

What Does This Mean To Me?

June 2019

Individuals Who Use Waivers

In March 2019, the Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) released amended 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver applications for public comment. Since the public comment period closed on April 15, 2019, DMS has reviewed the comments and revised the proposed amendments as needed. The summary below describes the changed and unchanged waiver application language on popular topics.

Eligibility and Enrollment

The **target populations and eligibility criteria for the waivers will not change** at this time. However, DMS is implementing new waiver **wait list management criteria**. The criteria will be used to determine the individuals most in need of services and enroll them in the waiver first.

The amount of money waiver participants must contribute to the cost of services, called **patient liability, will be much less than before**. For some waiver participants, the change means you may not need to contribute any money to your waiver services.

Covered Services

The **services offered in each waiver have not changed. Some of the services will have a different name**. Please see the “What Does This Mean to Me? Covered Services” document for each waiver for additional information. It is available online at the DMS Division of Community Alternatives (DCA) website (<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/dca/Pages/default.aspx>).

Case Management

Your case manager will be able to approve some waiver services. This will allow you to receive services more quickly. A list of services authorized by case managers can be found in the “What Does This Mean to Me? Covered Services” document. It is available online at the DMS DCA website (<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/dca/Pages/default.aspx>). In the future, case managers will have the following supports from DMS to improve person-centered planning:

Service
Authorization
Training

Case
Manager Help
Desk

Service Plan
Monitoring

Participant Directed Services

DMS will continue to offer the participant directed services (PDS) option in the ABI, ABI LTC, HCB, MPW, and SCL waivers. Waiver participants will continue to be allowed to hire legally responsible individuals (LRIs), such as parents or spouses, as PDS employees. Additional information on changes to the process for approving LRIs as PDS employees and background check requirements for all PDS employees can be found in the “What Does This Mean to Me? Participant Directed Services” document on the DMS DCA website (<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/dca/Pages/default.aspx>).

Appeals and Grievances

DMS will establish a **waiver participant help desk** where participants can file grievances and complaints about DMS or service providers. Participants may ask their case managers for assistance with filing complaints, if needed.

Critical Incident Reporting

DMS is improving the health, safety, and welfare of participants by updating its incident reporting materials and streamlining the incident reporting process across all 1915(c) HCBS waivers. Service providers, case managers and support brokers are required to use the updated incident reporting materials beginning in June 2019. More information on critical incident reporting updates can be found on the DCA website, (<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/dca/Pages/default.aspx>) including recordings of training webinars, the updated incident reporting materials, the instruction guide, and the Critical Incident FAQ.

Provider Rates

DMS is conducting a rate methodology study for all 1915(c) HCBS waivers. **The results of the study will be shared later this year.** DMS does not plan on changing any rates for 1915(c) HCBS waivers until the rate study is complete.

Additional Resources and Contact Information

Check the DCA website at <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/dca/Pages/default.aspx> for **announcements and additional resources** including FAQs, webinars, educational documents, information on the HCBS Advisory Panel (HCBS-AP) and subpanels, and the official DMS response to the March-April 2019 waiver amendment public comment period. You can email questions or comments about 1915(c) HCBS waiver redesign to medicaidpubliccomment@ky.gov.