

Adult Care Home Program Newsletter

November 2025

New APD Medicaid Pay Rate Structure

In January 2026 the state's Office of Aging and People with Disabilities will start a new rate structure for APD Medicaid residents.

The payment rate for each resident is determined by the case manager during the assessment or reassessment. You do not need to have residents reassessed before January. The resident's payment rate will automatically change based on the last assessment or reassessment.

Score points are awarded for every component of every activity of daily living and instrumental activity of daily living. Additional points are awarded for cognition and challenging behaviors.

Assessed Levels	Score Range	Level	Jan. 1 Rate
Low	0 – 40	Tier 1	\$2,332
Moderate	41 – 55	Tier 2	\$3,327
Medium High	56 – 82	Tier 3	\$3,863
High	83 – 106	Tier 4	\$5,916
Very High	107+	Tier 5	\$7,773

The case manager's assessment is called a CAPS assessment and determines a person's care level, referred to as a Service Priority Level (SPL). The new rate system introduces "tiers." Tiers are a point based system that determines payment based on the SPL and

specific care needs of the resident. Two residents could be the same SPL and have two different tier levels based on the score in the assessment system. Tiers and SPLs are not the same as the classification level for your home.

Changes to Medicaid Payments:

Your payment will stay the same or go up for January! This will be reflected in the February 2026 payment.

No operator will receive a reduction in their rates for January. A reduction will only happen if there is a change in the assessed need of the resident at their next reassessment.

If an operator's current rate with an exception is less than the new tier rate, the rate will move to the new tier rate and the exception will end.

If the operator's current rate with an exception is higher than the new tier rate, the operator will continue to receive their current rate until the resident's next reassessment.

The new rate does not include room and board payment, which is set at the federal level.

Expected Minimum Staffing Hours:

The new pay rate structure comes with expected minimum caregiver hours per tier.

The new pay rate structure is for all APD operators, regardless of the number of caregivers on staff. In other words, your staffing plan does not affect the resident's tier rate. It is always the expectation that operators will staff their homes to meet resident needs and according to rule. *Continued on Page 2.*

APD Medicaid Rate Structure, Continued

If a resident has extra care needs and you wish to apply for an exception, you must first be able to indicate these minimum staff hours have been met before an exception will be considered for approval.

Level	Staffing Hours
Tier 1	0
Tier 2	2
Tier 3	4
Tier 4	8
Tier 5	10

Impact on Exceptions:

Exceptions will still be available in January, but the new pay rate structure will reduce the need for exceptions for many residents. Residents whose needs exceed the expected minimum staffing hours may still have exceptions.

Operators will need to provide documentation that demonstrates that they are paying the minimum staffing hours before an exception can be approved. Remember, this will be evaluated during the resident's next reassessment.

You will not receive an exception for a resident if you are not already providing the expected minimum staffing hours per day. Documentation must show the resident requires more caregiving hours than what is funded by their assigned tier.

For exceptions, you must be ready to deliver the caregiving hours immediately upon exception approval or the resident's admission, whichever is later. A staffing plan must be

submitted to demonstrate the home's capacity to meet the exception requirements.

If exceptions are already in place, payroll documentation will be required to verify the presence of sufficient caregivers and adequate caregiver hours. These records must show that the enhanced staffing was in place prior to approval of any new exceptions.

Staffing hours can be shown through your staffing plan and payroll records. There will be an expectation of formal payroll records, which may include proof of tax withholdings, the employees and employers share of payroll taxes, pay stubs, timesheets, and verification the taxes were paid to the appropriate government agency.

More Information and Questions:

The state has created a useful Questions and Answers document that provides much more information: [New Rate Structure, link.multco.us/rate.FAQ](https://link.multco.us/rate.FAQ).

Email questions to the state's foster home policy team at apd.afhteam@odhs.oregon.gov.

State Begins Licensing IDD Adult Care Homes

Starting January 1, 2026, the Oregon Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) will be licensing all Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) adult care homes in Oregon, including those in Multnomah County.

Find important updates and a list of ODDS online meetings for adult care home providers:

[State Begins Licensing IDD Adult Care Homes, link.multco.us/idd.homes](https://link.multco.us/idd.homes)

Training and Support

*Sessions are online unless listed as in person.
To register call 503-988-3000 or email
advsd.adult.carehomeprogram@multco.us.*

Free Info Session for Operator Applicants

Date: Tuesday, November 18

Time: 9 – 11 a.m. (Sign on 8:50 a.m.)

Orientation

Required for operator, resident manager and shift manager applicants.

Date: Tuesday, December 2

Time: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Sign on 8:50 a.m.)

Cost: \$55

First-year required trainings for operators, resident managers and shift managers:

In-Person Record Keeping Part B, Medication Management

Dates: Thursday, November 13, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: Rockwood Market, 458 SE 185th Ave, Portland, OR 97233

Cost: \$30 | 3 CEUs

In-Person Emergency Preparedness Planning

Date: Thursday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Sharron Kelley Room B
600 NE 8th St., Gresham, OR 97030

Cost: \$30 | 3.5 CEUs

Attendees receive a binder with class materials.

Honoring Diversity

Date: Friday, December 12

Time: 9 a.m. – noon (Sign on 8:50 a.m.)

Cost: \$30 | 3 CEUs

Record Keeping A TBD; No Provider Meeting in Nov.

Required Wage Transparency Survey Due Sunday, November 30

APD Adult care homes that serve one or more Medicaid residents must complete the new required wage transparency survey by Nov. 30.

If you have multiple homes, complete one survey for each home/Medicaid provider number.

If you had a Medicaid license on June 30 and no Medicaid residents, complete the survey and indicate you had less than 20 percent Medicaid occupancy on that date. If you have no paid staff, complete the survey and enter zero for the average wage.

Providence PACE residents are included in this survey if they were on Medicaid on June 30.

You must report average hourly base pay for all caregivers employed on June 30, 2025. You only need to report hourly base pay for that one day. Include all caregivers, even if they did not work on June 30. This hourly base pay does not include overtime, differentials or benefits.

Base pay includes cash, check or digital payments to caregivers.

If you filled out this survey last month and made a mistake, complete a new survey with the correct information and add a note that a previous survey was completed in error.

The report summarizing the data is anonymous and will not identify individual providers.

Providers who do not complete the survey may be restricted from serving Medicaid residents.

Complete the survey at [Wage Transparency Required Survey](https://link.multco.us/wage.survey), link.multco.us/wage.survey

Find an FAQ about the survey at [Wage Transparency Survey](https://link.multco.us/wage.survey.faq), link.multco.us/wage.survey.faq.