



Healthcare Financing Division
Developmental Disabilities
6101 Yellowstone Road, Suite 210
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-7115 • 800-510-0280
www.health.wyo.gov



Michael A. Ceballos
Director

Mark Gordon
Governor

BULLETIN

Date: March 17, 2020
To: All Supports and Comprehensive Waiver Providers
From: Lee Grossman, Developmental Disabilities Section Administrator LG
Subject: Temporary Modifications to Support and Comprehensive Waiver Requirements in Response to COVID-19
Ref: LG-2020-B02

In response to the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) crisis, the Division of Healthcare Financing (Division) has identified the following temporary modifications to the delivery of Comprehensive and Supports Waiver services:

- Effective immediately, and until further notice, participants may receive Community Support Services in their home, with the following conditions:
 - The case manager will need to identify the specific reason for the change in setting, and the criteria for changing the setting back to a community based option. This information, as well as proof that the plan of care team agreed with the change (i.e., email thread) must be uploaded to the document library in the Electronic Medicaid Waiver System (EMWS). All information shall be included in the email thread or other documentation, but updating the IPC is not necessary at this time.
 - Providers of Community Support Services shall ensure that the service being delivered meets the service definition and the needs of the participant, as outlined in the individualized plan of care (IPC). Training on objectives is still required, and objectives shall be focused on community access. This service shall look different than community living services, and shall not replicate the services typically delivered in the home.
 - The high level of care tiered rate allowed for individual time spent solely in the community shall not be billed while the participant is receiving services in their home.
- Effective immediately, and until further notice, Respite Services may be used while the primary caregiver is at work. School aged children may receive Respite or Child Habilitation Services during regular school hours while local school districts are closed due to the COVID-19 crisis.
 - **Please be advised that additional funding is not available to increase individual budget amounts (IBAs).** All waiver services shall be provided within the participant's current

IBA. Requests for additional funding due to COVID-19 service changes shall not be considered.

- Plan of care teams shall adjust service units to ensure that the IPC accounts for services to cover the entire plan year.

The above temporary regulatory relief is in addition to prior guidance issued by the Division on March 13, 2020. The Developmental Disabilities Section has developed a COVID-19 webpage at <https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/dd/covid-19-updates-for-dd-waiver-services/>. We will update this page as we receive guidance that directly affects participants and providers of home and community-based waiver services. The Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Division continues to be the authority on COVID-19 in Wyoming. The Division encourages participants, providers, and other stakeholders to stay up-to-date on COVID-19 information from reputable sources, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

The Division requests that providers notify their Provider Support Specialist regarding any interruption to service delivery as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 response efforts. Obtaining this information will be vital in order for the Division to continue supporting providers and assessing temporary regulatory relief.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this bulletin, please contact your area Provider or Participant Support Specialist.

LG/slp