

## Nursing Facility Incentive Tier Payments For People with Atypically Severe Behavioral Needs

According to Section 14.2 of Methods, Standards and Principles for Establishing Medicaid Payment Rates for Long-Term Care Facilities, Vermont licensed nursing facilities may receive an incentive payment to admit a person from a State psychiatric hospital or from a different but similar situation. Incentive payments may be approved for people who:

1. Are in a State psychiatric hospital or other similar situation and whose needs could be met by a nursing facility placement, and
2. Present behavior management needs that are significantly more challenging than those of the general nursing facility population, and
3. If required, have a completed Step II PASRR screening approving nursing facility placement, and
4. Are eligible for Choices for Care, and
5. Require an individualized plan of care to manage documented behavioral needs, and
6. The nursing facility has determined they have the resources needed to provide the services identified in the plan of care to meet the needs of the person.

To be eligible for an incentive payment; the receiving facility must develop a plan of care in conjunction with and approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Division of Licensing and Protection (DLP). The incentive rate shall be in addition to the facility's current per diem rate. *NOTE: As of SFY 2016, the average daily nursing facility rate was \$216.35 per day.*

### Incentive Tier Payments

	Daily Incentive	Monthly Equivalent	Annual Equivalent
Tier 1	\$100 - \$199	\$3,042 - \$6,053	\$36,500 - \$72,635
Tier 2	\$200 - \$299	\$6,083 - \$9,095	\$73,000 - \$109,135
Tier 3	\$300 and above	\$9,125 and above	\$109,500 and above

The State shall assign the tier based on the intensity of the plan of care that is based on the person's assessed needs and approved by the DMH and DLP using the following guidelines:

**Tier 1:** Behavioral plan of care with intense staff involvement.

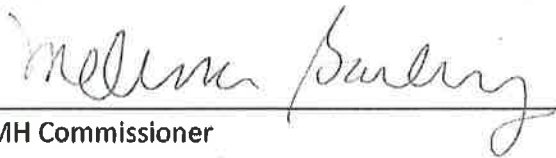
**Tier 2:** Behavioral plan of care with very intense staff involvement.

**Tier 3:** Behavioral plan of care with extremely intense staff involvement.

Examples that affect a plan's level of intensity and are clinically necessary to maintain the person's quality of life, health and safety to self and others:

- Clinically necessary private room
- Frequent or constant eyes-on staff monitoring
- Frequent behavioral intervention
- 1:1 staff involvement
- 2:1 staff involvement
- Staff with higher level of professional licensure required

Facilities will receive payment via the Medicaid claims process which is budgeted through the Choices for Care program. Facilities will be required to include the local DA in the plan of care for people who are eligible and receiving CRT services. The level of involvement of the DA will depend on the individual's needs and services being provided by the facility to avoid duplication of payment and delivery of services.

  
DMH Commissioner

2/17/17  
Date

  
DAIL Commissioner

2/17/17  
Date

  
Division of Rate Setting, Division Director

2/17/17  
Date