

Date: November 16, 2020

To: TennCare Managed Care Organizations
Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

From: Kristeena Wilson, RN- Assistant Deputy Chief of LTSS Operations

Re: Katie Beckett Program Part A Comparable Cost of Care Tiers

Background:

As you know, to qualify for enrollment in Katie Beckett Group Part A or in the Continued Eligibility Group Part C, the estimated amount that would be expended by the Medicaid program for the child’s care outside an institution cannot be greater than the estimated amount that would otherwise be expended by the Medicaid program for the child’s care within an appropriate institution. This is called the “Comparable Cost of Institutional Care Requirement.”

To be clear, this is not a limit on the amount of services a child can receive; services for a child enrolled in Katie Beckett Group Part A or the Continued Eligibility Group Part C cannot be denied on the basis that the comparable cost of institutional care would be exceeded. Instead, comparable cost of institutional care is a federal requirement (applicable in federal law and regulation and the terms and conditions of TennCare’s approved waiver) and further described in TennCare Rule 1200-13-01-.32 to determine whether a child qualifies for initial and continued enrollment in the applicable group. If it can be reasonably anticipated, based on the services actually received or determined to be needed that the cost of Medicaid services in the community will exceed the comparable cost of Medicaid services in the appropriate institution, the child does not qualify to enroll in or to remain enrolled in Katie Beckett Group Part A or the Continued Eligibility Group Part C.

The appropriate institution depends on the institutional level of care the child would otherwise qualify to receive. For a child who meets either Tier 1 – Medical Institutional LOC or Tier 1 – Behavioral Institutional LOC, the appropriate institution is based on the level of care the child is at imminent risk of needing if medical assistance is not provided in the child’s home.

The purpose of this memo is to communicate the Comparable Cost of Institutional Care for program launch—i.e., calendar year 2020 and 2021.

Comparable Cost of Institutional Care:

Effective November 23, 2020, with program implementation, the **Comparable Cost of Institutional Care** are as follows-

- Tier 1 Medical- **\$445,525**
- Tier 1 Behavioral- **\$183,275**
- Tier 2 (including all Standards 1, 2 and 3) - **\$175,725**

Note that the above amounts are applicable *only* to Katie Beckett Part A and Continued Eligibility Group Part C and not to any other LTSS program or population.



MEMO

CC: Patti Killingsworth, Assistant Commissioner and Chief of LTSS
Jamie O'Neal, Assistant Deputy Chief, LTSS Policy, Programs, Contracts & Compliance
William Aaron, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Victor Wu, Chief Medical Officer