Transition Funding Offered by Community Services Bureau

Level III authorization for transitions from Montana State Hospital and other state-run institutional settings

Background: HB 29 requires the transition of residents from Montana State Hospital (MSH) who meet the criteria for discharge through HB 29. These transitions are required to occur by June 30, 2025. There has been difficulty placing individuals in community settings due to complex-care needs.

The Nursing Facility Section in Senior and Long Term Care Division (SLTCD) utilizes a complex-care add-on structure to provide additional support for services provided to nursing facility residents with behavior-related needs and residents with traumatic brain injury diagnoses. Requests for an add-on are submitted through Mountain Pacific Quality Health and must meet the criteria outlined in the complex add-on structure for the requested level in order to be approved. The add-on structure includes three levels with each level increasing at $75 increments. The HB 29 transition committee provided a recommendation on July 24, 2024, to implement automatic add-on approval for facilities receiving or diverting patients from Montana state hospital.

Description: Effective Nov. 1, 2024, SLTCD will allow authorizations for individuals transitioning from MSH and other state-run institutional settings to be automatically approved for the Level III rate of $225 for a period of six months, starting on the date of admission.

Process: The following steps will be taken when submitting a request:

1. The admitting facility will submit page three of the add-on application through Mountain Pacific's Qualitrac portal in order to provide minimum necessary information to open the case and provide available documentation. Facility will need to indicate on the application and/or comment box in Qualitrac that the individual is transitioning from MSH.
2. Mountain Pacific will verify the individual is transitioning from MSH in Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). If additional clarification is needed, Mountain Pacific may contact SLTCD for verification.
3. Mountain Pacific will manually track authorizations related to this process and submit a monthly report.
4. Mountain Pacific will enter authorization into MMIS. Authorization will be backdated to the date the individual was admitted to the nursing facility. If the individual is not Medicaid-eligible at the time of admit, the authorization and entry into MMIS will be

completed once they're eligible. Authorization will only be dated back to the date of eligibility.

5. If an extension is needed after initial authorization, the facility must submit an add-on request through Mountain Pacific. Mountain Pacific will review the request, and determination will be based on the current add-on structure or process. This may result in denial or reduction of level.