



Medicaid Benefits and Health Programs Group

June 15, 2023

Melisa Byrd, District Medicaid Director
Department of Health Care Finance
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Director Byrd:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving the District of Columbia's request to amend the following 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic:

WAIVER TITLE	CMS AMENDMENT CONTROL NUMBER
Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Waiver	DC.0307.R05.02
Individual and Family Support (IFS) Waiver	DC.1766.R00.07

The District's approved Appendix K is effective March 11, 2020 through six months after the end of the federal public health emergency (PHE) for COVID-19. The amendments that the District has requested in the Appendix K apply in all locations served by the individual waivers for anyone impacted by COVID-19. Effective May 12, 2023, the District will phase out flexibilities regarding companion services as part of the District's plan to return to approved operations in the base waivers.

Please note the guidance issued in the December 22, 2020, State Health Official Letter ([SHO](#)); specifically, the requirement for advance notice of beneficiaries. When closing an Appendix K or ending an Appendix K flexibility prior to the end date of the Appendix K, the requirement for advance notice of beneficiaries applies. More details can be found on pages 11-12 of the SHO.

CMS reminds the District that the District must have an approved spending plan in order to use the money realized from section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP). Approval of this action does not constitute approval of the District's spending plan.

We have included the approved Appendix K pages with this correspondence. Please utilize the waiver management system for the HCBS waiver for any future amendments to this waiver program other than the Appendix K.

Page Two – Byrd

If you need assistance, feel free to contact Daphne Hicks of my staff at 214-767-6471 or by e-mail at Daphne.Hicks@cms.hhs.gov or Marge Sciulli at 410-786-0691 or by e-mail at Margherita.Sciulli@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Alissa Mooney DeBoy, Director
MBHPG

Enclosure