Foundational Community Supports Transition Assistance Program (FCS TAP)

Introducing FCS TAP: flex funding for housing transitions

FCS enrollees across the state face financial obstacles to obtaining and maintaining places to call home, especially when transitioning out of inpatient settings. Now, FCS supportive housing enrollees with behavioral health treatment needs can access a funding opportunity that aims to lower or remove financial barriers to housing stability.

The Foundational Community Supports
Transition Assistance Program – or FCS TAP – is a
flexible funding resource in support of FCS
supportive housing services. Administered by
Amerigroup, FCS TAP provides the FCS supportive
housing network with a pool of flexible funding that
can be drawn upon when working with enrollees.
Whether an FCS supportive housing enrollee seeks to
acquire a state-issued ID, pay an application fee, or
get assistance with move-in costs – FCS TAP can
cover the cost through reimbursement after the FCS
supportive housing provider takes a series of steps.

FCS TAP is only available via an FCS supportive housing enrollee's authorized FCS supportive housing service provider.

Eligibility

FCS TAP can be accessed by enrollees of FCS supportive housing services across the state who are seeking to transition into the housing of their choice. If an individual is actively receiving FCS-eligible Medicaid and they are authorized to receive FCS supportive housing services, eligibility for FCS TAP is presumed.

Duration

Accessing FCS TAP funds requires an FCS supportive housing participant to be making a housing transition. FCS TAP offers FCS supportive housing enrollees up to \$5,000 in funding to be used

throughout a year on approved expenditures. This is a rolling cap, so exactly one year after an FCS TAP payment is made, that cost no longer counts towards the amount spent by the enrollee.

Allowable Expenditures

FCS TAP allows providers to automatically cover costs according to established categories listed on the FCS TAP Quick Reference Guide. Common financial barriers to affordable housing, such as costs for IDs and other documentation, application fees, credit check fees, and move-in expenses like first/last month's rent (if one month of rent is under 120% Fair Market Rent value for the area), deposits, and non-refundable fees can be covered by FCS TAP. FCS TAP cannot pay ongoing rents.

Certain costs can be covered multiple times, such as the cost of an ID, while move-in costs and others can only be accessed once every 12 months. Review the FCS TAP Quick Reference Guide for details.

Exceptions to Policies, or ETPs, will be used for certain requests related to establishing a home (e.g., home modifications, basic home goods, cleaning supplies, and more). Arrearages and other housing-related expenses will also require an ETP.

Spending FCS TAP Funding

The FCS TAP Quick Reference Guide provides vital information concerning how to spend FCS TAP funding on behalf of enrollees. The first crucial step: check ProviderOne before spending FCS TAP funding to ensure FCS-eligible Medicaid is active and the corresponding service is billable.

Once Medicaid is confirmed to be active and FCS-eligible, and authorization for FCS supportive housing services is confirmed, providers have the authority to spend up to what is listed on the FCS TAP Quick Reference Guide. If an item does not appear on this list or the price of the listed item is over the amount on the sheet, an ETP request must be sent to Amerigroup.

Amerigroup – FCS TAP's Third-Party Administrator

Amerigroup – the third-party administrator for FCS – administers FCS TAP funding. They review provider expenditures, determine appropriateness of expenditures, respond to reimbursement requests, deliver reimbursements to providers, review ETPs, and maintain FCS TAP system capacity.

FCS TAP Requests for Reimbursement are to be sent to TransitionAssistanceFCS@Amerigroup.com by providers up to once per week (on Thursdays), with all expenditures being reported to Amerigroup within 30 days of spending. Once an FCS TAP Request for Reimbursement has been submitted to Amerigroup, providers will receive an approval, denial, or rejection (with request for more information) within five business days, with approved reimbursements arriving to providers within 20 business days.

ETP determinations may take up to 10 business days, and providers must await approval before spending FCS TAP funds on an ETP request. Once an ETP is approved and FCS TAP funds are spent on the good or service, providers will receive reimbursement within 20 business days of submitting the FCS TAP Request for Reimbursement.

For more information

Scott Tankersley, Foundational Community Supports housing subsidy program manager, scott.tankersley@hca.wa.gov, 360-725-5732