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PROVIDER LETTER

TO: 1915 (i) RISE Providers (PT 51 / PL #A-1)

DATE: 12/02/2025

RE: Provider guidance related to 1915 (i) RISE regulations governing the provision of Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Supported Employment documentation for 1915 (i) RISE participants.

Dear Providers,

The Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services (Department) is reaching out to provide important information related to policy governing the 1915 (i) RISE Initiative. Specifically, the Department is providing guidance regarding regulation 907 KAR 16:015 Recovery, Independence, Support, and Engagement (RISE) Initiative 1915 (i) Home and Community-Based (HCBS); Provider Participation and Enrollment. <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/titles/907/016/015/>.

On March 27, 2025, The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the Department's application for a 1915 (I) Home and Community-Based Services State Plan Amendment (SPA). The 1915(i) RISE Initiative is a Medicaid program that offers Recovery, Independence, Support, and Engagement to Kentuckians with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and co-occurring SMI and Substance Use Disorder (SUD). Through this program, eligible adults can access home and community-based services (HCBS) that support independent living, reduce reliance on institutional care, and promote long-term recovery. The program is designed to improve the quality of life for individuals with SMI by offering access to up to 10 Medicaid-reimbursable services delivered in community-based settings, guided by a Person-Centered Service Plan (PCSP).

One of the services available to eligible 1915 (i) RISE participants is Supported Employment (IPS). 907 KAR 16:015 (5)(6) cites IPS documentation requirements. The language in this section reflects the language that aligns with traditional supported employment rather than the IPS evidence-based practice of supported employment. Language from the regulation is referenced below:

(6) Supported Employment shall have these additional documentation requirements:

- (a) Documentation that states when Office of Vocational Rehabilitation funding has been exhausted;
- (b) A Person-Centered Employment Plan (PCEP) that is executed and implemented when a participant enters into supported employment;
- (c) A long-term employment support plan (LTSEP) shall be developed and documented through the PCSP; and
- (d) The PCEP and LTSEP shall include service notes completed each time that a supported employment specialist meets with or conducts an action on behalf of the participant.

The Department is providing guidance to RISE providers regarding this regulatory language. Where the term “Person-Centered Employment Plan (PCEP)” is used in this section, the IPS specific term “career profile” is equivalent. Where the term “long term employment support plan (LTSEP)” is used, the IPS term “OVR Extended Services Plans OVR 6 and 7” is equivalent. Therefore, 1915 (i) RISE Providers who are providing IPS supported employment to participants will use the career profile and OVR Extended Services Plans OVR 6 and 7 for required documentation with RISE participants.

Please direct any questions regarding this letter to DMS.ISSUES@ky.gov.

Sincerely,



Lisa D. Lee, Commissioner
Department for Medicaid Services



Katherine Marks, Commissioner
Department for Behavioral Health,
Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities