to self-direct and ineligible for benefits under this Section.

J. Applicants who meet these eligibility criteria for personal care attendant services shall:

   i. Receive an authorized plan of care based upon the scores, timeframes, findings and covered services recorded in the MED assessment. The covered services to be provided in accordance with the authorized plan of care must not exceed the established limits and must be authorized by the Department or its ASA;

   ii. The ASA must approve an eligibility period for the Member, based upon the scores, timeframes and needs identified in the MED assessment for the covered services, and the assessor’s clinical judgment. An eligibility period cannot exceed twelve (12) months;

   iii. The ASA forwards the completed assessment packet to the Service Coordination Agency of the Member’s choice within three (3) business
12.03 ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES (cont.)

days of the medical eligibility determination and authorization of the plan of care;

iv. The Service Coordination Agency must contact the Member within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the MED assessment and authorized plan of care. The Service Coordination Agency must implement skills training and coordinate services with the Member as well as monitor service utilization and assure compliance with this policy; and

v. The Service Coordination Agency will complete the service plan and initiate skills instruction within thirty (30) days of the medical eligibility assessment date. The Service Coordination Agency will notify the Department, using the transmittal form approved by the Department, when the Member has successfully completed this requirement and an attendant has been hired. Provision of attendant services can begin only after the Department is notified that the Member has successfully completed this training and the service plan has been received.

12.03-2 Redetermination of Eligibility

A. For all Members under this Section, in order for the reimbursement of services to continue uninterrupted beyond the approved medical eligibility period, a reassessment to determine medical eligibility and authorization of services by the ASA is required. MaineCare payment ends with the reassessment date, also known as the medical eligibility end date.

Step #1: The Service Coordination Agency must submit a reassessment request to the ASA. The ASA must complete a reassessment at least five (5) calendar days prior to the end date of the member’s current medical eligibility period to establish continued eligibility for MaineCare coverage of attendant Services. If the need for additional consumer skills instruction has been identified by the ASA or the Service Coordination Agency, it will be documented in the Member’s service plan.

Step #2: The ASA’s findings and scores recorded in the MED form shall be determinative for establishing eligibility for services and the authorized plan of care. The service plan shall not be completed until medical eligibility has been determined and services authorized, as allowed under this Section, in the care plan summary of the MED form.

Step #3: The ASA shall review, face-to-face with the Member at the Member’s residence, the medical eligibility for services at least annually based on clinical judgment.

Each member is eligible for attendant services, as identified, documented, and authorized on the MED form, within the following limitations as described below and in Chapter III, Section 12.
12.04 AMOUNT AND DURATION OF SERVICES

The Department or its ASA, consistent with these rules, determines the plan of care and the number of hours of covered services for each new member prior to the start of services, and for each established member, as his or her scheduled re-assessment comes due. The services provided must be reflected in the service plan and based upon the authorized covered services documented in the care plan summary of the MED form.

MaineCare coverage of services under this Section is contingent upon eligibility determination prior to service delivery and consistent with these rules. Beginning and end dates of a member’s medical eligibility period must correspond to the beginning and end dates for MaineCare coverage for these services.

The ADL Task Time Allowances in the attached Appendix A reflect the time normally allowed to accomplish the listed tasks. The ASA will use these allowances when authorizing a member’s authorized plan of care on the care plan summary in the MED form and this plan will be reflected in the service plan. If these times are not sufficient, when considered in light of a member’s unique circumstances, as identified and documented by the ASA, the ASA may make an adjustment as long as authorized hours do not exceed the limits established for the member’s assessed level of care.

