Application for a §1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver

PURPOSE OF THE HCBS WAIVER PROGRAM

The Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver program is authorized in §1915(c) of the Social Security Act. The program permits a state to furnish an array of home and community-based services that assist Medicaid beneficiaries to live in the community and avoid institutionalization. The State has broad discretion to design its waiver program to address the needs of the waivers target population. Waiver services complement and/or supplement the services that are available to participants through the Medicaid State plan and other federal, state and local public programs as well as the supports that families and communities provide.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recognizes that the design and operational features of a waiver program will vary depending on the specific needs of the target population, the resources available to the state, service delivery system structure, state goals and objectives, and other factors. A State has the latitude to design a waiver program that is cost-effective and employs a variety of service delivery approaches, including participant direction of services.

Request for an Amendment to a §1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver

1. Request Information

A. The State of Alabama requests approval for an amendment to the following Medicaid home and community-based services waiver approved under authority of §1915(c) of the Social Security Act.

B. Program Title:

Alabama HCBS Living at Home Waiver for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (LAH Waiver)

C. Waiver Number: AL.0391

Original Base Waiver Number: AL.0391

D. Amendment Number:

E. Proposed Effective Date: (mm/dd/yy)

02/01/21

Approved Effective Date of Waiver being Amended: 10/01/20

2. Purpose(s) of Amendment

Purpose(s) of the Amendment. Describe the purpose(s) of the amendment:

The reason for this amendment is to implement a change in how annual attrition of waiver enrollees will be utilized to support the growth and expansion of the Community Waiver Program (AL.1746) and increase overall statewide access to HCBS Waiver services for persons with intellectual disabilities. With approval of this waiver amendment, at the end of each fiscal year (starting 9/20/21), the state will determine the total number of unduplicated slots in the Intellectual Disabilities (ID) Waiver (AL.0001) and the Living at Home (LAH) Waiver (AL.0391) that are unfilled due to attrition (“attrition slots”). ID and LAH services will be supplanted by Community Waiver Program services in the pilot counties where the latter program is implemented, so new applicants for waiver services living in those pilot counties will only apply for the Community Waiver Program. The state will transfer, from the ID and LAH Waivers to the Community Waiver Program, funding associated with the percentage of the total attrition slots that equates to the percentage of the current waiting list that resides in the counties to be covered by Community Waiver Program in the next fiscal year. The state will use this funding to create additional slots in the Community Waiver Program that at least equal the number of attrition slots eliminated in this waiver.

The state will annually update the unduplicated slot count for this waiver through a Technical Amendment to this waiver. Attrition slots not transferred to the Community Waiver Program will be available to replenish reserve capacity slots each fiscal year to the number identified in this Waiver Amendment application, for counties outside of the Community Waiver Program counties. The remainder of available slots will be available for enrollment of people from the Waiting List in areas outside of the Community Waiver Program counties. ADMH has data from recent years showing these available slots represent more than what has been the average number of people per year enrolled from the Waiting List in the counties not served by CWP. Thus, there will be no reduction in access.
3. Nature of the Amendment

A. Component(s) of the Approved Waiver Affected by the Amendment. This amendment affects the following component(s) of the approved waiver. Revisions to the affected subsection(s) of these component(s) are being submitted concurrently (check each that applies):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component of the Approved Waiver</th>
<th>Subsection(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Waiver Application</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Appendix A Waiver Administration and Operation</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix B Participant Access and Eligibility</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix C Participant Services</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix D Participant Centered Service Planning and Delivery</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix E Participant Direction of Services</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix F Participant Rights</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix H</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix I Financial Accountability</td>
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<td>☐ Appendix J Cost-Neutrality Demonstration</td>
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B. Nature of the Amendment. Indicate the nature of the changes to the waiver that are proposed in the amendment (check each that applies):

- ☐ Modify target group(s)
- ☐ Modify Medicaid eligibility
- ☐ Add/delete services
- ☐ Revise service specifications
- ☐ Revise provider qualifications
- ☐ Increase/decrease number of participants
- ☐ Revise cost neutrality demonstration
Add participant-direction of services

Other
Specify:

Application for a §1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver

1. Request Information (1 of 3)

A. The State of Alabama requests approval for a Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver under the authority of §1915(c) of the Social Security Act (the Act).

B. Program Title (optional - this title will be used to locate this waiver in the finder):

Alabama HCBS Living at Home Waiver for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (LAH Waiver)

C. Type of Request: amendment

Requested Approval Period: (For new waivers requesting five year approval periods, the waiver must serve individuals who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare.)

☐ 3 years ☐ 5 years

Original Base Waiver Number: AL.0391
Draft ID: AL.008.04.01

D. Type of Waiver (select only one):

Regular Waiver

E. Proposed Effective Date of Waiver being Amended: 10/01/20
Approved Effective Date of Waiver being Amended: 10/01/20

1. Request Information (2 of 3)

F. Level(s) of Care. This waiver is requested in order to provide home and community-based waiver services to individuals who, but for the provision of such services, would require the following level(s) of care, the costs of which would be reimbursed under the approved Medicaid state plan (check each that applies):

☐ Hospital
Select applicable level of care

☐ Hospital as defined in 42 CFR §440.10
If applicable, specify whether the state additionally limits the waiver to subcategories of the hospital level of care:

☐ Inpatient psychiatric facility for individuals age 21 and under as provided in 42 CFR §440.160

☐ Nursing Facility
Select applicable level of care

☐ Nursing Facility as defined in 42 CFR §§440.40 and 42 CFR §§440.155
If applicable, specify whether the state additionally limits the waiver to subcategories of the nursing facility level of care:

☐ Institution for Mental Disease for persons with mental illnesses aged 65 and older as provided in 42 CFR...
1. Request Information (3 of 3)

G. Concurrent Operation with Other Programs. This waiver operates concurrently with another program (or programs) approved under the following authorities
Select one:
- ☑ Not applicable
- ☐ Applicable

Check the applicable authority or authorities:
- ☐ Services furnished under the provisions of §1915(a)(1)(a) of the Act and described in Appendix I
- ☐ Waiver(s) authorized under §1915(b) of the Act.
  Specify the §1915(b) waiver program and indicate whether a §1915(b) waiver application has been submitted or previously approved:

Specify the §1915(b) authorities under which this program operates (check each that applies):
- ☐ §1915(b)(1) (mandated enrollment to managed care)
- ☐ §1915(b)(2) (central broker)
- ☐ §1915(b)(3) (employ cost savings to furnish additional services)
- ☐ §1915(b)(4) (selective contracting/limit number of providers)
- ☐ A program operated under §1932(a) of the Act.
  Specify the nature of the state plan benefit and indicate whether the state plan amendment has been submitted or previously approved:

- ☐ A program authorized under §1915(i) of the Act.
- ☐ A program authorized under §1915(j) of the Act.
- ☐ A program authorized under §1115 of the Act.
  Specify the program:

H. Dual Eligibility for Medicaid and Medicare.
Check if applicable:
- ☑ This waiver provides services for individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid.

2. Brief Waiver Description

Brief Waiver Description. In one page or less, briefly describe the purpose of the waiver, including its goals, objectives, organizational structure (e.g., the roles of state, local and other entities), and service delivery methods.
This waiver supports individuals in Alabama who have a diagnosis of Intellectual Disabilities and who would otherwise require the level of care offered in an ICF/IID and need HCBS to be integrated fully into their communities. The waiver is operated by the Alabama Department of Mental Health Division of Developmental Disabilities (ADMH/DDD) under an agreement with, and supervision by, the Alabama Medicaid Agency. ADMH/DDD operates five regional offices and contracts with local public agencies known as 310 Boards for targeted case management (support coordination) for waiver participants.

This waiver is a support waiver, with a cost cap, for individuals who do not need a formal, paid residential setting, and who can achieve an adequate and appropriate level of support with funding that does not exceed the cost cap.

3. Components of the Waiver Request

The waiver application consists of the following components. Note: Item 3-E must be completed.

A. Waiver Administration and Operation. Appendix A specifies the administrative and operational structure of this waiver.

B. Participant Access and Eligibility. Appendix B specifies the target group(s) of individuals who are served in this waiver, the number of participants that the state expects to serve during each year that the waiver is in effect, applicable Medicaid eligibility and post-eligibility (if applicable) requirements, and procedures for the evaluation and reevaluation of level of care.

C. Participant Services. Appendix C specifies the home and community-based waiver services that are furnished through the waiver, including applicable limitations on such services.

D. Participant-Centered Service Planning and Delivery. Appendix D specifies the procedures and methods that the state uses to develop, implement and monitor the participant-centered service plan (of care).

E. Participant-Direction of Services. When the state provides for participant direction of services, Appendix E specifies the participant direction opportunities that are offered in the waiver and the supports that are available to participants who direct their services. (Select one):

- Yes. This waiver provides participant direction opportunities. Appendix E is required.
- No. This waiver does not provide participant direction opportunities. Appendix E is not required.

