

**10-144 C.M.R. Chapter 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual
Chapter II, Section 71, National Diabetes Prevention Program Services**

**Summary of Public Comments and the Department's Responses
And List of Changes Made to the Final Rule**

The Department of Health and Human Services held a public hearing on September 18, 2023. Written and verbal comments were accepted through September 28, 2023. Comments were received from the following people:

Table of Commenters

1. Bethany Sanborn, MPH, MCHES, Senior Director of Community Health Improvement, MaineHealth, Portland, ME

Summary of Comments and Responses

1. **Comment:** Commenter 1 urged the Department to raise the number of reimbursable sessions to twenty-six (26). The commenter stated that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) PreventT2 preferred curriculum is twenty-six (26) sessions. The commenter stated that the CDC encourages organizations to offer more than the minimum number of sessions, as those which do have better retention, participation, and outcomes.

Response: The Department thanks the commenter for their comment. The Department will only reimburse for the twenty-two sessions that the CDC requires. No changes were made to the final rules because of this comment.

2. **Comment:** Commenter 1 asked that the Department allow providers to bill for performance-based payments when participants average 150 minutes of physical activity per week. The commenter noted that the Summary of Rate Forum Comments and the Department's Responses stated that the Department will not make performance payments available to providers whose participants achieve 4% weight loss and an average of 150 minutes of physical activity per week because this risk reduction would be more difficult to measure and track. The commenter advocates for the Department to reconsider this position, stating that, as participant weight and physical activity minutes are required by the DPRP to be submitted for evaluation purposes, measuring and tracking this data would not be difficult. The commenter included the relevant section from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program Standards and Operating Procedures, regarding submission of participant weight and physical activity minutes.

Response: The Department thanks the commenter for the comment. The Department maintains that it will not make performance payments available to providers whose participants achieve 4% weight loss and an average of 150 minutes of physical activity per week because it is more difficult to track physical activity objectively than weight loss. No changes were made to the final rules because of this comment.

List of Changes Made to Final Rule
Based on Comments Received and OAG Legal Review

The Department did not make any changes in response to comments.