



## COVID-19 DDA Services

*Temporary changes, effective March 13, 2020, and Revised June 17, 2022*

### Service Delivery Flexibilities

- May be provided over the phone, or by Skype, Zoom, Facetime, etc. to allow services to continue to be provided remotely in the home and community settings (Ends on September 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver and PCP)
- May be provided in a variety of settings such as residential sites, family homes, and other community setting (Ends on September 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver and PCP)
- May provide this service for people who are in an acute care hospital or short-term institutional stay
- Suspend requirement for individualized schedule (Ends on September 30, 2022)
- Suspend six hour minimum for services in a day under traditional service delivery model- **provider may bill for the entire day in PCIS2 only** if provide the person with, at minimum, **one hour** from March 13, 2020 to March 31, 2022 and **three hours** from April 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022 of cumulative supports during that day (Ends on September 30, 2022)
- Personal care assistance may comprise the entirety of the service, as appropriate (Ends on September 30, 2022)

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### Staffing Flexibilities

- Staffing ratios may be exceeded due to staffing shortages (Ends on September 30, 2022)
- Hire relatives and legally responsible individuals\* (Ends on September 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver)
- Hiring of spouses and parents of minor children\* (Ends on September 30, 2022, unless otherwise authorized in the federally approved waiver)
- Expedited onboarding with only essential training required prior to supporting people (Ends on September 30, 2022)

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### Service Authorization Flexibilities

- May be provided any day of the week and exceed eight hours a day and 40 hours per week within a person's authorized budget (Ends on September 30, 2022)

Visit our website for additional COVID-19 resources:

[https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/DDA\\_Appendix\\_K.aspx](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/DDA_Appendix_K.aspx)

Have questions? Email them to: [dda.toolkitinfo@maryland.gov](mailto:dda.toolkitinfo@maryland.gov)

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## Retainer Payments

- Add COVID-19 Retainer Payment at up to 80% of the rate: (Ends on September 30, 2022)
  - Traditional Service Delivery Model: Up to 30 days
  - Pilot Providers: Up to 180 hours
- DDA will share guidance on documentation and billing for retainer days

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