F. Participant Rights. Appendix F specifies how the state informs participants of their Medicaid Fair Hearing rights and other procedures to address participant grievances and complaints.

G. Participant Safeguards. Appendix G describes the safeguards that the state has established to assure the health and welfare of waiver participants in specified areas.

H. Quality Improvement Strategy. Appendix H contains the Quality Improvement Strategy for this waiver.

I. Financial Accountability. Appendix I describes the methods by which the state makes payments for waiver services, ensures the integrity of these payments, and complies with applicable federal requirements concerning payments and federal financial participation.

J. Cost-Neutrality Demonstration. Appendix J contains the state's demonstration that the waiver is cost-neutral.

4. Waiver(s) Requested

A. Comparability. The state requests a waiver of the requirements contained in §1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act in order to provide the services specified in Appendix C that are not otherwise available under the approved Medicaid state plan to individuals who: (a) require the level(s) of care specified in Item 1.F and (b) meet the target group criteria specified in Appendix B.

B. Income and Resources for the Medically Needy. Indicate whether the state requests a waiver of §1902(a)(10)(C)(i)(III) of the Act in order to use institutional income and resource rules for the medically needy (select one):

- Not Applicable
- No
- Yes

C. Statewideness. Indicate whether the state requests a waiver of the statewideness requirements in §1902(a)(1) of the Act
(select one):

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

If yes, specify the waiver of statewideness that is requested (check each that applies):

- ☐ Geographic Limitation. A waiver of statewideness is requested in order to furnish services under this waiver only to individuals who reside in the following geographic areas or political subdivisions of the state. Specify the areas to which this waiver applies and, as applicable, the phase-in schedule of the waiver by geographic area:

- ☐ Limited Implementation of Participant-Direction. A waiver of statewideness is requested in order to make participant-direction of services as specified in Appendix E available only to individuals who reside in the following geographic areas or political subdivisions of the state. Participants who reside in these areas may elect to direct their services as provided by the state or receive comparable services through the service delivery methods that are in effect elsewhere in the state. Specify the areas of the state affected by this waiver and, as applicable, the phase-in schedule of the waiver by geographic area:

5. Assurances

In accordance with 42 CFR §441.302, the state provides the following assurances to CMS:

A. Health & Welfare: The state assures that necessary safeguards have been taken to protect the health and welfare of persons receiving services under this waiver. These safeguards include:

1. As specified in Appendix C, adequate standards for all types of providers that provide services under this waiver;

2. Assurance that the standards of any state licensure or certification requirements specified in Appendix C are met for services or for individuals furnishing services that are provided under the waiver. The state assures that these requirements are met on the date that the services are furnished; and,

3. Assurance that all facilities subject to §1616(e) of the Act where home and community-based waiver services are provided comply with the applicable state standards for board and care facilities as specified in Appendix C.

B. Financial Accountability. The state assures financial accountability for funds expended for home and community-based services and maintains and makes available to the Department of Health and Human Services (including the Office of the Inspector General), the Comptroller General, or other designees, appropriate financial records documenting the cost of services provided under the waiver. Methods of financial accountability are specified in Appendix I.

C. Evaluation of Need: The state assures that it provides for an initial evaluation (and periodic reevaluations, at least annually) of the need for a level of care specified for this waiver, when there is a reasonable indication that an individual might need such services in the near future (one month or less) but for the receipt of home and community-based services under this waiver. The procedures for evaluation and reevaluation of level of care are specified in Appendix B.

D. Choice of Alternatives: The state assures that when an individual is determined to be likely to require the level of care specified for this waiver and is in a target group specified in Appendix B, the individual (or, legal representative, if applicable) is:

1. Informed of any feasible alternatives under the waiver; and,

2. Given the choice of either institutional or home and community-based waiver services. Appendix B specifies the procedures that the state employs to ensure that individuals are informed of feasible alternatives under the waiver.
E. Average Per Capita Expenditures: The state assures that, for any year that the waiver is in effect, the average per capita expenditures under the waiver will not exceed 100 percent of the average per capita expenditures that would have been made under the Medicaid state plan for the level(s) of care specified for this waiver had the waiver not been granted. Cost-neutrality is demonstrated in Appendix J.

F. Actual Total Expenditures: The state assures that the actual total expenditures for home and community-based waiver and other Medicaid services and its claim for FFP in expenditures for the services provided to individuals under the waiver will not, in any year of the waiver period, exceed 100 percent of the amount that would be incurred in the absence of the waiver by the state's Medicaid program for these individuals in the institutional setting(s) specified for this waiver.

G. Institutionalization Absent Waiver: The state assures that, absent the waiver, individuals served in the waiver would receive the appropriate type of Medicaid-funded institutional care for the level of care specified for this waiver.

H. Reporting: The state assures that annually it will provide CMS with information concerning the impact of the waiver on the type, amount and cost of services provided under the Medicaid state plan and on the health and welfare of waiver participants. This information will be consistent with a data collection plan designed by CMS.

I. Habilitation Services. The state assures that prevocational, educational, or supported employment services, or a combination of these services, if provided as habilitation services under the waiver are: (1) not otherwise available to the individual through a local educational agency under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and, (2) furnished as part of expanded habilitation services.

J. Services for Individuals with Chronic Mental Illness. The state assures that federal financial participation (FFP) will not be claimed in expenditures for waiver services including, but not limited to, day treatment or partial hospitalization, psychosocial rehabilitation services, and clinic services provided as home and community-based services to individuals with chronic mental illnesses if these individuals, in the absence of a waiver, would be placed in an IMD and are: (1) age 22 to 64; (2) age 65 and older and the state has not included the optional Medicaid benefit cited in 42 CFR §440.140; or (3) age 21 and under and the state has not included the optional Medicaid benefit cited in 42 CFR § 440.160.

6. Additional Requirements

Note: Item 6-I must be completed.

A. Service Plan. In accordance with 42 CFR §441.301(b)(1)(i), a participant-centered service plan (of care) is developed for each participant employing the procedures specified in Appendix D. All waiver services are furnished pursuant to the service plan. The service plan describes: (a) the waiver services that are furnished to the participant, their projected frequency and the type of provider that furnishes each service and (b) the other services (regardless of funding source, including state plan services) and informal supports that complement waiver services in meeting the needs of the participant. The service plan is subject to the approval of the Medicaid agency. Federal financial participation (FFP) is not claimed for waiver services furnished prior to the development of the service plan or for services that are not included in the service plan.

B. Inpatients. In accordance with 42 CFR §441.301(b)(1)(ii), waiver services are not furnished to individuals who are inpatients of a hospital, nursing facility or ICF/IID.

C. Room and Board. In accordance with 42 CFR §441.310(a)(2), FFP is not claimed for the cost of room and board except when: (a) provided as part of respite services in a facility approved by the state that is not a private residence or (b) claimed as a portion of the rent and food that may be reasonably attributed to an unrelated caregiver who resides in the same household as the participant, as provided in Appendix I.

D. Access to Services. The state does not limit or restrict participant access to waiver services except as provided in Appendix C.

E. Free Choice of Provider. In accordance with 42 CFR §431.151, a participant may select any willing and qualified provider to furnish waiver services included in the service plan unless the state has received approval to limit the number of providers under the provisions of §1915(b) or another provision of the Act.

F. FFP Limitation. In accordance with 42 CFR §433 Subpart D, FFP is not claimed for services when another third-party
(e.g., another third party health insurer or other federal or state program) is legally liable and responsible for the provision and payment of the service. FFP also may not be claimed for services that are available without charge, or as free care to the community. Services will not be considered to be without charge, or free care, when (1) the provider establishes a fee schedule for each service available and (2) collects insurance information from all those served (Medicaid, and non-Medicaid), and bills other legally liable third party insurers. Alternatively, if a provider certifies that a particular legally liable third party insurer does not pay for the service(s), the provider may not generate further bills for that insurer for that annual period.

G. Fair Hearing: The state provides the opportunity to request a Fair Hearing under 42 CFR §431 Subpart E, to individuals: (a) who are not given the choice of home and community-based waiver services as an alternative to institutional level of care specified for this waiver; (b) who are denied the service(s) of their choice or the provider(s) of their choice; or (c) whose services are denied, suspended, reduced or terminated. Appendix F specifies the state's procedures to provide individuals the opportunity to request a Fair Hearing, including providing notice of action as required in 42 CFR §431.210.

H. Quality Improvement. The state operates a formal, comprehensive system to ensure that the waiver meets the assurances and other requirements contained in this application. Through an ongoing process of discovery, remediation and improvement, the state assures the health and welfare of participants by monitoring: (a) level of care determinations; (b) individual plans and services delivery; (c) provider qualifications; (d) participant health and welfare; (e) financial oversight and (f) administrative oversight of the waiver. The state further assures that all problems identified through its discovery processes are addressed in an appropriate and timely manner, consistent with the severity and nature of the problem. During the period that the waiver is in effect, the state will implement the Quality Improvement Strategy specified in Appendix H.

