



NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

RELEASE DATE: August 2, 2024

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO MEDI-CAL HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (HCBS) 1915(c) WAIVER FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requests input from beneficiaries, providers, and other interested stakeholders concerning a proposed amendment to the Medi-Cal 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled (HCBS-DD Waiver). A copy of which is attached.

Under 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), are eligible to receive services and supports that meet their individual needs and choices as defined in W&I Code section 4512(a). The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) administers the Lanterman Act.

DDS administers the HCBS-DD Waiver. DDS ensures, under the oversight of DHCS as the State Medicaid agency, that the HCBS-DD Waiver is implemented by regional centers in accordance with Medicaid law and the State's approved Waiver application. Regional centers coordinate, provide, and arrange or purchase the services and supports available under the HCBS-DD Waiver. Information about the HCBS-DD Waiver can be found at www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/hcbs/

This amendment proposes to:

- Implement the next round of rate increases as informed by the DDS 2019 Rate Study.
- Add a new service titled Person-Centered Future Planning, add a corresponding provider type, and a payment methodology for the service.
- Add a new provider to Community Living Arrangement Services with the option to participant direct.
- Increase rates for Financial Management Service providers.



The fiscal impact of this amendment is estimated to be \$316,000,000 in waiver year three (3) and \$327,000,000 in waiver year four (4). All proposed HCBS-DD Waiver amendments must be approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to be effective.

Public Review and Comments

DHCS plans to submit the proposed waiver amendment to CMS no later than October 3, 2024, for a proposed effective date of January 1, 2025.

A copy of the proposed waiver amendment will be posted on August 2, 2024, at <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Pages/Medi-CalWaivers.aspx> and at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/hcbs/>.

Copies of the proposed amendment can be obtained by sending a written request to the mailing or email addresses listed below, or by visiting your local regional center. Please indicate 'HCBS Waiver' in the subject line or message.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Developmental Services
Attn: Jonathan Hill
1215 O Street MS 7-40
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: Federal.Programs@dds.ca.gov

To be assured consideration prior to DHCS' submission of the waiver amendment to CMS, comments must be received no later than September 1, 2024. Please note that comments will continue to be accepted after September 1, 2024, but DHCS may not be able to consider those comments prior to the initial submission of the HCBS-DD waiver amendment to CMS.