




GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY SERVICES

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**DDS TRANSMITTAL# 23-14**

**TO:** All Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Providers

**FROM:** Winslow Woodland, Deputy Director, Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)   
Antoinette Alexander, Operations Program Manager *Antoinette Alexander*

**DATE:** October 18, 2023

**RE:** Remote Supports Services Effective November 11, 2023

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The Department on Disability Services (DDS), Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), releases this transmittal to provide information of the implementation of remote supports services (RSS) available to Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver recipients enrolled in the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) and Individual and Family Support (IFS) waivers.

Effective November 11, 2023, which six (6) months post the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), Appendix K temporary modifications that allowed remote supports service delivery for some waiver services during the PHE will end.

Beginning November 11, 2023, select HCBS IDD and IFS waiver services will be available to be implemented remotely as approved in the person's Individual Support Plan (ISP) and Plan of Care (POC).

Remote Support Services (RSS) are provided to persons who can utilize equipment/technology needed for remote supports services as recommended by the support team and as assessed by the shift enabling technology provider. The support team will utilize the Assessing Interest in Remote Supports and Technology tool to assess the person's ability to benefit at different levels/hours of RSS engagement to determine the number of hours the person can engage in this service delivery for the appropriate waiver service(s).

The following HCBS waiver services will be available through remote supports services delivery:

- Behavioral Supports
- Bereavement Counseling
- Creative Arts Therapies
- Day Habilitation
- Employment Readiness
- Family Training
- Fitness Training
- Nutrition Evaluation/Consultation
- Occupation Therapy
- Parenting Supports
- Sexuality Education
- Speech, Hearing and Language
- Supported Employment
- Support Living (*IDD Waiver only*)

### **RSS Billing**

Remote Support Services (RSS) are separate billable services with specialized rates that are different from the in-person service delivery rate in some circumstances.

RSS rates for the following services will maintain the same rates as in-person services:

- Behavioral Supports
- Bereavement Counseling
- Creative Art Therapies
- Fitness Training
- Nutrition Evaluation/Consultation
- Occupational Therapy
- Parenting Supports
- Sexuality Education
- Speech, Hearing and Language
- Supported Employment

Remote Support Services (RSS) rates for the following services will have specialized rates that are different from the in-person service delivery rates:

- Day Habilitation
- Employment Readiness
- Supported Living w/without Transportation
- Supported Living Periodic w/without Transportation

The transportation component of supported living with transportation remote supports and supported living periodic with transportation remote supports will maintain the same rates as in-person rates.

## **RSS Delivery Limitations**

Waiver services cannot be delivered remotely one-hundred (100%) of the time and those that have a requirement of in-person visits include the following:

- Behavioral Supports
- Bereavement Counseling
- Creative Arts Therapies
- Day Habilitation (*RSS cannot be provided no more than 4 hours per day*)
- Employment Readiness (*RSS cannot be provided no more than 4 hours per day*)
- Family Training
- Fitness Training
- Nutrition Evaluation/Consultation
- Occupation Therapy
- Parenting Supports
- Sexuality Education
- Speech, Hearing and Language
- Supported Employment
- Supported Living (*SL daily requires in-person visits and may be delivered remotely up to 75% of the time the person receives supported living services per day*)
- Support Living Periodic

## **RSS Staffing Ratios**

Supported Living remote supports services staffing ratio for awake (daytime) hours is 1:6 and must have active, continuous engagement and contact with the remote support platform.

Supported Living overnight staffing ratio is 1:15. Staff should be available during the service hours and document that they are continuously engaged with the person and/or the remote supports responder platform to bill for hourly services rendered. Corresponding on-call remote supports staffing ratio during waking (day) hours is 1:10 and sleeping hours is 1:20.

Day Habilitation 1:1, Day Habilitation, Day Habilitation Small Group and Employment Readiness remote supports services staffing ratio are 1:6 and must have active, continuous engagement and contact with the remote support platform. Staff should be available during the service hours and document that they are continuously engaged with the person and/or the remote supports responder platform to bill for hourly services rendered.

## **RSS Procedure Codes**

Remote Supports Services (RSS) have a GT modifier code in the procedure code for eligible waiver services.