I. Public Input. Describe how the state secures public input into the development of the waiver:
ADMH/DDD, in partnership with the Alabama Medicaid Agency, utilizes a Public Comment period for all waiver amendments and renewals. The public comment period is announced on both the Department of Mental Health and the Alabama Medicaid Agency websites. The public comment period was announced through non-electronic means via a notice in the Birmingham News newspaper (the largest circulated newspaper in Alabama), and hard copies of the application were posted for review inside Alabama Medicaid District Offices. Also, ADMH/DD Division established a workgroup to advise, on an ongoing basis, about waiver changes and additions that stakeholders believe are needed. Members of this workgroup include providers of services, support coordination, consumer advocacy and a departmental Regional Community Services Director. A summary of the comments received during the Public Comment period is prepared and submitted to CMS with any waiver amendment or renewal application. ADMH/DD Division responds to all comments and questions not pertaining to the waiver renewal individually.

Comments from advocacy about accessing Self-Direction
DMH is updating training for Self Direction Liaison staff

Comments related to Provider availability in rural areas
Remote Supports will be added to accommodate any individual experiencing Provider access concerns

Comments related to caregiver/recipient confusion about all waiver processes
DMH will update the website to be more user friendly
DMH will also make training videos for the DMH website to be viewed at any time

Comments related to minimal communication with 310 boards and families
DMH will implement improved communication policies, including a Waiver Advisory Group with stakeholders

Comment requesting Peer Support Services
Peer Supports is currently available in a different DMH waiver program

Comment requesting additional training related to Assistive Technology
DMH will make training available

Comments related to eligibility criteria
DMH will not be modifying eligibility criteria at this time

Comments related to a different document not related to this renewal
No action taken by DMH

J. Notice to Tribal Governments. The state assures that it has notified in writing all federally-recognized Tribal Governments that maintain a primary office and/or majority population within the State of the State's intent to submit a Medicaid waiver request or renewal request to CMS at least 60 days before the anticipated submission date is provided by Presidential Executive Order 13175 of November 6, 2000. Evidence of the applicable notice is available through the Medicaid Agency.


7. Contact Person(s)

A. The Medicaid agency representative with whom CMS should communicate regarding the waiver is:

Last Name: Wettingfeld

First Name:
B. If applicable, the state operating agency representative with whom CMS should communicate regarding the waiver is:

Last Name: Wettingfeld
First Name: Ginger
Title: Director
Agency: Alabama Medicaid Agency
Address: 501 Dexter Avenue
City: Montgomery
State: Alabama
Zip: 36104
Phone: (334) 5018

Ext:  
TTY X
Fax: (334) 353-4182
E-mail: ginger.wettingfeld@medicaid.alabama.gov
8. Authorizing Signature

This document, together with the attached revisions to the affected components of the waiver, constitutes the state’s request to amend its approved waiver under §1915(c) of the Social Security Act. The state affirms that it will abide by all provisions of the waiver, including the provisions of this amendment when approved by CMS. The state further attests that it will continuously operate the waiver in accordance with the assurances specified in Section V and the additional requirements specified in Section VI of the approved waiver. The state certifies that additional proposed revisions to the waiver request will be submitted by the Medicaid agency in the form of additional waiver amendments.

Signature:  
State Medicaid Director or Designee

Submission Date:  
Note: The Signature and Submission Date fields will be automatically completed when the State Medicaid Director submits the application.

Last Name:  
First Name:  
Title:  
Agency:  
Address:  
Address 2:  
City:  
State:  Alabama  
Zip:  
Phone:  Ext:  TTY
Fax:
Attachment #1: Transition Plan

Check the box next to any of the following changes from the current approved waiver. Check all boxes that apply.

- Replacing an approved waiver with this waiver.
- Combining waivers.
- Splitting one waiver into two waivers.
- Eliminating a service.
- Adding or decreasing an individual cost limit pertaining to eligibility.
- Adding or decreasing limits to a service or a set of services, as specified in Appendix C.
- Reducing the unduplicated count of participants (Factor C).
- Adding new, or decreasing, a limitation on the number of participants served at any point in time.
- Making any changes that could result in some participants losing eligibility or being transferred to another waiver under 1915(c) or another Medicaid authority.
- Making any changes that could result in reduced services to participants.

Specify the transition plan for the waiver:

At the end of each fiscal year (starting 9/20/21), the state will determine the total number of unduplicated slots in the Intellectual Disabilities (ID) Waiver (AL.0001) and the Living at Home (LAH) Waiver (AL.0391) that are unfilled due to attrition (“attrition slots”). ID and LAH services will be supplanted by Community Waiver Program services in the pilot counties where the latter program is implemented, so new applicants for waiver services living in those pilot counties will only apply for the Community Waiver Program. Given that, the state will transfer, from the ID and LAH Waivers to the Community Waiver Program, funding associated with the percentage of the total attrition slots that equates to the percentage of the current waiting list that resides in the counties to be covered by Community Waiver Program in the next fiscal year. The state will use this funding to create additional slots in the Community Waiver Program that at least equal the number of attrition slots eliminated in this waiver. The state will annually update the unduplicated slot count for this waiver through a Technical Amendment to this waiver. Attrition slots not transferred to the Community Waiver Program will be available to replenish reserve capacity slots each fiscal year to the number identified in this Waiver Amendment application, for counties outside of the Community Waiver Program counties. The remainder of available slots will be available for enrollment of people from the Waiting List in areas outside of the Community Waiver Program counties. ADMH has data from recent years showing these available slots represent more than what has been the average number of people per year enrolled from the Waiting List in the counties not served by CWP. Thus, there will be no reduction in access.

Attachment #2: Home and Community-Based Settings Waiver Transition Plan

Specify the state's process to bring this waiver into compliance with federal home and community-based (HCB) settings requirements at 42 CFR 441.301(c)(4)-(5), and associated CMS guidance. Consult with CMS for instructions before completing this item. This field describes the status of a transition process at the point in time of submission. Relevant information in the planning phase will differ from information required to describe attainment of milestones.

To the extent that the state has submitted a statewide HCB settings transition plan to CMS, the description in this field may reference that statewide plan. The narrative in this field must include enough information to demonstrate that this waiver complies with federal HCB settings requirements, including the compliance and transition requirements at 42 CFR 441.301(c)(6), and that this submission is consistent with the portions of the statewide HCB settings transition plan that are germane to this waiver. Quote or summarize germane portions of the statewide HCB settings transition plan as required.

Note that Appendix C-5 HCB Settings describes settings that do not require transition; the settings listed there meet federal HCB setting requirements as of the date of submission. Do not duplicate that information here.

Update this field and Appendix C-5 when submitting a renewal or amendment to this waiver for other purposes. It is not necessary for the state to amend the waiver solely for the purpose of updating this field and Appendix C-5. At the end of the state's HCB settings transition process for this waiver, when all waiver settings meet federal HCB setting requirements, enter "Completed" in this field, and include in Section C-5 the information on all HCB settings in the waiver.
The state assures that this amendment will be subject to any provisions or requirements included in the state’s most recent and approved home and community based setting Statewide Transition Plan. The state will implement any CMS required changes by the end of the transition period as outlined in the home and community-based settings Statewide Transition Plan.

Additional Needed Information (Optional)

Provide additional needed information for the waiver (optional):

Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation

1. State Line of Authority for Waiver Operation. Specify the state line of authority for the operation of the waiver (select one):

- The waiver is operated by the state Medicaid agency.
  
  Specify the Medicaid agency division/unit that has line authority for the operation of the waiver program (select one):

  - The Medical Assistance Unit.
    
    Specify the unit name:

    (Do not complete item A-2)

  - Another division/unit within the state Medicaid agency that is separate from the Medical Assistance Unit.
    
    Specify the division/unit name. This includes administrations/divisions under the umbrella agency that has been identified as the Single State Medicaid Agency.

  (Complete item A-2-a).

- The waiver is operated by a separate agency of the state that is not a division/unit of the Medicaid agency.

  Specify the division/unit name:

  The Alabama Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities

  In accordance with 42 CFR §431.10, the Medicaid agency exercises administrative discretion in the administration and supervision of the waiver and issues policies, rules and regulations related to the waiver. The interagency agreement or memorandum of understanding that sets forth the authority and arrangements for this policy is available through the Medicaid agency to CMS upon request. (Complete item A-2-b).

