

NOTICE OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Notice of Intent to Submit Emergency Preparedness and Response Amendment (Appendix K) to the Comprehensive Supports Medicaid Waiver, Individual and Family Support Medicaid Waiver, and Employment and Day Supports Medicaid Waiver

In accordance with the provisions of section 17b-8 of the Connecticut General Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services (“DSS” or the “Department”) intends to submit an Emergency Preparedness and Response Amendment (“Appendix K amendment”) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”) related to the following 1915(c) home and community-based services waivers operated by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS):

- Comprehensive Supports Medicaid waiver
- Individual and Family Support Medicaid waiver
- Employment and Day Supports Medicaid waiver

Appendix K amendments are temporary and expire six months following the expiration of the federal public health emergency related to the continued consequences of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The following is a summary of the proposed changes, as more fully described in the Appendix K amendments:

This Appendix K is additive to the previously approved Appendix Ks and modifies the language in Appendix K approved March 17, 2022. It includes the following modifications: retroactive to February 1, 2023, utilizing section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP):

- Stabilization payments for certain qualified provider types covered under the waivers listed in this Appendix K.
- Payments for qualified provider types covered under the waivers listed in this Appendix K to modernize billing processes and systems.
- Funding incentive-based outcome payments for any qualified residential provider covered under the waivers listed in this Appendix K that transitions a waiver participant from a congregate residential setting toward a more integrated community-based setting; and
- Temporary rate increases for specific employment and residential waiver service authorizations covered under the waivers listed in this Appendix K that move a waiver participant toward a more independent residential setting or toward competitively-based employment.

New language includes:

1. Incentive-based outcome payments to any qualified residential or day provider covered under the waivers listed above that submits a transition plan that is approved by DDS.
2. Incentive-based outcome payments to any qualified residential or day provider covered under the waivers listed above that transitions a waiver participant from a congregate residential setting toward a more integrated community-based setting or a waiver participant from a congregate day setting toward a more community-based employment setting, as identified in the approved transition plan.
3. Incentive-based outcome payments to any qualified residential or day provider covered under the waivers listed above that completes certain objectives, as part of the approved transition plan to the satisfaction of the DDS.
4. An incentive payment for any DDS qualified provider that completes the National Core Indicator IDD State of the Workforce Survey.
5. An incentive payment for DDS qualified providers that meet the articulated criteria training expectations consistent with professional standards from accepted accreditation or certification entities such as the Connecticut Association of People Supporting Employment First (CTAPSE), Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE), or other similarly recognized organizations.
6. An incentive payment for any DDS qualified providers that meet the articulated criteria for training expectations consistent with Technology First SHIFT LLC, Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) Assistive Technology professional or other similarly recognized organizations that focus on utilization of Assistive Technology.
7. Temporary increases for specific employment and residential waiver service authorizations covered under the waivers listed above.

A copy of the complete text of the Appendix K amendment is available, at no cost, upon request from: Krista Ostaszewski, Health Management Administrator, DDS Central Office, 460 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT, 06106, or via email at Krista.Ostaszewski@ct.gov. It is also available on the DSS website, www.ct.gov/dss, under “News and Press,” as well as the following direct link: <http://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Health-And-Home-Care/Medicaid-Waiver-Applications/Medicaid-Waiver-Applications>. In addition, it is available on the DDS website, <https://portal.ct.gov/dds>, under “Latest News.”

All written comments regarding these applications must be submitted by April 13, 2023 to: Krista Ostaszewski, Health Management Administrator, DDS Central Office, 460 Capitol Avenue Hartford, Connecticut, 06106, or via email at Krista.Ostaszewski@ct.gov.
