

Subject Retention and Reinvention Grants for Certain Home and Community-Based Service Providers

Authors Cantrell

Analyst Danyell A. Punelli

Date July 13, 2020

Overview

This bill establishes COVID-19-related retention grants for home and community-based service providers and COVID-19-related reinvention grants for disability services providers and appropriates money for both grants.

Summary

Section	Description
---------	-------------

1	Appropriation; COVID-19-related retention grants for home and community-based service providers.
---	---

This section establishes COVID-19-related retention grants for home and community-based service providers.

Subd. 1. Appropriation. Appropriates an unspecified amount in fiscal year 2021 from the coronavirus relief fund to the commissioner of human services for retention grants to eligible providers as defined in subdivision 2 to assist providers: (1) with the costs of business interruptions caused by required closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and (2) to help ensure access to eligible services during or following the COVID-19 pandemic. Limits administrative expenses. Beginning September 30, 2020, allows any unencumbered appropriations to be used for disability services provider COVID-19-related public health reinvention grants. Specifies this appropriation is onetime and is available until December 5, 2020.

Subd. 2. Definitions. Defines the terms “eligible provider,” “eligible services,” “fixed costs,” and “total revenue from medical assistance.”

Subd. 3. Allowable uses of funds. Requires grantees to use funds awarded under this section for fixed costs incurred during the COVID-19 peacetime emergency

Section Description

associated with maintaining the provider's capacity to provide services to its clients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Subd. 4. Grant request. Requires eligible providers to request a grant no later than August 15, 2020. Requires the commissioner to develop an expedited request process and to accept electronic request form submissions and electronic signatures.

Subd. 5. Attestation. Lists conditions eligible providers must attest to on the grant request form in order to obtain a grant.

Subd. 6. Agreement. Lists requirements eligible providers must agree to on the grant request form in order to obtain a grant.

Subd. 7. Retention grants. Requires the commissioner to begin issuing retention grants no later than August 30, 2020. Specifies the grant amount calculation. Requires the commissioner to implement retention grants and the process of making grants without compliance with time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed in law such as the statutes and related policies that govern allotment and encumbrances, grants management, grant agreements, grant payments, and express audit requirements. Specifies the commissioner's determination of the grant amount is final and not subject to appeal.

Subd. 8. Payments for services provided. Allows providers who receive a grant under this section to continue to bill for services.

Subd. 9. Recoupment. Allows the commissioner to perform an audit up to six years after a grant is awarded to ensure the funds are used solely for allowable purposes. Requires the commissioner to treat any funds used for a purpose not authorized under this section as an overpayment and requires the commissioner to recover overpayments.

Subd. 10. Expiration. Makes this section expire December 30, 2020, except for subdivision 9.

Provides an immediate effective date.

2 Appropriation; disability services provider COVID-19-related public health reinvention grants.

This section establishes COVID-19-related reinvention grants for disability services providers and appropriates money.

Section Description

Subd. 1. Appropriation. Appropriates an unspecified amount in fiscal year 2021 from the coronavirus relief fund to the commissioner of human services for COVID-19-related public health reinvention grants to eligible providers who have implemented or intend to implement COVID-19-related public health measures that facilitate social distancing practices that align with the most current social distancing guidelines issued by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Limits administrative expenses. Specifies this is a onetime appropriation and is available until December 30, 2020, and that any unexpended balance on December 30, 2020, cancels to the coronavirus relief fund.

Subd. 2. Purpose. Specifies reinvention grants are established to maintain or increase utilization of integrated, community-based day or employment services and reduce utilization of congregate and sheltered workshop settings where people are at higher risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission.

Subd. 3. Definitions. Defines the terms “eligible provider” and “eligible services.”

Subd. 4. Allowable uses of funds. Lists allowable uses of funds.

Subd. 5. Attestation. Lists conditions eligible providers must attest to and lists requirements eligible providers must agree to in order to accept a reinvention grant.

Subd. 6. Application. Requires the commissioner to develop an application process for reinvention grants and requires eligible providers to apply for a grant no later than November 30, 2020.

Subd. 7. Allocation. Allows the commissioner to make reinvention grants in an amount determined by the commissioner based on each grantee’s application, up to a maximum grant amount of \$200,000. If funds are available after all eligible providers receive a grant, allows the commissioner to award additional grant funds to providers who have already received the \$200,000 maximum grant amount. Specifies priorities the commissioner must consider if grant requests are greater than the appropriation. Specifies the commissioner’s determination of the grant amount is final and not subject to appeal.

Subd. 8. Recoupment. Allows the commissioner to perform an audit up to six years after a grant is awarded to ensure the funds are used solely for allowable purposes. Requires the commissioner to treat any funds used for a purpose not authorized under this section as an overpayment and requires the commissioner to recover overpayments.

Section Description

Subd. 9. Reporting. Requires the commissioner to develop a reporting process for reinvention grants. Requires each provider receiving funds to report to the commissioner by March 1, 2021, with a description of how the funds were utilized. By August 1, 2021, requires the commissioner to report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services policy and finance the total funds allocated to providers, uses of the funds, outcomes measured, people impacted, and other measures determined by the commissioner.

Subd. 10. Expiration. Makes subdivisions 1 to 7 expire December 30, 2020, or on a date determined by the United States Department of Treasury, whichever is later. Makes subdivision 9 expire August 1, 2021, or on the date the commissioner submits the report required under subdivision 9, whichever is later.

Provides an immediate effective date.



Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn/hrd | 651-296-6753 | 600 State Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155