2. Oversight of Performance.

a. Medicaid Director Oversight of Performance When the Waiver is Operated by another Division/Unit within the State Medicaid Agency. When the waiver is operated by another division/administration within the umbrella agency designated as the Single State Medicaid Agency. Specify (a) the functions performed by that division/administration (i.e., the Developmental Disabilities Administration within the Single State Medicaid Agency), (b) the document utilized to outline the roles and responsibilities related to waiver operation, and (c) the methods that are employed by the designated State Medicaid Director (in some instances, the head of umbrella agency) in the oversight of these activities:

As indicated in section 1 of this appendix, the waiver is not operated by another division/unit within the State Medicaid agency. Thus this section does not need to be completed.
b. Medicaid Agency Oversight of Operating Agency Performance. When the waiver is not operated by the Medicaid agency, specify the functions that are expressly delegated through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or other written document, and indicate the frequency of review and update for that document. Specify the methods that the Medicaid agency uses to ensure that the operating agency performs its assigned waiver operational and administrative functions in accordance with waiver requirements. Also specify the frequency of Medicaid agency assessment of operating agency performance:

As the administering agency the Alabama Medicaid Agency ensures that the:  
- Operating agency adheres to all federal guidelines described in the approved waiver document  
- Health and safety of the client is protected  
- Client has been given freedom of choice between institutional care and community care  
- Direct service providers meet the qualifications as outlined in the approved waiver document; and signs all subcontracts of qualified direct service providers enrolled with the operating agency.  
- Client is aware of their rights to express concerns regarding service provision and/or direct service providers.  

The Medicaid Agency provides ongoing oversight of this waiver program by assuring level of care determinations, plans of care, and other necessary documentation is correctly submitted and reviewed. This is accomplished by a direct review of at least 5% random sample of application and renewal documents per month.

In addition, the Medicaid Agency maintains ongoing oversight and authority over the program by:

- Conducting joint training with direct service providers enrolled to provide services through the Living at Home waiver program.  
- Participating in training provided periodically by the operating agency to discuss policies and procedures in an effort to consistently interpret and apply policies related to the LAH waiver program.  
- Conducting annual training for all operating agency staff to disseminate policies, rules and regulations regarding the home and community based services waiver programs.  
- Performing annual reviews conducted by LTC Waiver Quality Assurance Unit to assure the provisions of the interagency agreements are executed and all the assurances in the waiver are being met. The reviews include, but are not limited to providers records, plans of care, staff qualifications and training, and case management services and monitoring.  
- Annual reviews of Quality Enhancement Plan and Activities, quarterly review of complaints made to the Office of Advocacy, including the resolution of same, and participation in stakeholder task forces to assure that proposed improvements meet Medicaid requirements.  
- Establishing policies and procedures for operating agency, direct service providers and targeted case managers to ensure services are provided as specified in the approved waiver document.  
- Conducting quarterly surveys of satisfaction for a sample of Waiver participants.  
- Conducting desk reviews of all provider agencies serving sampled Living at Home Waiver participants.

Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation

3. Use of Contracted Entities. Specify whether contracted entities perform waiver operational and administrative functions on behalf of the Medicaid agency and/or the operating agency (if applicable) (select one):

- Yes. Contracted entities perform waiver operational and administrative functions on behalf of the Medicaid agency and/or operating agency (if applicable).

Specify the types of contracted entities and briefly describe the functions that they perform. Complete Items A-5 and A-6:

In order to implement self-directed services, contracted Financial Management Services Agency (FMSA) entities are utilized which provide fiscal intermediary and other services to participants who choose to self-direct their services. FMSAs are selected through a competitive RFP process. ADMH-DDD currently utilizes one contracted FMSA, and a second ADMH-DDD contracted FMSA will also be utilized effective 10/1/2020. The services of the FMSA are described in detail in Appendix E, which will include assuring "Qualified Provider Enrollment" and "Execution of Medicaid Provider Agreements."

- No. Contracted entities do not perform waiver operational and administrative functions on behalf of the Medicaid agency and/or operating agency.
Medicaid agency and/or the operating agency (if applicable).

Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation

4. Role of Local/Regional Non-State Entities. Indicate whether local or regional non-state entities perform waiver operational and administrative functions and, if so, specify the type of entity (Select One):

- ☑️ Not applicable
- ○ Applicable - Local/regional non-state agencies perform waiver operational and administrative functions.
  Check each that applies:
  - ☐ Local/Regional non-state public agencies perform waiver operational and administrative functions at the local or regional level. There is an interagency agreement or memorandum of understanding between the State and these agencies that sets forth responsibilities and performance requirements for these agencies that is available through the Medicaid agency.

  Specify the nature of these agencies and complete items A-5 and A-6:

  - ☐ Local/Regional non-governmental non-state entities conduct waiver operational and administrative functions at the local or regional level. There is a contract between the Medicaid agency and/or the operating agency (when authorized by the Medicaid agency) and each local/regional non-state entity that sets forth the responsibilities and performance requirements of the local/regional entity. The contract(s) under which private entities conduct waiver operational functions are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

  Specify the nature of these entities and complete items A-5 and A-6:

Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation

5. Responsibility for Assessment of Performance of Contracted and/or Local/Regional Non-State Entities. Specify the state agency or agencies responsible for assessing the performance of contracted and/or local/regional non-state entities in conducting waiver operational and administrative functions:

Support Coordinator activities are subject to annual certification survey and quarterly regional office monitoring by the Division of Developmental Disabilities, on site. Also, the Alabama Medicaid Agency Waiver Quality Assurance Staff monitor all case management (and waiver) agencies annually.

The contracted entities which will be used to implement self-directed personal care are discussed at length in Appendix E.

Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation

6. Assessment Methods and Frequency. Describe the methods that are used to assess the performance of contracted and/or local/regional non-state entities to ensure that they perform assigned waiver operational and administrative functions in accordance with waiver requirements. Also specify how frequently the performance of contracted and/or local/regional non-state entities is assessed:
Contracted entities are FMSA entities which will be used to implement self-directed services.

Division of Developmental Disabilities staff pulls a scientifically calculated random sample of recipients and reviews the pertinent records for these individuals. Alabama Medicaid Agency Waiver Quality Assurance staff also pulls a random sample in order to review the required records.

On a quarterly basis, the FMSA will provide reports and documentation to the Central office and the self-directed liaison and/or Support coordinator, and the self-directing participants, that will identify the amounts paid to and on behalf of employees and include copies of the signed time sheets for those employees for each pay period. The reimbursement to the FMSA will be based on the timecard submissions. If there has been an error in timecard submissions then the error will be corrected by the following pay period. The self-directed liaison, Support Coordinator will be responsible for all follow-up conversations with participants or the representative to 1) notify them of any change to compensation and 2) ensure that time keeping processes are clearly understood.

The SDL/support coordinator closely monitors units paid and remaining as well as account balances to ensure there are sufficient funds in each account to cover the cost of payroll. Goods and Services will be authorized through the self-directed liaison and or Support Coordinator and receipts for items paid for up front by the FMSA will be reconciled. A receipt for each item purchased is required for reimbursement.

All training material used by the FMSA, employment forms, information packets, brochures and manuals will have the approval of the Alabama Medicaid Agency prior to implementation. FMSA is required to submit timecards that have been processed, training documentation, license documentation, and a complete employee packet to the Operating Agency for review. The frequency for this review is quarterly. Additionally, there is a RFP process every two years for the FMSA to ensure all required tasks set forth by the Operating Agency can be fully implemented.

Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation

7. Distribution of Waiver Operational and Administrative Functions. In the following table, specify the entity or entities that have responsibility for conducting each of the waiver operational and administrative functions listed (check each that applies):

In accordance with 42 CFR §431.10, when the Medicaid agency does not directly conduct a function, it supervises the performance of the function and establishes and/or approves policies that affect the function. All functions not performed directly by the Medicaid agency must be delegated in writing and monitored by the Medicaid Agency. Note: More than one box may be checked per item. Ensure that Medicaid is checked when the Single State Medicaid Agency (1) conducts the function directly; (2) supervises the delegated function; and/or (3) establishes and/or approves policies related to the function.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Medicaid Agency</th>
<th>Other State Operating Agency</th>
<th>Contracted Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participant waiver enrollment</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiver enrollment managed against approved limits</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiver expenditures managed against approved levels</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of care evaluation</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review of Participant service plans</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior authorization of waiver services</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilization management</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualified provider enrollment</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Execution of Medicaid provider agreements</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishment of a statewide rate methodology</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules, policies, procedures and information development governing the waiver program</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality assurance and quality improvement activities</td>
<td>☒</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

12/22/2020
Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation

Quality Improvement: Administrative Authority of the Single State Medicaid Agency

As a distinct component of the States quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the States methods for discovery and remediation.

a. Methods for Discovery: Administrative Authority

The Medicaid Agency retains ultimate administrative authority and responsibility for the operation of the waiver program by exercising oversight of the performance of waiver functions by other state and local/regional non-state agencies (if appropriate) and contracted entities.

i. Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance, complete the following. Performance measures for administrative authority should not duplicate measures found in other appendices of the waiver application. As necessary and applicable, performance measures should focus on:

- Uniformity of development/execution of provider agreements throughout all geographic areas covered by the waiver
- Equitable distribution of waiver openings in all geographic areas covered by the waiver
- Compliance with HCB settings requirements and other new regulatory components (for waiver actions submitted on or after March 17, 2014)

Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of requested reports submitted by the OA reviewed and validated by the AMA Program Manager for program compliance. N = Number of OA submitted reports reviewed and validated by the AMA Program Manager for waiver compliance \( D = \) Number of reports submitted by the OA

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:

Performance Measure Reporting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Sampling Approach (check each that applies):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ State Medicaid Agency</td>
<td>☐ Weekly</td>
<td>☒ 100% Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Operating Agency</td>
<td>☐ Monthly</td>
<td>☐ Less than 100% Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>☐ Quarterly</td>
<td>☐ Representative Sample</td>
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Confidence Interval =
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<th>Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</th>
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<td>[x] Operating Agency</td>
<td>□ Monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>□ Quarterly</td>
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<td>□ Other Specify:</td>
<td>□ Annually</td>
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<td>[x] Continuously and Ongoing</td>
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<td>□ Other Specify:</td>
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</table>

Performance Measure:
Percent of total reported performance measures that were below 86%. \( N \) = Number of performance measures that were below 86% \( D \) = Number of reported performance measures

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:

**Reports from the Operating Agency**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Sampling Approach (check each that applies):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✗ State Medicaid Agency</td>
<td>☐ Weekly</td>
<td>✗ 100% Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Operating Agency</td>
<td>☐ Monthly</td>
<td>☐ Less than 100% Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>✗ Quarterly</td>
<td>☐ Representative Sample</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Confidence Interval =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Other</td>
<td>☐ Annually</td>
<td>☐ Stratified</td>
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<td>Specify:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Describe Group:</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Continuously and Ongoing</td>
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**Data Aggregation and Analysis:**

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<th>Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</th>
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<td>✗ Operating Agency</td>
<td>☐ Monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Sub-State Entity</td>
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</table>
☐ Continuously and Ongoing |
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| |  
☐ Other  
  Specify: |

**Performance Measure:**
Percent of data reports specified in the agreements, polices and procedures with the Medicaid Agency that were submitted on time and in the correct format. N = Number of data reports provided timely and in the correct format. D = Number of data reports due.

**Data Source** (Select one):  
**Other**  
If 'Other' is selected, specify:  

**Data reports submitted to the Medicaid Agency**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Sampling Approach (check each that applies):</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>☒ 100% Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Operating Agency</td>
<td>☐ Monthly</td>
<td>☐ Less than 100% Review</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ☐ Sub-State Entity | ☒ Quarterly | ☐ Representative Sample  
  Confidence Interval = |
| ☐ Other  
  Specify: | ☐ Annually | ☐ Stratified  
  Describe Group: |
| ☒ Continuously and Ongoing | ☐ Other  
  Specify: | |
### Data Aggregation and Analysis:

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<tr>
<th>Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</th>
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<tr>
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<td>☒ Operating Agency</td>
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<td>☐ Sub-State Entity</td>
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<td>☐ Other</td>
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ii. If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.

The Alabama Medicaid Agency has an established methodology for aggregating data from multiple sources and weighting it to rate performance within a specific domain. The methodology was designed through a collaborative effort between the AMA and consultants at Navigant.

### b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems

i. Describe the States method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information regarding responsible parties and GENERAL methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on the methods used by the state to document these items.
The Alabama Medicaid Agency (AMA) exercises administrative authority and responsibility of all waiver related policies and the OA's adherence to rules and regulations governing the Living at Home Waiver. AMA conducts meetings to disseminate policies, rules and regulations in an effort to ensure consistent application of the policies related to the Living at Home Waiver program.

AMA reviews participant files, personnel files and performs home visits as a method to monitor compliance of the level of care determination process; the appropriateness of the Person Centered Care Plan (PCCP); and the monitoring of service providers contracted with ADSS.

AMA monitors the Quality Improvement Strategy (QIS) of the waiver on an ongoing basis. If a problem is identified, AMA sends a notice to DMH addressing the issue(s) and require a response as to their follow-up plan of correction and/or corrective measures to resolve any/all problems identified.

ii. Remediation Data Aggregation

Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Party (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☑ State Medicaid Agency</td>
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<td>☐ Operating Agency</td>
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<td>☐ Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>☐ Quarterly</td>
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<td>☐ Other Specify:</td>
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<td>☐ Continuously and Ongoing</td>
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<td>☐ Other Specify:</td>
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Specify:

| Specify:
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iii. Timelines

When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Administrative Authority that are currently non-operational.

☐ No
☐ Yes

Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Administrative Authority, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-1: Specification of the Waiver Target Group(s)

a. **Target Group(s)**. Under the waiver of Section 1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act, the state limits waiver services to one or more groups or subgroups of individuals. Please see the instruction manual for specifics regarding age limits. In accordance with 42 CFR §441.301(b)(6), select one or more waiver target groups, check each of the subgroups in the selected target group.
group(s) that may receive services under the waiver, and specify the minimum and maximum (if any) age of individuals served in each subgroup:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Group</th>
<th>Included</th>
<th>Target SubGroup</th>
<th>Minimum Age</th>
<th>Maximum Age</th>
<th>No Maximum Age Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aged or Disabled, or Both - General</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aged</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Disabled (Physical)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Disabled (Other)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged or Disabled, or Both - Specific Recognized Subgroups</td>
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<td>Brain Injury</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medically Fragile</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Technology Dependent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual Disability or Developmental Disability, or Both</td>
<td></td>
<td>Autism</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Developmental Disability</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Intellectual Disability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Illness</td>
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<td>Mental Illness</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Serious Emotional Disturbance</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

b. Additional Criteria. The state further specifies its target group(s) as follows:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-2: Individual Cost Limit (1 of 2)

a. Individual Cost Limit. The following individual cost limit applies when determining whether to deny home and community-based services or entrance to the waiver to an otherwise eligible individual (select one). Please note that a state
may have only ONE individual cost limit for the purposes of determining eligibility for the waiver:

- **No Cost Limit.** The state does not apply an individual cost limit. *Do not complete Item B-2-b or item B-2-c.*
- **Cost Limit in Excess of Institutional Costs.** The state refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise eligible individual when the state reasonably expects that the cost of the home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed the cost of a level of care specified for the waiver up to an amount specified by the state. *Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.*

  **The limit specified by the state is (select one)**

  - A level higher than 100% of the institutional average.
    
    Specify the percentage: [ ]
  
  - Other
    
    Specify:

- **Institutional Cost Limit.** Pursuant to 42 CFR 441.301(a)(3), the state refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise eligible individual when the state reasonably expects that the cost of the home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed 100% of the cost of the level of care specified for the waiver. *Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.*

- **Cost Limit Lower Than Institutional Costs.** The state refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise qualified individual when the state reasonably expects that the cost of home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed the following amount specified by the state that is less than the cost of a level of care specified for the waiver.

  Specify the basis of the limit, including evidence that the limit is sufficient to assure the health and welfare of waiver participants. *Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.*

The Living at Home Waiver (0391) has been approved with a cost limit (other than for crisis intervention) of $50,000. The $50,000.00 limit allows for the synchronization of services and rates between the two waivers (ID and LAH), which allows some individuals with higher level of needs to use the Living at Home Waiver to remain at home. Should individual waiver recipient needs exceed that amount due to additional service needs, and not due to rate increases in existing approved services, then that waiver recipient may be transferred to ADMH’s ID waiver (001).

**The cost limit specified by the state is (select one):**

- The following dollar amount:

  Specify dollar amount: [ ] 50000

  **The dollar amount (select one)**

  - Is adjusted each year that the waiver is in effect by applying the following formula:

    Specify the formula:

    [ ]

  - May be adjusted during the period the waiver is in effect. The state will submit a waiver
amendment to CMS to adjust the dollar amount.

- The following percentage that is less than 100% of the institutional average:
  
  Specify percent: [ ]

- Other:
  
  Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-2: Individual Cost Limit (2 of 2)

b. Method of Implementation of the Individual Cost Limit. When an individual cost limit is specified in Item B-2-a, specify the procedures that are followed to determine in advance of waiver entrance that the individual's health and welfare can be assured within the cost limit:

1. The prioritization list indicates the services which the person needs and gives an initial indication of who might not need to exceed the cost limit.
2. The planning team understands the limitation and will not proceed if the planned services need to exceed the limit. There is also flexibility in the services selected, and the scope of the coverage most often lets the team develop a plan within the financial limit.
3. The plan of care is assessed for cost and will not be approved if it exceeds the limit.

c. Participant Safeguards. When the state specifies an individual cost limit in Item B-2-a and there is a change in the participant's condition or circumstances post-entrance to the waiver that requires the provision of services in an amount that exceeds the cost limit in order to assure the participant's health and welfare, the state has established the following safeguards to avoid an adverse impact on the participant (check each that applies):

- The participant is referred to another waiver that can accommodate the individual's needs.
- Additional services in excess of the individual cost limit may be authorized.

