

INFORMATIONAL MEMO

| Title: 2026 Room and Board and Personal Needs Allowance Changes | Topic: HCBS | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Audience: Case Managers, Members, Provider Agencies, Providers | Sub-Topic: IRSS | | | | |
| Supersedes Number: HCPF IM 24-031 | Division: Benefits and Services Management Division | | | | |
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| Expiration Date: Jan. 1, 2027 | Program Area: N/A | | | | |
| Key Words: Cost-Of-Living Adjustment, Personal Needs Allowance, PNA, Room and Board, SSI, Social Security Income, CHRP Habilitation | | | | | |
| Legal Authority: 10 CCR 2505-10, Sections 8.100, 8.7202.BB, 8.7413.A, 8.7413.B, 8.7506, 8.7505, 8.7521.E | | | | | |
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| Approved By: Bonnie Silva | | | | | |

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Purpose and Audience:

The purpose of this Informational Memo is to inform Case Managers, Members, and Providers of changes to the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) and Room and Board amount in accordance with Cost-Of-Living Adjustments (COLA) for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Background:

Pursuant to 10 CCR 2505-10, Section, 8.7413.A, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) establishes a uniform payment for all Medicaid Members in Alternative Care Facilities (ACF), Supported Living Programs (SLP), Individual Residential Services and Supports (IRSS), Group Residential Services and Supports (GRSS), and the Children's Habilitation Residential Program (CHRP). If the Colorado Department of Human Services also raises its grant amounts, this payment is

permitted to rise in a dollar-for-dollar relationship to any increase in the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) grant standard.

Pursuant to 10 CCR 2505-10, Section 8.7413.B, and Section 8.7521.E the maximum monthly amount charged to individuals receiving Residential Habilitation services through the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (HCBS-DD) must not exceed an amount equal to the monthly benefit for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), less an amount specified by HCPF for personal needs. This is applicable to the Group Residential Support Services (GRSS), Individual Residential Services and Supports (IRSS), Children's Habilitation Residential Program (CHRP) habilitation, Alternative Care Facilities (ACF), and Supportive Living Programs (SLP).

Changes to Room and Board and Personal Needs:

Effective Jan. 1, 2026, there will be a 2.8 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) increase to Social Security beneficiaries. The maximum SSI monthly payment an individual may receive will increase to \$994.00 per month. In response to the COLA increases, HCPF is adjusting the minimum PNA and maximum Room and Board payment amounts for Members utilizing the following residential services: CHRP Habilitation, GRSS, IRSS, ACF, and SLP.

The current PNA monthly maximum amount is insufficient for monthly expenses incurred by Members to cover basic needs, such as toiletries, clothing, or new eyeglasses. HCPF anticipated that by raising the monthly maximum PNA, this will increase the funding available to Members and correspondingly increase the financial stability and quality of life of Members residing in these residential settings. The minimum amount Members may receive for PNA will increase to \$184.00 per month. The maximum amount will also increase to \$435.46 per month. A member's PNA is determined by their monthly income level. The maximum amount a residential provider may charge a participant Member in a CHRP Habilitation, GRSS, IRSS, ACF, or SLP setting for Room and Board will increase to \$810.00 beginning Jan. 1, 2026. The current and past amounts are calculated below:

| | 2025 | 2026 | 2025 Min | 2025 Max | 2026 Min | 2026 Max |
|--|-------|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | R&B | R&B | PNA | PNA | PNA | PNA |
| ACF/SLP/GRSS/I RSS/CHRP Habilitation | \$797 | \$810 | \$170 | \$421.46 | \$184 | \$435.46 |

Attachment(s):

None

HCPF Contact:

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