# EOHHS Listening Session

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

Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver

March 17, 2021

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***Thank you!***

## Agenda

* Introductions
* Overview of Waiver Amendment
* 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

MRC - Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

## Overview: Massachusetts is amending the Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver

* 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 in the form of a Request for an Amendment.
* MassHealth and MRC jointly developed the amended application.
* The draft waiver amendment application is posted for a 30-day public comment period that ends on April 1, 2021.
* Today we are holding a listening session to hear public comment about the amended application.

## Summary of Changes to Waiver

* The purpose of this amendment is to address certain needs of the population served by this waiver that were identified during the COVID-19 emergency and that are anticipated to continue beyond the public health emergency.
* Expands the scope of the existing Specialized Medical Equipment waiver service.
* Expands the scope of the existing Transitional Assistance waiver service.
* Updates the Adult Companion and Individual Support and Community Habilitation (ISCH) provider qualifications and adds a new rate regulation for ISCH.
* Revises the existing waiver service, Day Services, by adding a new provider type, updating the service definition, and adding new rates.

## Process: HCBS Waiver Amendment

* 1. MRC and MassHealth collaborate to identify updates
  2. Gather public input
  3. Review public comments and make additional revisions to amended 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

April 2021

## Target effective date

Three (3) months after submission date

## Public Comment: TBI requests public input

* Last day to submit comments: **April 1, 2021**
* Comments can be emailed to EOHHS:
  + [HCBSWaivers@mass.gov](mailto:HCBSWaivers@mass.gov) (Please state “TBI Comments” in the subject line)
* Application with the proposed amendments and this presentation are posted online:
  + <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/home-and-community-based-services-waiver-renewal-and-amendment-applications-public>
* Hard copies of the application with proposed amendments available upon request.
  + Email request to [HCBSWaivers@mass.gov](mailto:HCBSWaivers@mass.gov) (Please state “TBI Comments” in the subject line)

## 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 to [HCBSWaivers@mass.gov](mailto:HCBSWaivers@mass.gov) (Please state “TBI Comments” in the subject line) by **April 1, 2021.**

***Thank you!***