

T2038 – Housing Assistance

**Covered Service**

Housing Assistance is assistance with short-term, interim, or on-time-only expenses for beneficiaries transitioning from restrictive settings and homelessness into more independent, integrated living arrangements while in the process of securing other benefits (e.g. SSI) or public programs (e.g. governmental rental assistance and/or home ownership programs) that will become available to assume these obligations and provide needed assistance.

Coverage Includes:

- Assistance with utilities, insurance and moving expenses where such expense would pose a barrier to a successful transition to owning or leasing/renting a dwelling
- Limited term or temporary assistance with living expense for beneficiaries transitioning from restrictive settings and homelessness
- Interim assistance with utilities, insurance or living expenses when the beneficiary is already living in an independent setting experiences a temporary reduction or termination of his/her own or other community resources
- Home maintenance when, without a repair to the home or replacement of a necessary appliance, the individual would be unable to move there, or if already living there, would be forced to leave for health or safety reasons

Coverage Excludes:

- Funding for on-going housing costs. Ongoing is defined as longer than a total of six (6) occurrences of a funding need.
- Funding for any room and board costs (i.e., rental payments, mortgage payments, lease payments, land contract payments, hotel/motel stays, etc.)
- Home maintenance that is of general utility or cosmetic value and is considered to be a standard housing obligation of the beneficiary

Replacement or repair of appliances should follow the general rules under Assistive Technology. Repairs to the home must be in compliance with all local codes and be performed by the appropriate contractor (refer to the general rules of the Environmental Modifications). Replacement or repair of appliances, and repairs to the home or apartment do not need a prescription or order from a physician.

**Current Procedure Code**  
T2038

**Unit Type- [Day, Encounter, Etc.]**  
Service

**Eligibility Criteria and Service Priorities:**

Housing Assistance is available to Medicaid beneficiaries with a serious emotional disturbance, serious mental illness and/or intellectual/developmental disability through the §1915(i) State Plan Amendment (SPA) for home and community-based services in accordance with §1915(i)(7) of the Social Security Act. The intent of the §1915(i) SPA is to fund medically necessary supports and services that promote community inclusion and participation, independence, and/or productivity when identified in the individual plan of service as one or more goals developed during person-centered planning. The authorization and use of Medicaid funds for any of the §1915(i) SPA supports and services, as well as their amount, scope and duration, are dependent upon:

- The Medicaid beneficiary's eligibility for specialty services and supports as defined in the Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disability Supports and Services Chapter of the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual
- The service(s) having been identified during person-centered planning;
- The service(s) being medically necessary
- The service(s) being expected to achieve one or more of the following goals as identified in the beneficiary's plan of service:
  - Community Inclusion and Participation
  - Independence
  - Productivity
- The beneficiary must have in his/her individual plan of service a goal of independent living and either lives in a home/apartment that they own, rent or lease; or are in the process of transitioning to such a setting; and
- Documentation of the beneficiary's control (i.e. beneficiary's signed lease, rental agreement, deed) of their living arrangement in the individual plan of service; and
- Documentation of efforts (e.g. the beneficiary is on a waiting list) or under way to secure other benefit, such as SSI or public programs (e.g. governmental rental assistance, community housing initiative and/or home ownership programs) so when they become available these programs can assume the obligations and provide the needed assistance.

### **Associated Outcomes:**

One or more of the following as identified in the beneficiary's plan of service:

1. Community Inclusion and Participation - The individual uses community services and participates in community activities in the same manner as the typical community citizen.
2. Independence - "Freedom from another's influence, control and determination." (Webster's New World College Dictionary, 1996). Independence in the B3 context means how the individual defines the extent of such freedom for him/herself during person-centered planning.
3. Productivity - Engaged in activities that result in or lead to maintenance of or increased self-sufficiency. Those activities are typically going to school and work. The operational definition of productivity for an individual may be influenced by age-appropriateness.
4. Beneficiary obtains or retains the ability to live in an independent residence.

### **Typical Service Utilization Pattern:**

The person-centered planning process determines the authorization for this service. The authorization will be specific to each one-time request and evaluated on the merits of such in relation to supporting the beneficiary's desired future in their person-centered plan.

### **Provider Qualifications:**

N/A