Specify the procedures for authorizing additional services, including the amount that may be authorized:

Should individual waiver recipient needs exceed that amount due to additional service needs, and not due to rate increases in existing approved services, then that waiver recipient may be transferred to ADMH’s ID waiver.

Other safeguard(s)

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (1 of 4)

a. Unduplicated Number of Participants. The following table specifies the maximum number of unduplicated participants who are served in each year that the waiver is in effect. The state will submit a waiver amendment to CMS to modify the number of participants specified for any year(s), including when a modification is necessary due to legislative appropriation or another reason. The number of unduplicated participants specified in this table is basis for the cost-
neutrality calculations in Appendix J:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Year</th>
<th>Unduplicated Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. Limitation on the Number of Participants Served at Any Point in Time. Consistent with the unduplicated number of participants specified in Item B-3-a, the state may limit to a lesser number the number of participants who will be served at any point in time during a waiver year. Indicate whether the state limits the number of participants in this way: (select one):

- The state does not limit the number of participants that it serves at any point in time during a waiver year.
- The state limits the number of participants that it serves at any point in time during a waiver year.

The limit that applies to each year of the waiver period is specified in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Year</th>
<th>Maximum Number of Participants Served At Any Point During the Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (2 of 4)

c. Reserved Waiver Capacity. The state may reserve a portion of the participant capacity of the waiver for specified purposes (e.g., provide for the community transition of institutionalized persons or furnish waiver services to individuals experiencing a crisis) subject to CMS review and approval. The State (select one):

- Not applicable. The state does not reserve capacity.
- The state reserves capacity for the following purpose(s).

Purpose(s) the state reserves capacity for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purposes</th>
<th>maximum number of participants served at any point during the year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants transitioning from school or a facility based setting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Purpose (provide a title or short description to use for lookup):

Participants transitioning from school or a facility based setting

Purpose (describe):

New admissions to the waiver who are transitioning from school (25) or from a facility based setting/nursing home (10) and in need of support services to live fully integrated within the community which allows them to have meaningful lives.

Describe how the amount of reserved capacity was determined:

The Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities has been focused on supported employment as it relates to children transitioning out of the education system. The Division implemented two Project Search sites within the state. This project is about employment emersion with a focus on training and transitioning senior year students into competitive and integrated employment upon completion of the program. The project involves various state agencies. For its part, the division would like to assist with long term services to the extent a student is eligible for the supports waiver.

In addition, the Department of Mental Health is working with the Alabama Medicaid Agency with the Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration Program. A key component is the availability of services through various waivers if a person is eligible.

The two target groups historically have not transitioned or outplaced a large number of people eligible for services through this waiver. The reserved slot number therefore has been set low.

The capacity that the State reserves in each waiver year is specified in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Year</th>
<th>Capacity Reserved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (3 of 4)

d. Scheduled Phase-In or Phase-Out. Within a waiver year, the state may make the number of participants who are served subject to a phase-in or phase-out schedule (select one):

- The waiver is not subject to a phase-in or a phase-out schedule.
- The waiver is subject to a phase-in or phase-out schedule that is included in Attachment #1 to Appendix B-3. This schedule constitutes an intra-year limitation on the number of participants who are served in the waiver.

e. Allocation of Waiver Capacity.

Select one:
Waiver capacity is allocated/managed on a statewide basis.

Waiver capacity is allocated to local/regional non-state entities.

Specify: (a) the entities to which waiver capacity is allocated; (b) the methodology that is used to allocate capacity and how often the methodology is reevaluated; and, (c) policies for the reallocation of unused capacity among local/regional non-state entities:

f. Selection of Entrants to the Waiver. Specify the policies that apply to the selection of individuals for entrance to the waiver:

Applicants are determined eligible for the Waiver and placed on a waiting list, ranked by criticality and length of time waiting. Applicants who are not waiting for Residential (Group Home) Services are selected from the waiting list basically in rank order. Selection criteria are defined in the Administrative Code.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served - Attachment #1 (4 of 4)

Answers provided in Appendix B-3-d indicate that you do not need to complete this section.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-4: Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver

a. 1. State Classification. The state is a (select one):

- §1634 State
- SSI Criteria State
- 209(b) State

2. Miller Trust State.

Indicate whether the state is a Miller Trust State (select one):

- No
- Yes

b. Medicaid Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver. Individuals who receive services under this waiver are eligible under the following eligibility groups contained in the state plan. The state applies all applicable federal financial participation limits under the plan. Check all that apply:

Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver (excluding the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217)

- Low income families with children as provided in §1931 of the Act
- SSI recipients
- Aged, blind or disabled in 209(b) states who are eligible under 42 CFR §435.121
- Optional state supplement recipients
- Optional categorically needy aged and/or disabled individuals who have income at:

Select one:

- 100% of the Federal poverty level (FPL)
- % of FPL, which is lower than 100% of FPL.
Specify percentage

☐ Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (BBA working disabled group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII)) of the Act

☐ Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (TWWIIA Basic Coverage Group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XV) of the Act)

☐ Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (TWWIIA Medical Improvement Coverage Group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XVI) of the Act)

☐ Disabled individuals age 18 or younger who would require an institutional level of care (TEFRA 134 eligibility group as provided in §1902(e)(3) of the Act)

☐ Medically needy in 209(b) States (42 CFR §435.330)

☐ Medically needy in 1634 States and SSI Criteria States (42 CFR §435.320, §435.322 and §435.324)

☒ Other specified groups (include only statutory/regulatory reference to reflect the additional groups in the state plan that may receive services under this waiver)

Specify:

435.110- Parents and Other Caretaker Relatives- MAGI pdf S25
435.116- Pregnant Women- MAGI pdf S28
435.118- Infants and Children under Age 19 – MAGI pdf S30
435.227- Children with Non IV-E Adoption Assistance - MAGI pdf S53
435.150- Former Foster Care pdf S33
435.110 Attachment 2.2A pg 1
435.145 Attachment 2.2A pg 14
435.222 Reasonable Classification of Individuals under Age 21- pdf S52, S11
435.122
435.134
435.135
435.137
435.138

Special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217) Note: When the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217 is included, Appendix B-5 must be completed

☐ No. The state does not furnish waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217. Appendix B-5 is not submitted.

☒ Yes. The state furnishes waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217.

Select one and complete Appendix B-5.

☐ All individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217

☒ Only the following groups of individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217

Check each that applies:

☒ A special income level equal to:

Select one:

☒ 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)

☐ A percentage of FBR, which is lower than 300% (42 CFR §435.236)

Specify percentage:   

12/22/2020
A dollar amount which is lower than 300%.

Specify dollar amount: 

☐ Aged, blind and disabled individuals who meet requirements that are more restrictive than the SSI program (42 CFR §435.121)

☐ Medically needy without spend down in states which also provide Medicaid to recipients of SSI (42 CFR §435.320, §435.322 and §435.324)

☐ Medically needy without spend down in 209(b) States (42 CFR §435.330)

☐ Aged and disabled individuals who have income at:

Select one:

- ☐ 100% of FPL
- ☐ % of FPL, which is lower than 100%.

Specify percentage amount: 

☐ Other specified groups (include only statutory/regulatory reference to reflect the additional groups in the state plan that may receive services under this waiver)

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (1 of 7)

In accordance with 42 CFR §441.303(e), Appendix B-5 must be completed when the state furnishes waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217, as indicated in Appendix B-4. Post-eligibility applies only to the 42 CFR §435.217 group.

a. Use of Spousal Impoverishment Rules. Indicate whether spousal impoverishment rules are used to determine eligibility for the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217:

Note: For the period beginning January 1, 2014 and extending through September 30, 2019 (or other date as required by law), the following instructions are mandatory. The following box should be checked for all waivers that furnish waiver services to the 42 CFR §435.217 group effective at any point during this time period.

☒ Spousal impoverishment rules under §1924 of the Act are used to determine the eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group. In the case of a participant with a community spouse, the state uses spousal post-eligibility rules under §1924 of the Act.

Complete Items B-5-e (if the selection for B-4-a-i is SSI State or §1634) or B-5-f (if the selection for B-4-a-i is 209b State) and Item B-5-g unless the state indicates that it also uses spousal post-eligibility rules for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after September 30, 2019 (or other date as required by law).

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after September 30, 2019 (or other date as required by law) (select one).

☒ Spousal impoverishment rules under §1924 of the Act are used to determine the eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group.

In the case of a participant with a community spouse, the state elects to (select one):

- ☒ Use spousal post-eligibility rules under §1924 of the Act.
  (Complete Item B-5-b (SSI State) and Item B-5-d)
- ☐ Use regular post-eligibility rules under 42 CFR §435.726 (SSI State) or under §435.735 (209b State)
Spousal impoverishment rules under §1924 of the Act are not used to determine eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group. The state uses regular post-eligibility rules for individuals with a community spouse.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (2 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

b. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: SSI State.

