As mandated under the Current Operations Appropriations Act of 2021 Session Law 2021-180, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits hereby provides notice of its intent to increase rates for intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IIDs), including ICF/IID-level group homes, enrolled in the Medicaid or NC Health Choice program. This rate increase will be implemented as intended by the General Assembly to assist in increasing the hourly wages of direct care workers in this State towards a minimum of fifteen dollars ($15.00) per hour. Any ICF/IID provider receiving a rate increase under Session Law 2021-180 shall be required to use at least eighty percent (80%) of the funding that results from that rate increase to increase the rate of pay paid to its direct care employees.

This amendment will become effective February 1, 2022.

The annual estimated state fiscal impact of this change is

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. SFY 2022</td>
<td>$36,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. SFY 2023</td>
<td>$108,848</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A copy of the proposed public notice may be viewed at the County Department of Social Services. Questions, comments, and requests for copies of the proposed State Plan amendment should be directed to the Division of Health Benefits at the address listed below.

Dave Richard  
Deputy Secretary for NC Medicaid  
Division of Health Benefits  
2501 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC  27699-2501

Posted on the Division of Health Benefits Website: January 31, 2022
https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/get-involved/nc-health-choice-state-plan