### Behavioral Supports Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Behavioral Support Services</b>		
BS Diagnostic Assessment	H0031 U4 GT	One Assessment
BS Professional Services	H0025 U4 GT	15 Minutes
BS Paraprofessional Services	H0025 U6 GT	15 Minutes
BS Non-Professional	H0025 U7 GT	15 Minutes

### Creative Arts Therapies Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Creative Arts Therapies Services</b>		
Art Therapy	G0176-U5 GT	15 Minutes
Art Therapy Extension	G0176-U5-22 GT	15 Minutes
Art Therapy Group	G0176-U5-HQ GT	15 Minutes
Art Therapy Group Extension	G0176-U5-HQ-22 GT	15 Minutes
Dance Therapy	G0176-U6 GT	15 Minutes
Dance Therapy Extension	G0176-U6-22 GT	15 Minutes
Dance Therapy Group	G0176-U6-HQ GT	15 Minutes
Dance Therapy Group Extension	G0176-U6-HQ-22 GT	15 Minutes
Drama Therapy	G0176-U7 GT	15 Minutes
Drama Therapy Extension	G0176-U7-22 GT	15 Minutes
Drama Therapy Group	G0176-U7-HQ GT	15 Minutes
Drama Therapy Group Extension	G0176-U7-HQ-22 GT	15 Minutes
Music Therapy	G0176-U8 GT	15 Minutes
Music Therapy Extension	G0176-U8-22 GT	15 Minutes
Music Therapy Group	G0176-U8-HQ GT	15 Minutes
Music Therapy Group Extension	G0176-U8-HQ-22 GT	15 Minutes

### Day Habilitation Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Day Habilitation</b>		
Day Habilitation	T2021 U4 GT	15 Minutes
Day Habilitation (1:6)	T2021 U5 GT	15 Minutes
Small Group Day Hab (1:6)	T2021-U2 GT	15 Minutes

### Employment Readiness Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Employment Readiness</b>		
Employment Readiness Services	T2015 U4 HI GT	15 Minutes

### Family Training Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Family Training</b>		
Family Training Services	S5110 U4 GT	15 minutes
Family Training (Non-Family)	S5115 U4 GT	15 minutes
Family Training (Professional Support) Small Group 1:4	S5110-U4-UQ GT	15 minutes
Family Training (Professional Support) Small Group 1:4 Extended	S5110-U4-UQ-22 GT	15 minutes
Family Training (Peer Supports Small Group)1:4	S5111-U4-UQ GT	15 minutes
Family Training (Peer Supports) 1:1	S5111-U4 GT	15 minutes
Family Training (Peer Supports) 1:1 Extended	S5111-U4-22 GT	15 minutes

### Occupational Therapy Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Occupational Therapy Services</b>		
Occupational Therapy Assessment	G0152 U1 GT	15 Minutes
Occupational Therapy -On-Going	G0152 U2 GT	15 Minutes

### Parenting Supports Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Parenting Supports</b>		
Parenting Supports (Individual) Professional	S9444-U4 GT	15 minutes
Parenting Support - SM Group 1:2 Professional	S9444-U4-UN GT	15 minutes
Parenting Support - SM Group Peer 1:3 Professional	S9444-U4-UP GT	15 minutes
Parenting Support - SM Group Peer (1:4) Professional	S9444-U4-UQ GT	15 minutes
Parenting Supports Peer (Individual) 1:1	S9444-U4-HE GT	15 minutes
Parenting Supports Peer (Small Group) 1:2	S9444-U4-UN-HE GT	15 minutes
Parenting Supports Peer (Small Group) 1:3	S9444-U4-UP-HE GT	15 minutes
Parenting Supports Peer (Small Group) 1:4	S9444-U4-UQ-HE GT	15 minutes

### Speech, Hearing and Language Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Speech Hearing, and Language Services</b>		
Speech, Hearing and Language Assessment	G0153-U1 GT	15 Minutes
Speech, Hearing and Language Service – On-Going	G0153-U2 GT	15 Minutes
Speech, Hearing and language service-small group	G0153-U2-UP GT	15 Minutes

