**EOHHS Listening Session**

**Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Amendment Application:**

Adult Supports Waiver, Community Living Waiver, and Intensive Supports Waiver

April 22, 2024

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**Agenda**

* Introductions
* Overview of Waiver Amendments
* Summary of Changes Being Proposed
* Process & Timeline
* Public Comments

**Common Acronyms and Terms**

CMS - Centers for Medicate and Medicaid Services

EOHHS - Executive Office of Health and Human Services

HCBS - Home and Community Based Services

MassHealth - The Massachusetts Medicaid Program

DDS – Department of Developmental Services

ICF/IID – Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disability

**Overview: Waiver Amendment Process**

* CMS typically approves Home and Community Based Services waivers for a period of five years.
* Changes to an approved waiver must be submitted to CMS through a Request for an Amendment.
* MassHealth and DDS jointly developed the amendment applications.
* The draft waiver amendment applications are posted for a 30-day public comment period that ends on April 30, 2024.
* Today we are holding a listening session to hear public comments about the amendment applications.

**Overview: Adult Supports Waiver, Community Living Waiver, and Intensive Supports Waiver**

These waivers provide services and supports to adults, age 22 years and older, who are at an ICF/IID level of care.

* Adult Supports Waiver (AS): serves individuals who require community-based supports to reside successfully in the community, and who have a strong natural or informal support system. Participants live in family homes, adult foster care, or independently and do not require 24-hour care.
* Community Living Waiver (CL): serves individuals who require a moderate level of assistance. Participants live in family homes, adult foster care, with a live-in caregiver, or independently and do not require 24-hour care.
* Intensive Supports Waiver (IS): serves individuals who require 24/7 supervision and support to avoid institutionalization.

**Summary of Proposed Changes in these Amendments**

* Increase the current spending limit in the DDS-AS Waiver from $40,000 to $60,000 to accommodate existing and future waiver service rate increases.
* Increase the current spending limit in the DDS-CL Waiver from $70,000 to $100,000 to accommodate existing and future waiver service rate increases.
* Revise the Placement Services (Shared Living) – 24 Hour Supports service definition, in the DDS-IS Waiver, to allow for cases where a third individual may be placed in the home.

**Process: HCBS Waiver Renewal**

1. DDS and MassHealth collaborate to identify updates
2. Gather public input
3. Review public comments and make additional revisions to the amendment application where appropriate
4. Request CMS approval
5. Implement updates when waiver amendment authorization period begins

**Timeline**

Request approval from CMS at least three months prior to desired effective date

**Target submission date**

June 2024

**Target effective date**

September 1, 2024

**Public Comment: EOHHS requests public input**

* **Last day to submit comments: April 30, 2024**
* Comments can be submitted via email or mail to EOHHS:
  + Email: [HCBSWaivers@mass.gov](mailto:HCBSWaivers@mass.gov) (Please state “DDS Adult ID Waiver Comments” in the subject line)
  + Mail: HCBS Waiver Unit, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, RE: DDS Adult ID Waiver Comments, 1 Ashburton Place, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02108
* The applications with proposed changes and this presentation are posted online:
  + <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/home-and-community-based-services-waiver-renewal-and-amendment-applications-public-input-process>
  + Hard copies of the applications with proposed changes are available upon request. Please use email or mailing address above.

**Public Comment:   
Oral Comment at Today’s Listening Session**

* Share your input with us today
* Please state your name and affiliation (e.g., waiver participant, family member, waiver service provider, etc.)
* Oral comment at today’s session does **not** need to be submitted in writing
* If you wish to provide comments but are unable to do so during today’s session, please email your comments by April 30, 2024.

***Thank you!***