The state uses the post-eligibility rules at 42 CFR 435.726. Payment for home and community-based waiver services is reduced by the amount remaining after deducting the following allowances and expenses from the waiver participant's income:

i. Allowance for the needs of the waiver participant (select one):

- The following standard included under the state plan

  Select one:

  - SSI standard
  - Optional state supplement standard
  - Medically needy income standard
  - The special income level for institutionalized persons

  (select one):

  - 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)
  - A percentage of the FBR, which is less than 300%

  Specify the percentage: 

  - A dollar amount which is less than 300%.

  Specify dollar amount: 

  - A percentage of the Federal poverty level

  Specify percentage: 

- Other standard included under the state Plan

  Specify:

  The maintenance needs allowance is equal to the individual's total income as determined under the post-eligibility process which includes income that is placed in a miller trust.

- The following dollar amount

  Specify dollar amount: If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

- The following formula is used to determine the needs allowance:

Specify:
ii. Allowance for the spouse only (select one):

- Not Applicable (see instructions)
- SSI standard
- Optional state supplement standard
- Medically needy income standard
- The following dollar amount:
  
  Specify dollar amount: [_____] If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

- The amount is determined using the following formula:
  
  Specify:

iii. Allowance for the family (select one):

- Not Applicable (see instructions)
- AFDC need standard
- Medically needy income standard
- The following dollar amount:

  Specify dollar amount: [_____] The amount specified cannot exceed the higher of the need standard for a family of the same size used to determine eligibility under the state's approved AFDC plan or the medically needy income standard established under 42 CFR §435.811 for a family of the same size. If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

- The amount is determined using the following formula:
  
  Specify:

iv. Amounts for incurred medical or remedial care expenses not subject to payment by a third party, specified in 42 §CFR 435.726:
a. Health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-insurance charges
b. Necessary medical or remedial care expenses recognized under state law but not covered under the state's Medicaid plan, subject to reasonable limits that the state may establish on the amounts of these expenses.

Select one:

- Not Applicable (see instructions) Note: If the state protects the maximum amount for the waiver participant, not applicable must be selected.
- The state does not establish reasonable limits.
- The state establishes the following reasonable limits

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (3 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

c. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: 209(B) State.

Answers provided in Appendix B-4 indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (4 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

d. Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income Using Spousal Impoverishment Rules

The state uses the post-eligibility rules of §1924(d) of the Act (spousal impoverishment protection) to determine the contribution of a participant with a community spouse toward the cost of home and community-based care if it determines the individual's eligibility under §1924 of the Act. There is deducted from the participant's monthly income a personal needs allowance (as specified below), a community spouse's allowance and a family allowance as specified in the state Medicaid Plan. The state must also protect amounts for incurred expenses for medical or remedial care (as specified below).

Answers provided in Appendix B-5-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (5 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.


The state uses the post-eligibility rules at 42 CFR §435.726 for individuals who do not have a spouse or have a spouse who is not a community spouse as specified in §1924 of the Act. Payment for home and community-based waiver services is reduced by the amount remaining after deducting the following allowances and expenses from the waiver participant’s income:

i. Allowance for the needs of the waiver participant (select one):
The following standard included under the state plan

Select one:

- SSI standard
- Optional state supplement standard
- Medically needy income standard
- The special income level for institutionalized persons

(select one):

- 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)
- A percentage of the FBR, which is less than 300%
  Specify the percentage: 
- A dollar amount which is less than 300%
  Specify dollar amount:
- A percentage of the Federal poverty level
  Specify percentage:

Other standard included under the state Plan

Specify:

The maintenance needs allowance is equal to the individual's total income as determined under the posteligibility process which includes income that is placed in a miller trust.

The following dollar amount

Specify dollar amount: If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

The following formula is used to determine the needs allowance:

Specify:

Other

Specify:

Allowance for the spouse only (select one):

- Not Applicable
- The state provides an allowance for a spouse who does not meet the definition of a community spouse in §1924 of the Act. Describe the circumstances under which this allowance is provided:

Specify:
The maintenance needs allowance is equal to the individual's total income as determined under the post-eligibility process which includes income that is placed in a miller trust.

**Specify the amount of the allowance (select one):**

- SSI standard
- Optional state supplement standard
- Medically needy income standard
- The following dollar amount:

  Specify dollar amount: [ ] If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

  - The amount is determined using the following formula:

    Specify:

The maintenance needs allowance is equal to the individual's total income as determined under the post-eligibility process which includes income that is placed in a miller trust.

**iii. Allowance for the family (select one):**

- Not Applicable (see instructions)
- AFDC need standard
- Medically needy income standard
- The following dollar amount:

  Specify dollar amount: [ ] The amount specified cannot exceed the higher of the need standard for a family of the same size used to determine eligibility under the State's approved AFDC plan or the medically needy income standard established under 42 CFR §435.811 for a family of the same size. If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

  - The amount is determined using the following formula:

    Specify:

The maintenance needs allowance is equal to the individual's total income as determined under the post-eligibility process which includes income that is placed in a miller trust.

- Other

  Specify:

**iv. Amounts for incurred medical or remedial care expenses not subject to payment by a third party, specified in 42 §CFR 435.726:**

  - a. Health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-insurance charges
  - b. Necessary medical or remedial care expenses recognized under state law but not covered under the state's Medicaid plan, subject to reasonable limits that the state may establish on the amounts of these expenses.

Select one:

- Not Applicable (see instructions)  
  Note: If the state protects the maximum amount for the waiver participant, not applicable must be selected.

- The state does not establish reasonable limits.
The state establishes the following reasonable limits

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (6 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.


Answers provided in Appendix B-4 indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (7 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.


The state uses the post-eligibility rules of §1924(d) of the Act (spousal impoverishment protection) to determine the contribution of a participant with a community spouse toward the cost of home and community-based care. There is deducted from the participant's monthly income a personal needs allowance (as specified below), a community spouse's allowance and a family allowance as specified in the state Medicaid Plan. The state must also protect amounts for incurred expenses for medical or remedial care (as specified below).

i. Allowance for the personal needs of the waiver participant

(select one):
- SSI standard
- Optional state supplement standard
- Medically needy income standard
- The special income level for institutionalized persons
- A percentage of the Federal poverty level

Specify percentage:

The following dollar amount:

Specify dollar amount:

If this amount changes, this item will be revised

The following formula is used to determine the needs allowance:

Specify formula:

Other

Specify:
The maintenance needs allowance is equal to the individual’s total income as determined under the post-eligibility process which includes income that is placed in a miller trust.

ii. If the allowance for the personal needs of a waiver participant with a community spouse is different from the amount used for the individual’s maintenance allowance under 42 CFR §435.726 or 42 CFR §435.735, explain why this amount is reasonable to meet the individual’s maintenance needs in the community.

Select one:

- Allowance is the same
- Allowance is different.

Explanation of difference:

iii. Amounts for incurred medical or remedial care expenses not subject to payment by a third party, specified in 42 CFR §435.726:

a. Health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-insurance charges
b. Necessary medical or remedial care expenses recognized under state law but not covered under the state's Medicaid plan, subject to reasonable limits that the state may establish on the amounts of these expenses.

Select one:

- Not Applicable (see instructions) Note: If the state protects the maximum amount for the waiver participant, not applicable must be selected.
- The state does not establish reasonable limits.
- The state uses the same reasonable limits as are used for regular (non-spousal) post-eligibility.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-6: Evaluation/Reevaluation of Level of Care

As specified in 42 CFR §441.302(c), the state provides for an evaluation (and periodic reevaluations) of the need for the level(s) of care specified for this waiver, when there is a reasonable indication that an individual may need such services in the near future (one month or less), but for the availability of home and community-based waiver services.

a. Reasonable Indication of Need for Services. In order for an individual to be determined to need waiver services, an individual must require: (a) the provision of at least one waiver service, as documented in the service plan, and (b) the provision of waiver services at least monthly or, if the need for services is less than monthly, the participant requires regular monthly monitoring which must be documented in the service plan. Specify the state's policies concerning the reasonable indication of the need for services:

i. Minimum number of services.

The minimum number of waiver services (one or more) that an individual must require in order to be determined to need waiver services is: 1

ii. Frequency of services. The state requires (select one):

- The provision of waiver services at least monthly
- Monthly monitoring of the individual when services are furnished on a less than monthly basis

If the state also requires a minimum frequency for the provision of waiver services other than monthly (e.g., quarterly), specify the frequency:
b. Responsibility for Performing Evaluations and Reevaluations. Level of care evaluations and reevaluations are performed (select one):

- Directly by the Medicaid agency
- By the operating agency specified in Appendix A
- By a government agency under contract with the Medicaid agency.

