

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Louisiana Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing  
and  
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities**

**Children's Choice Waiver**

The Louisiana Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) currently provide home and community-based services through the Children's Choice Waiver (CCW) to eligible Medicaid recipients.

The department hereby gives public notice of its intent to seek approval from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of amendments to the CCW in order to amend the following:

- Amend the Cost Limit Lower than Institutional Cost Change waiver cap from \$16,410 to \$17,500 (Appendix B-2);
- Remove Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy from Art Therapy;
- Add Art Therapy as its own provider type with qualification specifications;
- Remove provider types Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy from Music Therapy;
- Add Music Therapy as its own provider type with qualification specifications;

- Remove provider types Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy from Therapeutic Horseback Riding provider type (Appendix C1/C3);
- Add Therapeutic Horseback Riding as its own provider type with its own qualification specifications (Appendix C1/C3) and update Appendix J2-d for Therapeutic Horseback Riding; and
- Add Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Taxonomy for all waiver services.

In compliance with CMS requirements, the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities is posting the Children's Choice Waiver Amendment for public comment from October 30, 2019 through November 29, 2019. CMS regulations require the Louisiana Department of Health to actively engage the public and give program participants, advocates, providers and other community stakeholders the chance to provide input regarding changes made to current waiver applications prior to submission of final versions to CMS.

The Children's Choice Waiver Amendment (LA.0361.R04.00) is posted to the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities website and may be accessed at the following address: <http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/2526>. A hard copy of the application is available for viewing at the Human Services District/Authority (HSD/A) in your region. The HSD/A

in your region can be found at:

<http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134>, or by calling 866-783-5553. Implementation of the provisions of this waiver amendment is contingent upon CMS approval.

Interested persons may submit written comments to the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, P.O. Box 3117 (Bin #21), Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3117 or by email to [ocdd-hcbs@la.gov](mailto:ocdd-hcbs@la.gov). The deadline for receipt of all written comments is November 29, 2019 by 4:30 p.m.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary