



LIFE. YOUR WAY.
Department on
Disability Services

Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Waiver

Virtual Public Forum

Department on Disability Services

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

Proposed Changes



The District is proposing to continue all utilized services and supports for people currently enrolled in the District's IDD Waiver Program. The District will be expanding IDD waiver eligibility to people with Developmental Disabilities (DD) without a diagnosis of an Intellectual Disability (ID). The District will add new services to include remote supports services and Telehealth services.



Proposed Changes – 3 Types



1. Service changes to include new services and updating scope of specific services
2. Systemic changes that relate to clarifying roles, eligibility and enrollment, reserved capacity, staff vaccination requirements and provider oversight compliance
3. Set reimbursement rates for proposed new services, contribution to cost of residential supports and DSP supplemental payments



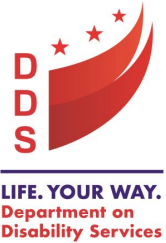
Proposed Service Changes: Assistive Technology

The District is proposing to modify Assistive Technology services by adding additional allowable assistive technology items which includes virtual assistants/smart speakers, environmental controls devices, applications for prompting, and guidance and navigation.

Not indicated in the Public Notice:

The District is proposing to also modifying the requirement for an assistive technology assessment to include assistive technology that costs under \$1,000, no longer requires an assessment. Providers can acquire assistive technology based on the person's support team justification of need in the Individual Service Plan (ISP).

Proposed Service Changes: Assistive Technology Cont'd



Not indicated in the Public Notice:

The District is also proposing for Assistive Technology that costs over \$1,000 must include an assistive technology assessment conducted by a professional of: occupational therapy; physical therapy; speech, hearing, and language services; assistive technology professional (RESNA Certified); Certified Enabling Technology Integration Specialist (ETIS) employed by a SHIFT accredited waiver service provider; or another comparable national accreditation body, as approved by DDS.

The District is also proposing to modify provider qualifications for assistive technology services to include Certified Enabling Technologies Specialist Certification and Accredited Technology First Organizations for assistive technology services.



Proposed Service Changes: Remote Supports Services

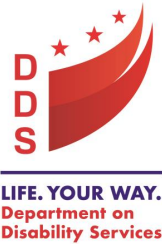
The District is proposing a new service, remote supports. Remote Supports Services will enable persons to be more independent and less reliant on staff to be physically present to receive support. The remote supports service will be available for the following waiver services:

- Assistive Technology
- Behavioral Supports
- Bereavement Counseling
- Creative Art Therapies
- Day Habilitation
- Employment Readiness
- Family Training
- Fitness Training
- Nutrition Evaluation/Consultation
- Occupational Therapy
- Parenting Supports
- Sexuality Education
- Speech, Hearing and Language
- Supported Employment
- Supported Living w/without Transp.
- Supported Living Periodic w/without Transp.

Proposed Service Changes: Remote Supports Services Cont'd

The District is proposing Remote support services to be a separate billable service with a specialized rate different from the in-person service delivery rate in some circumstances. Remote support service rates for the following services will maintain the same rates: speech, hearing and language services, occupational therapy services, bereavement counseling, fitness training services, nutrition evaluation/consultation services, sexuality education services, supported employment and creative art therapies services.

Proposed Service Changes: Telehealth Services



The District is proposing a new service, telehealth. Telehealth services will provide specific medical advice on when waiver participants should seek additional or in-person medical treatment via virtual applications to persons residing in host home, supported living and residential habilitation settings.

A person can receive telehealth services in their home, and it acts as a triage, but does not duplicate Medicaid services covered under the State Plan. Telehealth services provide a real time health assessment to determine the best clinical course of action, often avoiding unnecessary emergency room visits, and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by a licensed physician. Telehealth includes video assisted examinations, prescription refills, treatment plans and coordination of care.



Proposed Systemic Changes

The District is proposing the following changes and systems improvements to comply with statutory requirements, clarify roles, eligibility and enrollment, reserved capacity, staff vaccination requirements and provider oversight compliance:

- **Appendix B:**

- Clarifies roles and responsibilities of Health Insurance Analysts and Medicaid Waiver Specialists in completing and submitting the Medicaid recertification form to the Department of Human Services, Economic Security Administration at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of the person's Medicaid eligibility period.
- Modifies the waiver enrollment process. The proposed modification will base enrollment into the IDD waiver on the individuals' identified needs. The Interdisciplinary Team will discuss services based on the individuals' specified need(s) and the most appropriate waiver will be explored.

Proposed Systemic Changes

- **Appendix B:** The District is proposing to modify who is eligible to receive waiver services by expanding IDD Waiver services to individuals with DD without a diagnosis of an Intellectual Disability (ID). The proposed DD eligibility expansion also incorporates modifications to the definitions of DD and ID and amends the waiver eligibility criteria to acknowledge that onset of ID can occur after age eighteen (18) up to age twenty-two (22). Whereas criteria before required onset of ID prior to age eighteen (18).
- Adds a provision that at the Individual Service Plan (ISP) meeting, people will be informed of the availability of both the IDD and Individual and Family Support (IFS) waivers.
- Adds COVID-19 vaccination requirements for direct care staff to align with DC Health requirements.

Proposed Systemic Changes



- **Appendix B:** The District is proposing to modify the reserved capacity for CFSA to DDS and ICF/IDD reserved slots. The District will change reserve capacity from 15 to 10 slots per year for each year of the waiver for young adults who are wards of the District and are transitioning from the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) to adult services in DDS/DDA. The District will change reserve capacity from five (5) to three (3) slots per year for each year of the waiver to transition people who seek to move from ICF/IDD settings to HCBS waiver services. Adds two (2) reserved capacity slots for people transitioning from the IFS waiver to the IDD waiver.
- Adds a new performance measure for provider oversight compliance and removes performance measures that maintained consistent oversight compliance.



Proposed Systemic Changes

- **Appendix I: Reimbursement Changes** - Adds a supplemental payment for waiver services. The District will be paying supplemental payments to qualifying waiver providers to support increased wages for defined DSPs starting FY2023 and as necessary annually to alleviate the workforce shortage. The District will make an annual evaluation of the supplemental payment to determine if the result of the supplemental payment warrants an increase in the base wage of the DSPs used in the rate calculation to maintain sustainability.
- Adds the requirement of contribution to cost of residential supports. Under D.C. law, all persons receiving residential services and supports are required to contribute to the cost of those supports and for items such as rent, food, clothing, medical expenses, furniture, utilities, and other personal items and equipment. The law covers people living in host homes, residential habilitation, and supported living settings. Most people contribute to costs from their public benefits, such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). People who are employed and still receive public benefits contribute to the cost of residential services and supports based on their combined income.
- Adds a new performance measure for provider oversight compliance and removes performance measures that maintained consistent oversight compliance.

Questions?

Written Comments on the proposed IDD Waiver renewal and amendment shall be submitted to:

Katherine Rogers, Director, Administration of Long-Term Care
Department of Health Care Finance
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 900S, Washington, D.C. 20001, or
via email at Katherine.rogers@dc.gov during the thirty (30)
calendar day public comment period, beginning April 29,
2022, and ending May 30, 2022.