Services under this Section will be reduced, terminated, suspended or denied by the Department, the ASA or the Service Coordination Agency if any of the following situations occur:

A. Termination/Denial of Services

1. The member exceeds the applicable Level I, II or III established limits.

2. The member declines these services;

3. A significant change occurs in the member’s medical, functional, or cognitive status and the ASA or the Service Coordination Agency determines that appropriate services can no longer be provided under this Section;

4. The ASA or the Service Coordination Agency determines that the health and welfare of the member is endangered should he or she remain at home receiving services under this Section;

5. The Service Coordination Agency documents that the member fails to manage an attendant consistent with requirements of this Section;

6. The member enters a hospital, nursing facility, private non-medical institution, or Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities as an inpatient;

7. The member is receiving personal care services under Section 96, “Private Duty Nursing and Personal Care Services”; Section 96, “Home and Community-Based Benefits for the Elderly and Adults with Disabilities”, Section 49, “In-Home and Community Support Services for Elderly and Other Adults”, Section 63 (HBC); or any other section of the MaineCare Benefits Manual where personal care services are a covered service;
12.04 AMOUNT AND DURATION OF SERVICES (cont.)

8. The member resides in assisted housing, a residential care facility, PNMI or supported living arrangement where personal care services are already provided;

9. The member is not medically or financially eligible to receive Title XIX or XXI benefits;

10. The Service Coordination Agency documents the member does not comply with the authorized plan of care;

11. The member gives fraudulent information to the Department, ASA or Service Coordination Agency;

12. The Department, ASA, or the Service Coordination Agency documents the member or someone living in or frequently visiting the household harasses, threatens, or endangers the safety of individuals delivering services;

13. The ASA or Service Coordination Agency documents the member is directing the personal attendant to complete tasks not included as covered services in Section 12.05;

14. The member does not meet the eligibility criteria under Section 12.03; or

15. Services have been suspended for more than sixty (60) days. At that time the member’s eligibility for these services will be terminated and will require a new assessment by the ASA and determined medically eligible prior to services restarting.

B. Reduction of Services

Based upon the member’s most recent MED assessment, the authorized plan of care shall be reduced, according to the clinical judgment of the Department, the ASA, or the Service Coordination Agency and is subject to the limitations and caps of this Section and the approved authorized plan of care.

C. Suspension of Services

Services will be suspended up to sixty (60) days because the member has been admitted to an institution, such as a Hospital, Nursing Facility or ICF-IID, or Private Non-Medical Institution (PNMI).

12.05 COVERED SERVICES

Covered services are available for members meeting the eligibility requirements set forth in Section 12.03. All covered services are subject to the limits in this Section. The authorized plan of care shall be based upon the member’s assessment outcome scores recorded on the Department’s Medical Eligibility Determination form, its definitions, time frames therein, and the task time allowances described in Appendix A.

Members who qualify are eligible for the following services:
12.05 COVERED SERVICES (cont.)

A. Care Coordination Services. The provider of these services coordinates and implements the services in the Member’s plan of care authorized by the ASA. In addition, the care coordinator performs the following functions:

1. ensures that authorized services are delivered according to the service plan;

2. provides resources to members to identify available service options and service providers, and answers questions related to the health and care of Members;

3. documents and takes appropriate action concerning any changes in the general health and welfare of the Member;

4. instructs the Member in his or her rights and responsibilities, including the obligations under this Section;

5. assesses the Member/attendant relationship, including whether attendant duties are being performed satisfactorily, whether attendant training is adequate or if additional training is needed;

6. takes appropriate action, including reporting to the Department, any evidence of public nuisance, substance abuse, harassment, neglect, exploitation, or fraud on the part of the attendant, Member, Member’s household or visitor;

7. documents and investigates all complaints from any party within two (2) business days and resolving all complaints within thirty (30) days;

8. establishes and maintains Member files in accordance with requirements under 12.08-3;

9. Makes face-to-face contact with the member at least every 3 months. All other care coordination services provided can be done either face-to-face or through phone contact. See Section 12.06 for limits to this service.

B. Skills Training Services. These services provide instruction in management of attendant services. This includes instruction in recruiting, interviewing, selecting, training, scheduling, discharging, and directing a competent attendant in the activities in the authorized plan of care and obligations under this Section.

Providers of skills training must instruct each new eligible Member prior to the start of services. The provider must document that skills training has occurred within thirty (30) calendar days of the determination of medical eligibility.

The Skills Training provider may substitute a competency–based assessment in lieu of repeat instruction for Members having previously completed such training under an earlier eligibility period or from another provider of like services.
12.05 COVERED SERVICES (cont.)

