Private Pay Assisted Living Pilot

Description:

The Private Pay Assisted Living Pilot helps enable people to remain in participating assisted living communities for as long as possible after exhausting their assets, which may otherwise result in relocation to a nursing facility. The Pilot is a service component of the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders (CHCPE), which is administered by the Alternate Care Unit of the Connecticut Department of Social Services. It provides subsidized assisted living services to persons age 65 and older who reside in private assisted living communities and who qualify functionally and financially for the CHCPE. Functional eligibility for the Pilot is determined by the CHCPE, which is based upon the applicant's need for assistance with activities of daily living. The applicant must have a critical need for assistance with at least one activity of daily living, which are: bathing, dressing, toileting (bowel/bladder care), eating/feeding, meal preparation and medical management/administration.

There are two components of the Pilot; namely, the Medicaid Waiver and the State funded program. Financial criteria are different for these two components.

Applicants that are determined to be financially and functionally eligible for the pilot are referred to an Access Agency for an assessment. When an assessment is performed, the Assisted Living Services Agency develops a plan of care and determines the consumer's Service Package Level. Service Package Levels are based on the weekly hours of personal care services needed by the consumer. There are four Service Package Levels.

The Alternate Care Unit Central Office of the Department of Social Services maintains a waiting list for persons who do not meet the financial criteria for the Pilot. Persons are placed on the wait list until they reduce their assets and are in compliance with the Pilot's requirements. When an opening on the wait list becomes available the Alternate Care Unit notifies these individuals and asks that they inform the unit if they are currently within the required financial limits so that they can be screened for the CHCPE. Persons must reply within 15 days of receiving this notification and must contact the Alternate Care Unit if they wish to remain on the waiting list. Persons who do not contact the Unit are removed from the waiting list; should they wish to reapply, are not returned to their previous place on the waiting list. Some individuals may have to contribute towards the cost of their care based on their income. Certain deductions are allowed from individuals' total gross income when determining the amount they are responsible for contributing to the cost of their care.

Eligibility Requirements, Service Areas and Program Year:

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be age 65 or older.
Must qualify functionally and financially for the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders (CHCPE).
Must reside in a participating Managed Residential Community (MRC) served by a participating Assisted Living Services Agency (ALSA).
Must have a critical need for assistance with at least one activity of daily living.

For the Medicaid Waiver:
- Must have a monthly income of $2,022 or less for an individual.
- Must have no more than $1,600 in total assets for an individual; $3,200 in total assets for a couple if both are receiving services; if only one individual is receiving services assets can be between $23,512 and $109,560 (based on spousal impoverishment rules).

For State-Funded:
- There are no income limits. The incomes of individuals that are above 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (refer to Appendix F) are applied to the cost of their care plan.
- Must have no more than $32,868 in total assets for an individual and $42,824 for couples.

Service Areas:
Statewide

Program Year:
January 1 – December 31

Contact Information:
Department of Social Services
Alternate Care Unit Central Office
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06106
Telephone: 860-424-5133
Website: www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2353&q=305170

Related Information:
Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders, refer to page X – 9.
Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, refer to page I – 6.
Managed Residential Communities, refer to page XII – 29.