

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE FINANCE

NOTICE OF FINAL RULEMAKING

The Director of the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), pursuant to the authority set forth in An Act to enable the District of Columbia to receive federal financial assistance under Title XIX of the Social Security Act for a medical assistance program, and for other purposes, approved December 27, 1967 (81 Stat. 744; D.C. Official Code § 1-307.02 (2014 Repl. & 2016 Supp.)), and Section 6(6) of the Department of Health Care Finance Establishment Act of 2007, effective February 27, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-109; D.C. Official Code § 7-771.05(6) (2012 Repl.)), hereby gives notice of the adoption of amendments to Section 1926, entitled “Occupational Therapy Services,” of Chapter 19 (Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities) of Title 29 (Public Welfare) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR).

These final rules change the reimbursement rate for occupational therapy services provided to participants in the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD Waiver).

The ID/DD Waiver was approved by the Council of the District of Columbia (Council) and renewed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a five-year period beginning November 20, 2012. An amendment to the ID/DD Waiver was approved by the Council through the Medicaid Assistance Program Amendment Act of 2014, effective February 26, 2015 (D.C. Law 20-155; D.C. Official Code § 1-307.02(a)(8)(E) (2014 Repl. & 2016 Supp.)). CMS approved the amendment to the ID/DD Waiver effective September 24, 2015.

Occupational therapy services are designed to maximize independence, assist in gaining skills, prevent further disability, and maintain health. A Notice of Emergency and Proposed Rulemaking for 29 DCMR § 1926 (Occupational Therapy Services) was published in the *D.C. Register* on March 18, 2016, at 63 DCR 004107. The emergency and proposed rulemaking amended the previously published final rulemaking by changing the hourly rate in Subsection 1926.15 to one hundred dollars and thirty-two cents (\$100.32). The emergency rulemaking was adopted on March 9, 2016, became effective immediately, and remained in effect until July 7, 2016. DHCF received no comments to the emergency and proposed rulemaking and no changes have been made.

The Director adopted these rules as final on June 23, 2016, and they shall become effective on the date of publication of this notice in the *D.C. Register*.

Chapter 19, HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES WAIVER FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, of Title 29 DCMR, PUBLIC WELFARE, is amended as follows:

Subsections 1926.15, of Section 1926, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES, is amended to read as follows

1926.15 The Medicaid reimbursement rate for occupational therapy services shall be one hundred dollars and thirty-two cents (\$100.32) per hour. The billable unit of service shall be fifteen (15) minutes.