COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGING

CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

Program Service Standards

The following information provides guidance on the minimum requirements for select services related to the Caregiver Support Program. All of the services listed below will be provided as outlined in the care plan authorized by the AAA.

A. Care Management

- For Service Standards, reference the Aging Service Policy and Procedure Manual, Chapter V: Care Management.

B. Home Modifications

- Home Modifications will be completed by a PA licensed contractor who is in compliance with 34 PA Code Labor and Industry Part XIV Chapter 401 Uniform Construction Code Training and Certification of Code Administrators and 34 PA Code Part XIV Chapter 403 Administration.

- The contractor will carry all the necessary insurances as outlined in 34 PA Code 401.12 Liability Insurance. The contractor is responsible for obtaining all necessary building permits, following all local codes and scheduling the inspections of the work in progress and upon completion if applicable.

C. Respite Services

When Respite Services are provided in a licensed setting, the following standards apply:

- Older Adult Daily Living Centers – 6 PA Code Chapter 11 - Older Adult Daily Living Centers.
- Personal Care Homes –
- Assisted Living Residences –
- Nursing Facilities –

When respite is provided in an unlicensed setting, the AAA will ensure the respite setting is operating in accordance with all applicable local, state and federal laws, codes, and ordinances.

D. Supplemental Services

When the following services are provided, the corresponding standards apply:

- Personal Care

  Personal Care workers entering into an agreement/arrangement with the Caregiver will be either:

  - A self-employed/independent contractor who attests to understanding all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to tax implications, employment requirements, workers' compensation and unemployment compensation, or

  - Employed through a licensed Home Care agency/Home Care registry that is in good standing with the requirements outlined by the PA Department of Health (DOH) under 28 PA Code Chapter 611 (Home Care Agencies and Home Care Registries) and 28 PA Code Chapter 51 (General Regulatory Requirements)

All Personal Care workers will also meet the following requirements:

- Are 18 years of age or older

- Have the required skills to perform Personal Care services as specified and directed by the Care Receiver/Caregiver

- Will not be the spouse of the Care Receiver or have a legal relationship with the Care Receiver including but not limited to, Power of Attorney, Representative Payee, or Guardian

- Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)

  At a minimum, each system will include:

  - Certification meeting applicable standards for safety and use
  - Two-way voice communication
  - An average range, waterproof, portable help button
  - The ability to self-test on-line status of all functions
  - 24-hour staffing by trained operators of the emergency response center 365 days per year

- Pest Control/ Fumigation Service

  The provider chosen by the Caregiver will be a licensed Pesticide business as outlined in 7 PA Code Chapter 128 - Pesticides

E. Supportive Services

- Counseling

  The following counseling services will be provided by a licensed/certified professional:

  - Individual/Family/Group/Marital Therapy
  - Legal
  - Financial

- Specialized Medical Transportation Services

    - Specialized Medical Transportation providers will be approved and licensed by either the Department of Health or Public Utility Commission (PUC).

    - For individuals who need assistance with administration of oxygen, assessment, monitoring, treatment, or observation while being transported, the transportation provider will be licensed by the Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

    - For individuals who do not need assessment, monitoring, treatment, or observation while being transported, the transportation provider will be licensed by the Public Utility Commission (PUC).