

Subject Home and community-based services workforce provisions

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Overview

This bill exempts community residential settings from meeting licensing variance requirements in order to utilize alternate overnight supervision, updates and reorganizes the HCBS employee scholarship program, provides a five percent ICF/DD operating payment rate increase, establishes a direct support professional child care relief grant program, establishes a direct support professionals and frontline supervisor retention grant program, and appropriates money for the HCBS employee scholarship program and the grant programs.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Adult foster care; variance for alternate overnight supervision.
Amends § 245A.11, subd. 7. Removes obsolete language and exempts community residential settings from meeting variance requirements in order to utilize alternate overnight supervision. |
| 2 | Alternate overnight supervision technology; adult foster care licenses.
Amends § 245A.11, subd. 7a. Makes conforming changes related to exempting community residential settings from meeting DHS licensing requirements in order to utilize alternate overnight supervision. |
| 3 | Home and community-based services employee scholarship grant program.
Amends § 256B.0918. Updates and reorganizes the HCBS employee scholarship grant program by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">allowing scholarships for further training in an employee's current position;updating the information the commissioner must include in a request for proposals;limiting eligibility to providers who provide MA disability waiver services or are intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental |

Section	Description
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disabilities (currently, additional home care providers, such as elderly waiver providers and PCA providers are eligible);

- listing the information that must be included in the grant application;
- making this a grant program instead of a rate increase;
- requiring grant money awarded to grantees to be available until the grant agreement expires;
- requiring grant money to be used by qualified providers to recruit and retain staff through the establishment of an employee scholarship fund; and
- allowing the commissioner to collect necessary information from grant recipients to evaluate the program.

4 ICF/DD rate increases effective January 1, 2023.

Amends § 256B.5012, by adding subd. 19. Requires the commissioner to increase ICF/DD operating payment rates by five percent beginning on January 1, 2023. Requires the commissioner to apply the rate increase based on occupied beds, multiplying five percent by the total payment rate, including the variable rate but excluding the property-related payment rate. Requires the total rate increase to include salary adjustments.

5 Direct support professional child care relief grants.

Subd. 1. Establishment; purpose. Establishes the direct support professional child care relief grant program to help with the costs of child care incurred by eligible direct support professionals.

Subd. 2. Administration. Requires the commissioner of human services to administer the direct support professional child care relief grant program and allows the commissioner to use up to ten percent of the appropriation for the grant program for administrative expenses.

Subd. 3. Application. Paragraph (a) requires eligible direct support professionals to apply to the commissioner for grant money on the forms and according to the timelines established by the commissioner.

Paragraph (b) requires the commissioner to develop an expedited application process and to allow the use of electronic submission of application forms and accept electronic signatures.

Subd. 4. Eligibility. Lists eligibility criteria direct support professionals must meet.

Section	Description
	<p>Subd. 5. Grant awards. Requires the commissioner to make grant awards to eligible direct support professionals once per month and sets limits on monthly grant amounts per direct support professional.</p>
6	<p>Direct support professionals and frontline supervisor employee retention payments.</p> <p>Subd. 1. Establishment; purpose. Establishes the direct support professionals and frontline supervisor employee retention payment program to retain these employees through December 31, 2022.</p> <p>Subd. 2. Administration. Requires the commissioner of human services to administer the retention payment program and allows the commissioner to use up to ten percent of the appropriation for the retention payment program for administrative expenses.</p> <p>Subd. 3. Application. Paragraph (a) lists application requirements qualified providers must meet.</p> <p>Paragraph (b) requires the commissioner to develop an expedited application process and to allow the use of electronic submission of application forms and accept electronic signatures.</p> <p>Subd. 4. Eligibility. Lists eligibility requirements direct support professionals and frontline supervisors must meet.</p> <p>Subd. 5. Retention payments. Requires the commissioner to distribute retention payments equal to \$1,500 to eligible direct support professionals and frontline supervisors who meet the retention payment program requirements.</p>
7	<p>Appropriation; home and community-based services employee scholarship grant program.</p> <p>Appropriates \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the federal American Rescue Plan state fiscal recovery funds to the commissioner of human services for the HCBS employee scholarship grant program. Specifies this is a onetime appropriation.</p>
8	<p>Appropriation; direct support professional child care relief grants.</p> <p>Appropriates \$40,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the federal American Rescue Plan state fiscal recovery funds to the commissioner of human services for direct support professional child care relief grants. Specifies this is a onetime appropriation.</p>

Section	Description
9	<p data-bbox="316 262 1429 336">Appropriation; direct support professional and frontline supervisor employee retention payments.</p> <p data-bbox="316 346 1429 499">Appropriates \$50,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the federal American Rescue Plan state fiscal recovery funds to the commissioner of human services for direct support professional and frontline supervisor employee retention payments. Specifies this is a onetime appropriation.</p>



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