### Supported Employment Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Individual Supported Employment Intake/Assessment/Job</b>		
Individual SE Intake & Assessment Professional	T2019-U1-H1 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Intake & Assessment Paraprofessional	T2019-U2-H1 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Placement Professional	T2019-U3-H1 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Placement Professional, Extended	T2019-U3-H1-22 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Placement Paraprofessional	T2019-U4-H1 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Placement Paraprofessional Extended	T2019-U4-H1-22 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Training & Supports Professional	T2019-U5 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Training & Supports Professional, extended	T2019-U5-22 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Training & Supports Paraprofessional	T2019 U6 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Job Training & Supports Paraprofessional, extended	T2019 U6 -22 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Long Term Follow Along Professional	T2019 U9 H1 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Long Term Follow Along Professional Extended	T2019 U9 H1-22 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Long Term Follow Along Paraprofessional	T2019 UA H1 GT	15 Minutes
Individual SE Long Term Follow Along Paraprofessional Extended	T2019 UA H1-22 GT	15 Minutes
<b>Small Group Supported Employment</b>		
SE Gp Job Training & Supports Professional	T2019 U5 H1 GT	15 Minutes
SE Gp Job Training & Supports Professional Extended	T2019 U5 H1 22 GT	15 Minutes
SE Gp Job Training & Supports Paraprofessional	T2019 U6 H1 GT	15 Minutes
SE Gp Job Training & Supports Paraprofessional Extended	T2019 U6 H1-22 GT	15 Minutes
SE Gp Long Term Follow Along Professional	T2019 U7 H1 GT	15 Minutes
SE Gp Long Term Follow Along Professional Extended	T2019 U7 H1-22 GT	15 Minutes
SE Gp Long Term Follow Along Paraprofessional	T2019 U8 H1 GT	15 Minutes
SE Gp Long Term Follow Along Paraprofessional Extended	T2019 U8 H1-22 GT	15 Minutes

## Wellness Services Remote Supports Services

Service Description	Procedure Codes	Billable Unit
<b>Wellness Services</b>		
Bereavement Assessment and Counseling (Conduct Assessment within first 2 hours)	96152-HI GT	15 Minutes
Bereavement Counseling Extended	96152-HI-22 GT	15 Minutes
Fitness Trainer Assessment and ongoing services (Conduct Assessment within first 2 hours)	S9451-U4 GT	15 Minutes
Fitness Trainer Extension	S9451-U4-22 GT	15 Minutes
Fitness Small Group	S9451-U1 GT	15 Minutes
Fitness Small Group Extended	S9451 U1 22 GT	15 Minutes
Nutritional Assessment and ongoing services (Conduct Assessment within first 2 hours)	S9470-U4 GT	15 Minutes
Nutritional Counseling Extended	S9470-U4-22 GT	15 Minutes
Sexual Education Assessment and ongoing services (Conduct Assessment within first 2 hours)	S9445-U4 GT	15 Minutes
Sexual Education Extended	S9445-U4-22 GT	15 Minutes

## RSS Resources

For more information about HCBS IDD and IFS Waivers Remote Supports Services (RSS), to include service delivery limitations, provider requirements, staffing ratios, etc., please visit the DDS website at the following links:

- **Public Health Emergency Unwinding Plan:**  
<https://dds.dc.gov/publications/ComplianceGuides/spa/spa/aggregate>
- **IDD/IFS Waiver Service Descriptions, IDD/IFS Waiver Remote Supports Services Descriptions, and the Remote Supports Services Descriptions:** [IDD and IFS Waiver Services Descriptions | dds \(dc.gov\)](#).
- **Remote Supports Procedure Overview:**  
[https://dds.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dds/publication/attachments/Remote%20Supports%20Procedure%20Overview%20Pre%20HCBS%20Committee\\_.pdf](https://dds.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dds/publication/attachments/Remote%20Supports%20Procedure%20Overview%20Pre%20HCBS%20Committee_.pdf)
- **IDD and IFS Waiver Rates (Effective July 1, 2023):** <https://dds.dc.gov/publication/idd-waiver-rates>

## Contact

If you have questions about this transmittal, please contact Pamela Harmon, Supervisory Medicaid Waiver Specialist, at [Pamela.Harmon@dc.gov](mailto:Pamela.Harmon@dc.gov) or 202-730-1585 or contact Musu Fofana, Program Manager of the Service Planning and Coordination Division (SPCD), at [Musu.Fofana@dc.gov](mailto:Musu.Fofana@dc.gov) or 202-730-1621.