




State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

MEMORANDUM

OCDD-P-20-057
OCDD-SC-20-025

DATE: November 16, 2020

TO: OCDD Support Coordination Agencies
OCDD Providers

FROM: Teresa Frank, OCDD Program Manager 3 

SUBJECT: Appendix K Exceptions Ending

The Appendix K Exceptions will end for Louisiana in January 2021. The Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) has determined all services being offered under the Appendix K exceptions will end on December 31, 2020. You must begin planning accordingly during your October-December quarterly meetings, and amend the plans-of-care for individuals currently using the exceptions. The following exceptions will **no longer be allowed after 12/31/2020:**

EXCEPTION ENDING	WAIVERS IMPACTED	ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS
Conversion of Vocational program hours to in homes supports	NOW (IFS) ROW (CLS) SW (In home Respite)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Return to Vocational programSecure Natural Support for Vocational hoursRequest additional in-home supports (justification required)
Additional 20 hours per week of family support due to school closures	Children's Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Return to in person school learningRequest crisis hours if unable due to health related issues
Allowing the participant and direct service worker (DSW) to live in same household	NOW (IFS) ROW (CLS) SW(In home Respite) Children's Choice (FS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Return to prior COVID 19 worker / participant settingROW and NOW – consider MIHC or Companion Care services as appropriate.
Allowing legally responsible relatives, including parents and spouses as DSWs	NOW ROW SW Children's Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Return to prior COVID 19 worker / participant relationshipROW and NOW – Consider MIHC or Companion Care as appropriate

EXCEPTION ENDING	WAIVERS IMPACTED	ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS
Allowing an abbreviated DSW training prior to work	All Waivers	DSWs will be required to follow licensing requirements for training prior to starting work
Allowing suspension of Background Checks if DSW lives in home with participant	All Waivers	All DSWs will be required to pass a background check per state law and licensing requirements

Additionally, these General Exceptions will end on December 31, 2020

EXCEPTION ENDING	WAIVERS IMPACTED	REQUIREMENT TO BE MET
<p>Allow 90L to be extended beyond the current plan of care.</p> <p>Allow SOA for initial POCs</p>	All Waivers	<p>90L forms expiring on or before 1/26/2021 that cannot be obtained from the participant's physician (by office visit or telemedicine) can be substituted with a current SOA.</p> <p>90L forms expiring on or after 1/27/2021 which are dated on or after 1/26/2020 must be obtained for the next plan year as the exception is ending.</p> <p>If you have questions concerning specific 90Ls or participants please bring them to the attention of OCDD waiver staff.</p>
Hazard Pay for individuals working with participants exposed to or infected with COVID-19 per Hazard Pay Policy	All Waivers	No Hazard Pay past 12/31/2020
Virtual Initial, Quarterly and Annual meetings with Support Coordination	All Waivers	Visits must be conducted in person
Extension of current prior authorization beyond the plan of care year without penalty	All Waivers	Extension of current plan of care will result in penalty to the Support Coordination Agency

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EXCEPTION ENDING	WAIVERS IMPACTED	REQUIREMENT TO BE MET
Acceptance of prior year Provider attachments for plan of care	All Waivers	New provider attachments will be required for the new plan of care.
Waive 30 day Continuity of Care Provision	ROW and NOW	Must begin receiving services. Will ask LGE's to run "No Services in 90 Days beginning April 1, 2021. Can bump to a lower waiver (SW) if no services other than Support Coordination are needed right now.

The Monitoring In-Home Caregiving service and the Companion Care service are options for individuals that receive the ROW or the NOW. Attached is a comparison of these services for those that wish to consider changing from an in home service to a caregiver services (OCDD-PC-20-003).

There will be no exceptions or additional time extensions to these rules. If the participant/family doesn't make a choice and sign the paperwork, services will stop on December 31, 2020. Service will be able to restart once the participant/family chooses another service within the service delivery system.

Should CMS issue further guidance concerning the exceptions and any extensions we will issue further guidance.

Thank you for your support of people in these difficult times.