

# interChange Provider Important Message

To: Home Health Agencies

## **REMINDER OF UPCOMING COPE/CONFIDENT CAREGIVER AND CAPABLE PROVIDER FORUMS**



**Sign Up Now: Free American Rescue Plan (ARP) 9817-funded Training & Enhanced Rates through June 30, 2025**

As previously announced by the Department of Social Services (DSS), new evidence-based service models are being added to Medicaid-funded home and community-based services (HCBS), specifically, the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) I & II, Autism, Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders (CHCPE), and Personal Care Assistance (PCA) waiver programs. Here is a quick overview of the new models:

- ***Training and Counseling Services for Unpaid Caregivers Supporting Participants, a.k.a. Care of Older People in their Environment (COPE) and Confident Caregiver***

***COPE*** is Drexel University's evidence-based model in which an Occupational Therapist (OT) and a Registered Nurse (RN) support informal caregivers of individuals with cognitive impairments, enhancing caregivers' confidence and care skills while providing a better understanding of participants' health conditions and dementia.

***Confident Caregiver*** is designed to augment the COPE program to support family members who are providing care to persons living with serious or chronic illness without cognitive impairment.

- ***Participant Training and Engagement to Support Goal Attainment and Independence, a.k.a. Community Aging in Place-Advancing Better Living for Elders (CAPABLE)***

***CAPABLE*** is an evidence-based model developed by Johns Hopkins University in which a team consisting of an OT, RN, and handy worker collaborate with participants to improve both functional ability and home safety.

**Important DSS Updates for COPE/Confident Caregiver and CAPABLE:**

- 1) **ARP 9817-funded training (Limited time opportunity)**

To become a certified COPE/Confident Caregiver and/or licensed CAPABLE entity, providers must complete self-paced online trainings



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offered by Drexel University and/or Johns Hopkins University. These training costs are fully covered under ARP funds through June 30, 2025. After that date, new participants will be responsible for training costs, including certificate and/or licensure fees.

Do not miss this **valuable opportunity for free training** to become a COPE/Confident Caregiver and/or CAPABLE provider!

## 2) Rate Increase

OT and RN rates for COPE/Confident Caregiver and CAPABLE are now **15% higher** than the traditional Medicaid OT & RN rates. This rate increase aims to offset the cost of staff training time and administrative start-up time.

Moreover, an **extra 10% increase** is approved through June 30, 2025.

	Previous Rate per 15 minutes	Revised RATE: Program launch through 06/30/2025 (15% higher than traditional Medicaid OT/RN rate <i>plus</i> 10% add-on)	Revised RATE: 07/01/2025~ (15% higher than traditional Medicaid OT/RN rate)
COPE/Confident Caregiver & CAPABLE OT	\$24.89	\$31.16	\$28.33
COPE/Confident Caregiver & CAPABLE RN	\$28.33	\$31.16	\$28.33

## 3) Upcoming Provider Forums

For more information on these evidence-based services and the provider enrollment process, we encourage you to attend the DSS informational sessions listed below. You can select either or both. Please click the links to register for the sessions. Once you register, you will receive a Teams meeting invitation via email.

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COPE/Confident Caregiver Provider Forum	CAPABLE Provider Forum
<p>February 25, 2025 (Tue.) 1:30-3:00pm</p> <p><a href="https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/66054055-50ed-4bb7-9c83-e2db19d5c361@118b7cfa-a3dd-48b9-b026-31ff69bb738b">https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/66054055-50ed-4bb7-9c83-e2db19d5c361@118b7cfa-a3dd-48b9-b026-31ff69bb738b</a></p> 	<p>February 21, 2025 (Fri.) 2:00-3:30pm</p> <p><a href="https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/9d06c280-a1d2-451b-b27d-c342154fc306@118b7cfa-a3dd-48b9-b026-31ff69bb738b">https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/9d06c280-a1d2-451b-b27d-c342154fc306@118b7cfa-a3dd-48b9-b026-31ff69bb738b</a></p> 

Policy transmittals/provider bulletins concerning COPE/Confident Caregiver and CAPABLE are available at the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) website at [www.ctdssmap.com](http://www.ctdssmap.com). You can also click the links below for direct access.

- [COPE/Confident Caregiver policy transmittal](#)
- [CAPABLE policy transmittal](#)

Questions concerning COPE/Confident Caregiver and/or CAPABLE can be directed to the following email address: [DSSCOPECAPABLEAttestation@ct.gov](mailto:DSSCOPECAPABLEAttestation@ct.gov).