

Community Pathways Waiver Amendment #4

March 2026

What Is Changing and Why

The Developmental Disabilities Administration is proposing updates to the Community Pathways Waiver.

These changes are needed to:

- Keep the program strong and sustainable
 - Follow federal Medicaid rules
 - Make sure services are fair and consistent across Maryland
 - Continue protecting people's health and safety
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Changes to Individual Budgets

What is changing?

- There is a limit to how much funding each person can receive under the waiver.
- However, there can be exceptions if someone needs more than the limit. There is a formal exception process.
- Requests for extra funding must include clear documentation.
- Requests for enhanced rate, overnight, 1:1, or 2:1 staff must clearly explain:
 - Why extra staff are needed
 - What staff will do
 - When the support is needed

- Teams must explain other options (like assistive technology) before requesting dedicated staff.

Why?

- Federal rules require the waiver program to stay within certain cost limits.
 - To make sure funding decisions are based on documented needs.
 - To ensure fairness and consistency across the State.
 - To use public funds responsibly so the program can continue serving people long-term.
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Where to get more information?

Information about this update was posted on the Community Pathways Amendment #4 webpage on March 2, 2026:

<https://tinyurl.com/45edtn7m>

You can also learn more about the Community Pathways Waiver and past updates here:

<https://tinyurl.com/37fnpht5>

You can ask for a paper copy of the proposed changes by emailing:

wfb.dda@maryland.gov

Paper copies are also available at:

- DDA Regional Offices
- MDH Headquarters

If you need help getting a paper copy, you can ask your **Coordinator of Community Services (CCS)** or your service provider for support.

How to Share Your Comments

You can share your thoughts about the proposed changes by:

- Emailing: **wfb.dda@maryland.gov**
- Mailing a letter to:
DDA Federal Programs Unit
201 West Preston Street, 4th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201

Comment Period

You can send comments from **March 2, 2026, through April 1, 2026.**