Effective January 1, 2020, every provider of Personal Care Services must comply with the Maine DHHS Electronic Visit Verification (“EVV”) system for standards and requirements. In compliance with Section 12006 of the 21st Century CURES Act (P.L. 114-255), as codified in 42 U.S.C. § 1396b(l)(1), visits conducted as part of such services must be electronically verified with respect to: the type of service performed; the individual receiving the service; the date of the service; the location of the service delivery; the individual providing the service; and the time the service begins and ends. Providers may utilize the Maine DHHS EVV system at no cost, or may procure and utilize their own EVV system, so long as data from the provider-owned EVV system can be accepted and integrated with the Maine DHHS EVV System and otherwise is compatible.

C. Personal Care Services (PCS). These services include services related to a member’s physical requirements for assistance with the activities of daily living. Additionally, when authorized and specified by the Department or ASA in the authorized plan of care, PCS may include: IADLs and/or health maintenance activities, which are directly related to the member’s plan of care. These tasks must be performed in conjunction with direct care to the member. IADLs and health maintenance activities are those activities that would otherwise be normally performed by the member if he or she were physically able to do so. It must also be established that there is no family member or other person available to assist with these tasks.

The Department is seeking and anticipates receiving CMS approval for this Section. Pending approval, Covered Services will be provided as follows:

Effective 02/22/17

If a single provider of personal care services is providing this service to multiple Section 12 members in a single visit, the two (2) or three (3) person modifier shall be used, as outlined in Chapter III, Section 12, Allowances for Consumer-Directed Attendant Services.

Travel time only of an attendant in the course of delivering a covered service is allowed under this Section.

1. Activities of Daily Living (ADL) tasks include assistance with:
   a. Bed mobility, transfer, and locomotion activities to get in and out of bed, wheelchair or motor vehicle;
   
   b. Using the toilet and maintaining continence;
   
   c. Health maintenance activities;
   
   d. Bathing, including transfer;
   
   e. Personal hygiene, which may include combing hair, brushing teeth, shaving, washing and drying face, hands, and perineum;
   
   f. Dressing;
   
   g. Eating, and clean up and
   
   h. Assistance with administration of medications, as directed by the member, for the member.
12.05 COVERED SERVICES (cont.)

The ASA will use the allowances in Appendix A to determine the time necessary to complete authorized ADL tasks. If these times are not sufficient when considered in light of a member’s unique circumstances as identified and documented by the ASA, the ASA may make an appropriate adjustment subject to limits and caps under this Section.

2. Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs)

a. All IADLs must be authorized and specified in the authorized plan of care. These tasks must be furnished in conjunction with direct care to the member and directed by the member. IADL tasks include assistance with:

i. grocery and prepared food shopping, assistance with obtaining medication to meet the member’s health and nutritional needs;

ii. routine housework, including sweeping, washing and/or vacuuming of floors, cleaning of plumbing fixtures (toilet, tub, sink), appliance care, changing of linens, refuse removal;

iii. laundry done within the residence or outside of the home at a laundry facility;

iv. money management, as directed by the member for the member; and

v. meal preparation and clean up.

12.06 LIMITS

A. Personal Care Services are limited to the following number of hours per week:

   Level I – 10 hours for ADLs, 2 hours for IADLs = Totaling 12 hours
   Level II – 15 hours for ADLs, 3 hours for IADLs = Totaling 18 hours
   Level III – 24 hours for ADLs, 4 hours for IADLs = Totaling 28 hours

B. Skills training shall not exceed 14.25 hours annually including the time required for initial instruction.

C. Care Coordination Services shall not exceed 18 hours annually.

12.07 NON-COVERED SERVICES

The following services are non-covered services:

A. Room and board;

B. Travel time and mileage by the Service Coordination Agency staff, and/or the attendant to and from the location of the member’s residence and mileage for travel by the attendant in the course of delivering a covered service;
12.07 NON-COVERED SERVICES (cont.)

C. Case management services;

D. Transportation to and from medical appointments is not covered under this Section and must be referred to a local MaineCare transportation agency (see Section 113 of the MaineCare Benefits Manual);

E. Household tasks except when delivered as an integral part of the authorized plan of care;

F. Services provided by the member’s family member, as defined in Section 12.02-8;

G. Custodial care or respite care;

H. Services received when a member enters a hospital, nursing facility, private non-medical institution, or Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded as an inpatient, or any other Assisted Housing Program that is licensed to provide personal care services or when a member is receiving personal care services under “Private Duty Nursing/Personal Care Services”, Section 96, or is receiving any Home and Community-Based Benefits, Home Based Care services, or any other service where personal care services are covered;

I. Other services described as non-covered in Chapter I of the MaineCare Benefits Manual, including vocational, recreational, custodial and educational activities.

J. Services provided by a personal attendant who has any criminal convictions, except for Class D and Class E convictions over ten (10) years old that did not involve as a victim of the act, a patient, client, or resident of a health care entity; or (b) any specific documented findings by the State survey Agency of abuse, neglect or misappropriation of property of a resident, client or patient;

K. Services provided not in the presence of the member, unless in the provision of covered IADLs;

L. On-call services;

M. Services that are in excess of the limits described under 12.06.

12.08 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

12.08-1 Professional and Other Qualified Staff

The following professionals are qualified professional staff:

A. Eligibility Determination staff employed by the ASA or the Department must be a registered nurse licensed to practice nursing in the State of Maine.

B. Care Coordination Agency staff providing services under this section shall meet the following qualifications:
12.08 **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES** (cont.)

1. A registered nurse licensed to practice nursing in the State of Maine;

2. A Registered Occupational Therapist who is licensed to practice occupational therapy in the State of Maine; or

3. A Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant who is licensed to practice occupational therapy in the State of Maine, under the documented supervision of a licensed occupational therapist; or

4. A Licensed social service or health professional; or

5. An individual who has had four years of education in the health or social services field and one year of community experience.

C. **Attendant**

An attendant must be at least seventeen (17) years old and have the ability to assist with Activities of Daily Living. An attendant cannot be an individual who has a notation on the Maine Registry of Certified Nursing Assistants of (a) any criminal convictions, except for Class D and Class E convictions over ten (10) years old that did not involve as a victim of the act, a patient, client, or resident of a health care entity; or (b) any specific documented findings by the State Survey Agency of abuse, neglect or misappropriation of property of a resident, client or patient.

After the completion of consumer instruction, the member shall train the attendant on the job. Within a twenty-one (21) day probation period, the member will determine the competency of the attendant on the job. At a minimum, based upon the attendant’s job performance, the member will certify competence in the following areas:

- ability to follow oral or signed and written instructions and carry out tasks as directed by the member;
- disability awareness;
- use of adaptive and mobility equipment;
- transfers and mobility; and
- ability to assist with health maintenance activities.

Satisfactory performance in the areas above will result in a statement of competency for each attendant. This statement must be signed by the member, submitted to the Service Coordination Agency, and a copy kept in the member’s record.
12.08 **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES** (cont.)

The Department, the ASA and/or Service Coordination Agency must notify the member in writing that he/she has the right to appeal when there has been a denial, termination, suspension or reduction of eligibility for a MaineCare covered service under this Section. In order for services to continue during the appeal process, a request for an appeal must be received by the Department within ten (10) days of the notice to reduce, deny, suspend, or terminate services. Otherwise, a member has sixty (60) days from the date of the notice in which to appeal a decision. Members shall be informed in writing by the ASA or the Service Coordination Agency of their right to request an administrative hearing in accordance with this Section and Chapter I of the *MaineCare Benefits Manual*. The appeal must be (a) requested in writing and mailed to the address below, or (b) requested by telephone by calling 207-287-9200, or TTY: Toll Free 1-800-262-2232.

Office of Aging and Disability Services  
Department of Health and Human Services  
11 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

12.08-3 **Member Records**

A. The ASA must establish and maintain record for each member that includes at least:

1. The member's name, address, mailing address if different, and telephone number;

2. The name, address, and telephone number of someone to contact in an emergency;

3. Complete assessments including the MED form, (maintained in MECARE for the ASA), with the care plan summary that matches needs identified by the scores and timeframes on the MED form and authorized by the ASA. All assessments and reassessments must include the date they were done and the electronic signature of the person who did them;

4. A dated release of information signed by the member that conforms with applicable state and federal law and is renewed annually.

