



NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

RELEASE DATE: February 2, 2026

PROPOSED RENEWAL OF HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (HCBS) 1915(i) STATE PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requests input from beneficiaries, providers, and other interested stakeholders concerning the renewal application for the Medi-Cal 1915(i) Home and Community-Based Services State Plan Amendment (SPA), a copy of which is attached. DDS intends to renew the SPA for a five-year period from October 2026 to September 2031.

SPA 26-0009 incorporates language pertaining to rate increases and additions of new methodologies, provider types, and services from SPA 25-0040, which have recently been submitted to CMS for review and are pending approval. SPA 26-0009 does not propose any additional rates, methodologies, or services beyond what has already been submitted to CMS. The State anticipates that SPA 25-0040 will be approved by CMS prior to the approval of SPA 26-0009.

DHCS estimates that the expenditures for this renewal will be \$553,351,000 in federal funds for federal fiscal year 2026-2027 based on a caseload estimate of 109,000 consumers in 2026-2027.

The effective date of the proposed SPA renewal is October 1, 2026. All proposed SPAs must be approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to be effective.

Public Review and Comments

The proposed changes included in draft SPA 26-0009 are included in this notice for public comment. DHCS is requesting stakeholder input on the impact, if any, of access to services as a result of this renewal.



Upon submission to CMS, a copy of proposed SPA 26-0009 will be published at the following internet address:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/PendingStatePlanAmendments.aspx>.

A copy of the proposed SPA renewal application will be posted on February 2, 2026, at <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Pages/Medi-CalWaivers.aspx> and at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/hcbs/>.

If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA 26-0009 or a copy of submitted public comments related to SPA 26-0009 by requesting it in writing to the mailing or email address listed below. Please indicate SPA 26-0009 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

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA 26-0009 in the subject line or message.

To be assured consideration prior to DHCS' submission of the SPA to CMS, comments must be received no later than March 4, 2026. Please note that comments will continue to be accepted after March 4, 2026, but DHCS may not be able to consider those comments prior to the initial submission of SPA 26-0009 to CMS.