

Archived

The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) receives questions regarding programs, services, processes, and new initiatives directly and during topic specific webinars. These Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) previously shared are no longer relevant.

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▶ Revised Date: **05.26.2023**

I. Appendix K

~~1. Does this mean Appendix K hours billed in LTSS now need to be put through the end of the plan year?~~

- ~~• Yes. Please review the [DDA Appendix K #12 – COVID-19 Related Personal Supports and Supported Living – March 11, 2021](#) guidance.~~

~~2. Since the PHE has been extended to July 20, this means that Appendix K will be in effect until January 19, 2022, correct?~~

- ~~• The federal government has extended the PHE another 90 days, making the new expiration date July 20, 2021. This means that the flexibilities offered in the DDA's Appendix K will be extended until January 19, 2022. Please note if the federal PHE is extended again, the DDA's Appendix K flexibility's end date will also be extended.~~

~~3. What is meant by “Alternative service sites” listed under “Rescind/Suspend to Unwind: 8.15.2021 (COVID exposure/outbreak flexibilities)*”?~~

- ~~• Due to the possible need to relocate participants in response to COVID exposure or outbreak (i.e., separating, self-isolating, or quarantining); services may be provided in alternative settings (whether or not the setting has been surveyed by the State prior to use). Alternative sites include, but are not limited to, hotels, schools, churches, other community established sites, alternative facility based setting, or the home of a direct care worker.~~

II. Billing

~~1. When was the notice sent to Providers about the recoupment of PS FY21 funds?~~

The Memo [Q4 FY 2021 Payment Notification](#) was issued on March 30, 2021.

~~1.~~

III. COVID-19 Guidance

~~1. Just to clarify, the mask mandate for health care (including group homes) is lifted for vaccinated individuals and staff, but all unvaccinated~~

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~~individuals should continue to wear face coverings indoors and outdoors when physical distancing cannot be maintained, correct?~~

- ~~• MDH published [updated recommendations](#) for providers and the public, effective July 1st. Staff at congregate care facilities should follow the [CDC's current guidance](#) on face masks, that all healthcare providers continue to wear face masks when in shared areas of the facility.~~

IV. DDA Communications

V. DDA Provider Applications

VI. Eligibility and Application

~~1. If someone is currently under Community Pathways Waiver for Day Habilitation, will they now be moved to the Community Supports Waiver?~~

- ~~• No, if an individual is currently enrolled in the Community Supports Waiver, they will remain in that waiver program.~~

VII. Person-Centered Planning

~~1. During the process of developing new plans in LTSS for participants in self-direction from now until June 30, 2021, what support is being made available and will these new plans change my annual plan date?~~

- ~~• The DDA is undertaking an initiative between now and June 30, 2021, to ensure all participants' self-directing services have a current approved plan and budget. This process will involve the review of all self-directed plans to ensure that everyone has a plan that fully reflects their needs.~~
- ~~• For those plans coming due between now and June, these reviews will be coordinated as usual through your upcoming annual PCP planning~~

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process. For those plans due after June, there will need to be a review and an update before the end of June which will be supported by your CCS. These reviews and updates will not change your annual plan date.

~~2. Is the cost detail sheet being replaced by the Detailed Service Authorization in LTSS Maryland for self-directed services?~~

- ~~• Yes~~

Budget Development - Self-Direction

~~1. When will information about self-direction COLA be shared?~~

- ~~• You will receive information from the DDA detailing COLA increases in your budget and your FMS will also be contacting you directly to provide you with assistance in applying these increases to your budget. Future COLA will automatically be incorporated in the services authorized in the PCP detailed service authorization section. If you do not receive information, please contact your regional office self-direction lead staff with questions.~~

~~2. What services within my budget can the COLA be applied to and what is the process and timeline for applying the increases?~~

- ~~• The COLA is a cost of living adjustment for employees. COLA funding is limited to wages, salaries, benefits and for purchase of goods and services. COLA funding may not be used for staff bonus(es); items or services not related to staff services; or items or services not covered under the DDA's Waiver (s) services. Resource: [DDA Memo – Self-Directed Services Program – COLA Increase for Fiscal Year 2018 – July 10, 2017](#)~~

Service Implementation Plan

~~1. How should SIPs be completed for individuals who have more than one outcome for a service?~~

- ~~a. A SIP form should be created for each outcome the provider is supporting. Some outcomes have more than one service associated with it. In this case, the services can be noted and service specific implementation strategies can be noted for the different goals.~~

VII. Self-Direction

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B. Benefits and Rates

~~1. 4% COLA in FY22 payment, is that the new rate for FY22?~~

- ~~• The Rates for FY22 are inclusive of the July 2020 COLA, as well as the July 2021 COLA that was accelerated to January 2021.~~

~~2. The 4% COLA, is that in addition to the rate increase that occurred in January of 2021?~~

- ~~• The July 2021 4% COLA was accelerated to January 2021. No additional increase was applied in July.~~

~~3. There was a mention of a rate increase being retroactive to Q1 and Q2. What fiscal year does that apply to and can you elaborate?~~

- ~~• The July 2021 4% COLA was accelerated to January 2021 for FY'20.~~

VIII. Services

~~6. If virtual supports are provided on a specific day, must this reach the 6 total service hours after unwinding?~~

- ~~a. Following unwinding and the expiration of the current emergency regulation on 12/31/21, meaningful day services must return to a minimum hours in order to bill for the day. In accordance with the individual's preference, these hours can include in person and virtual supports. Virtual supports cannot comprise the entirety of supports.~~

~~IX. Are CCSs allowed to do home visits, group home visits, and site visits?~~

- ~~• Yes, CCSs are permitted to do home visits, group home visits and site visits. Please note, that this is an agency decision, however the DDA is in full support of conducting visits with the proper safety protocols in place.~~

X. Electronic Visit Verification

~~1. Can you edit employee time using the telephonic system?~~

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- ~~Yes. All FMCS agencies allow the employee or employer to edit time. Reach out to your FMCS for information and assistance~~

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