



COVID-19 DDA Services

Temporary changes, effective March 13, 2020 and Revised March 14, 2022

Service Delivery Flexibilities

- May be provided over the phone, or by Skype, Zoom, Facetime, etc. to allow services to continue to be provided remotely in the home and community settings (Ends on June 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver and PCP)
- May be provided in a variety of settings such as residential sites, family homes, and community settings (Ends on June 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver and PCP)
- May provide this service for people who are in an acute care hospital or short-term institutional stay (Ends on June 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver and PCP)
- May support more than 4 people at a time (Ends on June 30, 2022)
- Suspend requirement for individualized schedule (Ends on June 30, 2022)
- Suspend six hour minimum for services in a day under traditional service delivery model - **provider may bill for the entire day in PCIS2 only** if provide the person with, at minimum, **three hours** of cumulative supports (Ends on June 30, 2022)
- Personal care assistance may comprise the entirety of the service, as appropriate (Ends on June 30, 2022)

Staffing Flexibilities

- Staffing ratios may be exceeded due to staffing shortages (Ends on June 30, 2022)
- Hire relatives and legally responsible individuals* (Ends on June 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver)
- Hiring of spouses and parents of minor children* (Ends on June 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver)
- Expedited onboarding with only essential training required prior to supporting people (Ends on June 30, 2022)

Service Authorization Flexibilities

- May be provided any day of the week and exceed eight hours a day and 40 hours per week within a person's authorized budget (Ends on June 30, 2022)
- Residential Service Agencies, including providers under the Medicaid Community First Choice program may provide this service (Ends on June 30, 2022)

Visit our website for additional COVID-19 resources:

https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/DDA_Appendix_K.aspx

Have questions? Email them to: dda.toolkitinfo@maryland.gov

▶ Issue date: **03.14.2022**
▶ Effective date: **3.13.2020**
▶ Version number: **3**



Retainer Payments

Retainer Payments

- Add COVID-19 Retainer Payment at up to 80% of the rate: (Ends on June 30, 2022)
 - Traditional Service Delivery Model: Up to 30 days and Pilot Providers: Up to 180 hours
- DDA will share guidance on documentation and billing for retainer days

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