B. The Service Coordination Agency must establish and maintain a record for each member that includes all items in Section 12.08-3 (A) and all items included below:

1. The service plan must indicate the type of services to be provided for each covered ADL, IADL, and health maintenance activity identified in the MED form, and specify the number of hours per week, the tasks, and reasons for the service;
12.08  POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (cont.)

2. Documentation must be provided and available in the member’s record of the verification by the member's physician of the chronic or permanent nature of the member’s functional disability;

3. Documentation of all contacts between the member and the attendant, including date, services covered, type of contact, and duration; a daily task list of covered services is acceptable, providing it matches the authorized plan of care (Section 7 of the MED form) on the care plan summary of the MED form;

4. Documentation of the entrance and exit times for the personal care attendant and for consumer instruction staff (travel time to and from the location of the member is not covered);

5. Documentation of the results of member instruction and testing;

6. Documentation of ability to self-direct, as documented on the MED form and as required in member instruction and testing;

7. Signed certification(s) of attendant competency;

8. Attendant payroll records, approved timesheets and employment forms;

9. Documentation of all complaints, by any party including resolution action taken;

10. Written progress notes that summarize any contacts made with or about the member and:

   (a) The date the contact was made;

   (b) The name and affiliation of the person(s) contacted or discussed;

   (c) Any changes needed and the reasons for the changes in the service plan; and

   (d) The signature and title of the person making the note and the date the entry was made.

Member’s records shall be kept current, available to the Department, and retained in conformance with Chapter I. Such records shall be documentation of services included on invoices.

12.08-4  Program Integrity

Requirements of Program Integrity are detailed in Chapter I of the MaineCare Benefits Manual.
12.09 **REIMBURSEMENT**

A. Reimbursement for covered services shall be the lower of the following:

1. The amount listed in Chapter III, Section 12, “Allowances for Consumer-Directed Attendant Services;”

2. The lowest amount listed by Medicare; or

3. The Service Coordination Agency’s usual and customary charge.

In accordance with Chapter I, it is the responsibility of the provider to seek payment from any other sources that are available for payment of the rendered services prior to billing MaineCare.

Reimbursement under this Section is subject to the unit rounding requirements and other reimbursement requirements listed in Chapter I of the *MaineCare Benefits Manual*.

12.10 **COPAYMENT**

Requirements regarding copayment disputes and exemptions are contained in Chapter I of the *MaineCare Benefits Manual*.

A. A copayment will be charged to each MaineCare member receiving services, with the exception of those exempt, as specified in the *MaineCare Eligibility Manual*. The amount of the copayment shall not exceed $3.00 per day for services provided, according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MaineCare Payment for Services</th>
<th>Member Copayment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10.00 or less</td>
<td>$.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10.01 - 25.00</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25.01 - 50.00</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50.01 or more</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. The member shall be responsible for copayments up to $5.00 per month whether the copayment has been paid or not. After the $5.00 cap has been reached, the member shall not be required to make additional copayments and the provider shall receive full MaineCare reimbursement for covered services.

12.11 **BILLING INSTRUCTIONS**

Providers must bill in accordance with the Department’s billing instructions for the CMS 1500 that providers receive in their enrollment packages.
### APPENDIX A
DEFINITIONS OF ADLs AND TASK TIME ALLOWANCES

**ADL = Activities of Daily Living**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Definitions</th>
<th>Time Estimates</th>
<th>Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bed Mobility</strong></td>
<td>How person moves to and from lying position, turns side to side and positions body while in bed.</td>
<td>5 – 10 minutes</td>
<td>Positioning supports, cognition, pain, disability level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfer</strong></td>
<td>How person moves between surfaces – to/from: bed, chair, wheelchair, standing position (EXCLUDE to/from bath/toilet).</td>
<td>5 – 10 minutes up to 15 minutes</td>
<td>Use of slide board, gait belt, swivel aid, supervision needed, positioning after transfer mechanical lift transfer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Locomotion</strong></td>
<td>How person moves between locations in his/her room and other areas on same floor. If in wheelchair, self-sufficiency once in chair.</td>
<td>5 - 15 minutes (Document time and number of times done during Plan of Care)</td>
<td>Disability level, type of aids used, pain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dressing &amp; Undressing</strong></td>
<td>How person puts on, fastens and takes off all items of street clothing, including donning/removing prosthesis.</td>
<td>20 - 45 minutes</td>
<td>Supervision, disability, cognition, pain, type of clothing, type of prosthesis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eating</strong></td>
<td>How person eats and drinks (regardless of skill)</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>Set up, cut food and place utensils.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>Individual is fed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>Supervision of activity due to swallowing, chewing, cognition issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Toilet Use</strong></td>
<td>How person uses the toilet room (or commode, bedpan, urinal); transfers on/off toilet, cleanses, changes pad, manages ostomy or catheter and adjusts clothes.</td>
<td>5 -15 minutes/use</td>
<td>Bowel, bladder program ostomy regimen, catheter regimen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personal Hygiene</strong></td>
<td>How person maintains personal hygiene. (EXCLUDE baths and showers)</td>
<td>20 min/day</td>
<td>Disability level, pain, cognition, adaptive equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Washing face, hands, perineum, combing hair, shaving and brushing teeth</td>
<td>Shampoo (only if done separately)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15 min up to 3 times/week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nail Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20 min/week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walking</strong></td>
<td>How person walks for exercise only How person walks around own room How person walks within home How person walks outside</td>
<td>Document time and number of times in plan of care, and level of assistance needed.</td>
<td>Disability, pain, mode of ambulation (cane), prosthesis needed for walking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bathing</strong></td>
<td>How person takes full-body bath/shower, sponge bath (EXCLUDE washing of back, hair), and transfers in/out of tub/shower</td>
<td>15 - 30 minutes</td>
<td>If shower used and shampoo done, then consider as part of activity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These allowances reflect the time normally allowed to accomplish the listed tasks. The ASA will use these allowances when authorizing a member’s authorized plan of care. If these times are not sufficient when considered in light of a member’s unique circumstances as identified by the ASA, the ASA may make an adjustment as long as the authorized hours do not exceed limits established for member’s level of care.

Time authorized has to reflect the possibility of concurrent performance of activities, ex: while wash cycle running, dishes may be washed, floor vacuumed, bathroom cleaned, and other simultaneous activities.
The Department is seeking and anticipates receiving CMS approval for this Section. There are three-four separate proposed rate changes pending before CMS: one submitted in September 2015, one submitted in July 2016, and one submitted in August 2017, and one submitted in July 2018; thus there are three-four retroactive effective dates applicable for these rates. Pending CMS approval, the following rates will be effective.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROCEDURE CODE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>AMOUNT Effective 10/1/15</th>
<th>AMOUNT Effective 7/29/16 to 2/21/17</th>
<th>AMOUNT Effective 2/22/17 to 6/30/17 and After 7/1/18 to 7/31/18</th>
<th>AMOUNT Effective 7/1/17-6/30/18</th>
<th>AMOUNT Effective 8/1/18 to 6/30/19</th>
<th>AMOUNT Effective 7/1/19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S5125 U2</td>
<td>Attendant Care Services</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>$2.93</td>
<td>$3.33</td>
<td>$3.33</td>
<td>$3.66</td>
<td>$4.07</td>
<td>$3.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S5125 U2 UN</td>
<td>Attendant Care Services 2 person</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$1.83</td>
<td>$2.01</td>
<td>$2.24</td>
<td>$2.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S5125 U2 UP</td>
<td>Attendant Care Services 3 person</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$1.33</td>
<td>$1.47</td>
<td>$1.63</td>
<td>$1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2014</td>
<td>Skills Training Service</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>$14.03</td>
<td>$14.03</td>
<td>$14.03</td>
<td>$14.03</td>
<td>$14.03</td>
<td>$14.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G9001</td>
<td>Care Coordination Service – Initial Visit</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G9002</td>
<td>Care Coordination Service – Ongoing</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>