

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
RELEASE DATE: February 26, 2019**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (HCBS)
1915i STATE PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED
(<https://www.dds.ca.gov/waiver/index.cfm>)**

This notice serves to provide information of public interest that the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is seeking federal authority via an amendment to the California Medicaid 1915(i) State Plan for the Developmentally Disabled to provide rate increases for Community-Based Day Programs, Community Care Facilities under the Alternative Residential Model, and In-Home Respite Agency Providers in high cost counties.

Pursuant to the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Lanterman Act), Welfare & Institutions (W&I) Code section 4500 *et seq.*, people with developmental disabilities, as defined in W&I Code section 4512(a), receive, as an entitlement, services and supports based on their individual needs and choices. The Department of Developmental Services (Department) is responsible for administering the Lanterman Act.

The 2018 Budget Act provided DDS with time limited funding for service provider rate increases. DDS was tasked with determining the methodology of how the funds will be distributed, in consultation with the California Department of Finance. These funds will be available for 12 months upon CMS approval. Each of the service provider types described below will receive a rate increase of 2.1%

This time limited rate increase is for specified service providers of Community-Based Day Services, In-Home respite agencies, and providers of Community Living Arrangement Services with rates set using the Alternative Residential Model for providers located in counties in which the average weekly wage is \$900 or higher as compiled by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics data for the 4th quarter of 2017. These counties can be found here: https://www.bls.gov/regions/west/news-release/countyemploymentandwages_california.htm.

DHCS is seeking approval to amend the 1915(i) State Plan for the Developmentally Disabled for this one-time rate increase.

DHCS plans to submit proposed SPA 19-0004 to the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) by March 6, 2019, with a proposed effective date of May 1, 2019, to include the time limited rate increases proposed above.

The aggregate fiscal impact of this amendment is estimated to be \$3,800,000 for Fiscal Year 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Proposed SPA 19-0004 is subject to approval by CMS.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA 19-0004 will be published at:
<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/CaliforniStatePlan.aspx>

If you would like to view the SPA once it becomes available, please visit
<https://www.dds.ca.gov/waiver/index.cfm>. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA 19-0004 using the mailing or email addresses listed below. Any written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Developmental Services
Community Services Division
Attn: Ashley Draper
1600 Ninth Street, M.S. 3-8,
Sacramento, California 95814

Comments may also be emailed to Ashley.Draper@dds.ca.gov. Please indicate 'SPA 19-0004' in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA 19-0004 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.

Release Date: February 26, 2019