

§7321. Reimbursement

A. Reimbursement for EPSDT PCS shall be the lesser of billed charges or the maximum unit rate set by the department. The maximum rate is a flat rate for each approved unit of service provided to the beneficiary. This rate shall be adjusted as necessary by the department.

1. One quarter hour (15 minutes) is the standard unit of service, exclusive of travel time to arrive at the beneficiary's home.

2. The entire 15 minutes shall have been spent providing personal care services in order to be reimbursed for a unit.

B. Personal Care Workers Wage Enhancement

1. An hourly wage enhancement payment in the amount of \$2 will be reimbursed to providers for full-time equivalent (FTE) personal care workers who provide services to Medicaid beneficiaries.

a. At least 75 percent of the wage enhancement shall be paid to personal care workers as wages. If less than 100 percent of the enhancement is paid in wages, the remainder, up to 25 percent shall be used to pay employer-related taxes, insurance and employee benefits.

b. The minimum hourly rate paid to personal care workers shall be the current minimum wage plus 75 percent of the wage enhancement.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 29:179 (February 2003), amended LR 33:2202 (October 2007), repromulgated LR 33:2425 (November 2007), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 36:2561 (November 2010), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 45:908 (July 2019).