Specify the entity:

Other
Specify:

c. Qualifications of Individuals Performing Initial Evaluation: Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(1), specify the educational/professional qualifications of individuals who perform the initial evaluation of level of care for waiver applicants:

A Qualified Intellectual Disability Professional (QIDP) as defined by CMS https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/CertificationandCompliance/Downloads/ICFMR_Glossary.pdf in the Operating Agency's Regional Office makes the determination of eligibility and level of care. The QIDP qualifications are as follows: Master's degree in Social Work, Psychology, or a human services field, plus experience (24 months or more) in a human services field, OR Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Psychology, or a human services field, plus considerable experience (48 months or more) working specifically with persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, or extensive experience (72 months or more) in a human services field. QIDPs performing these evaluations also must complete training on the eligibility determination and level of care instrument(s) used by the Operating Agency.

d. Level of Care Criteria. Fully specify the level of care criteria that are used to evaluate and reevaluate whether an individual needs services through the waiver and that serve as the basis of the state's level of care instrument/tool. Specify the level of care instrument/tool that is employed. State laws, regulations, and policies concerning level of care criteria and the level of care instrument/tool are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable), including the instrument/tool utilized.

Level of Care requires documentation of a full scale IQ below 70; a diagnosis of Intellectual Disabilities with an age of onset prior to age 18, and significant functional limitations in three of six areas of life activities (Self Care; Receptive and Expressive Language; Learning; Mobility; Self Direction; Capacity for Independent Living). The full scale IQ is obtained from a psychological evaluation, and the age of onset is obtained, if not from the evaluation, from ancillary documentation such as a previous psychological or school record. The limitations in adaptive functioning are determined from the ICAP (Inventory for Client and Agency Planning, Riverside Press) completed by a Regional Office QIDP. If necessary to support a conclusive determination, an Adaptive Behavior Scale (ABS) will be required, but only when maladaptive behavior appears to be the only factor causing the ICAP to qualify an otherwise borderline individual. Although persons as young as three years of age can be admitted to the waiver, available state plan and EPSDT services must be utilized for all participants who are under 21 years of age.

e. Level of Care Instrument(s). Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(2), indicate whether the instrument/tool used to evaluate level of care for the waiver differs from the instrument/tool used to evaluate institutional level of care (select one):

- The same instrument is used in determining the level of care for the waiver and for institutional care under the state Plan.

12/22/2020
A different instrument is used to determine the level of care for the waiver than for institutional care under the state plan.

Describe how and why this instrument differs from the form used to evaluate institutional level of care and explain how the outcome of the determination is reliable, valid, and fully comparable.

The same level of care evaluation form was used for both institutional and waiver services, but the information from which adaptive functioning scores were obtained differed. Adaptive functioning level for institutional (ICF/IID) eligibility was determined using the ABS. The ICAP domain scores were specifically modified by one of the authors of the ICAP to meet the requirements of Alabama’s definition and to match the outcomes of the ABS. The only difference between the two instruments is that the ABS does not use maladaptive behavior as a factor, and the ICAP does. The ICAP is used in determining some of the rates for waiver services, so for efficiency of administration, the State recognizes the ICAP for determining adaptive limitations unless there is a doubt that the person would be eligible in an ICF/IID due to the predominance of maladaptive behavior in a qualifying, but borderline, ICAP service score. Currently, the Department of Mental Health does not operate state funded ICF/IID.

f. Process for Level of Care Evaluation/Reevaluation: Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(1), describe the process for evaluating waiver applicants for their need for the level of care under the waiver. If the reevaluation process differs from the evaluation process, describe the differences:
Evaluation:

An individual wishing to apply for waiver services contacts the Call Center to start the process. The person is then referred to the local 310 Board which assists the individual to complete the application and gather/complete the necessary information for determination of eligibility and level of care. The application and supporting information are then submitted to the Operating Agency’s Regional Office Waiting List Coordinator (qualified QIDP) for determination of eligibility and level of care. 310 Board staff are trained by the Operating Agency to administer the ICAP and are monitored by the Operating Agency to ensure validity and reliability.

The Operating Agency’s Regional Office Waiting List Coordinator (qualified QIDP) processes applications for enrollment in the Community Waiver. Either the Waiting List Coordinator or the Psychological/Behavioral Evaluator (also a qualified QIDP) reviews the application and supporting information to determine eligibility and level of care. If the submitted information is not complete or is inconclusive regarding the type of disabilities of the individual, the Regional Office QIDP will request additional tests/assessments. Notification of need for additional tests, assessments or other information stops the eligibility and level of care determination process until the additional information has been received and intellectual disability can be confirmed. Once confirmed, the Regional Office QIDP reviews the results of all test and assessment information accompanying the application (including the ICAP (ABS if necessary) and a criticality assessment) and makes a final determination of initial eligibility and level of care for individuals seeking Community Waiver services.

Applicants who are determined eligible and meeting level of care criteria are placed on the statewide ID HCBS waiting list. When an enrollment slot exists in the Community Waiver, individuals on the waiting list are contacted by the Regional Office Waiting List Coordinator in order, based on length of time waiting. Using the enrollment priority categories for this waiver discussed in section B.3.f, if a person confirms they meet an eligibility priority category, enrollment is completed. The enrollment process includes education on choice to ensure a person wishes to receive HCBS (signature on Choice Form), education on due process to educate the applicant of his her right to due process (signature on Due Process Rights Form), and completion of the Individual and Family History. The individual also signs an initial Plan of Care that includes Support Coordination and the person is assigned, or as far as possible is able to select, a Support Coordinator. Additional forms are required if the applicant is not already Medicaid eligible.

Reevaluations:

Annual re-evaluations must include, along with the Comprehensive Assessment, Person-Centered Plan and Plan of Care, information to re-determine eligibility and level of care:
(a) Written reference to and update of the original psychological evaluation which documented the applicant's intellectual disabilities or of a more recent full assessment.
(b) An annual ICAP completed within the 90 days prior to redetermination. ICAP is completed by the Support Coordinator who is trained by the Operating Agency to administer the ICAP and is monitored by the Operating Agency to ensure validity and reliability.
(c) An annual medical report must be on file.
(d) An Individual and Family History updated within 90 days of re-evaluation.

A QIDP from the Operating Agency’s Regional Office reviews the required documentation and submits the finding regarding waiver redetermination of eligibility and level of care to the Central Office of the Operating Agency. Central Office submits the information electronically to AL Medicaid's fiscal intermediary to maintain the person in the long-term care system as a recipient of waiver services and retrieves the enrollment dates. This reevaluation is good for 12 full months and then reevaluation of eligibility and level of care must occur.

Reevaluation Schedule. Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(4), reevaluations of the level of care required by a participant are conducted no less frequently than annually according to the following schedule (select one):

- Every three months
- Every six months
- Every twelve months
- Other schedule

Specify the other schedule:
h. **Qualifications of Individuals Who Perform Reevaluations.** Specify the qualifications of individuals who perform reevaluations (select one):

- The qualifications of individuals who perform reevaluations are the same as individuals who perform initial evaluations.
- The qualifications are different.

Specify the qualifications:

i. **Procedures to Ensure Timely Reevaluations.** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(4), specify the procedures that the state employs to ensure timely reevaluations of level of care (specify):

The initial Level of Care Evaluation is effective for 12 full months, but then Level of Care must be re-evaluated. Without re-evaluation and corresponding electronic resubmission and registration, claims for subsequent service dates will fail. Support Coordinators and Regional Office QIDPs maintain a schedule for when they have to submit eligibility redetermination and Level of Care re-evaluation packets in order to assist individuals to remain eligible for the waiver.

In order to assist the Support Coordinators and Regional Office QIDPs, the Division has designed several prompts in the information system that will remind him/her of a pending redeterminations due. First, the information system is designed to electronically prompt the Support Coordinator with a "tickler" when there is a redetermination due. The tickler system is set up to generate a redetermination notification, which launches 330 days after the previous redetermination or initial application. Additionally, there are two reports that the Support Coordinator, his/her supervisor, and the Regional Office QIDP staff can run, filtered by enrollment start and end dates, which will list all the individuals that should be redetermined during the specified dates and will also identify individuals whose redeterminations are overdue. The first report, Redeterminations Due, will list all individuals that need to be redetermined within the report dates based on the waiver enrollment dates. Support Coordinators and Regional Office QIDPs are encouraged to run this report 90, 60, or 45 days in advance and to begin the redetermination paperwork within 60 days of the individual's eligibility expiration date. The second report, Redeterminations Overdue, works the same way but presents a list of individuals that have not been redetermined, but should have been based on enrollment dates. This report will give the Division the ability to track overdue re-determinations in a more efficient manner and follow-up as needed. There are times when redeterminations are delayed for documentation purposes; but in the event that someone failed to complete a redetermination on time, this report will capture that information.

j. **Maintenance of Evaluation/Reevaluation Records.** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(3), the state assures that written and/or electronically retrievable documentation of all evaluations and reevaluations are maintained for a minimum period of 3 years as required in 45 CFR §92.42. Specify the location(s) where records of evaluations and reevaluations of level of care are maintained:

Records are maintained by the 310 agencies and also by the Operating Agency's Regional Offices.

Appendix B: Evaluation/Reevaluation of Level of Care

**Quality Improvement: Level of Care**

As a distinct component of the State's quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the State's methods for discovery and remediation.

a. **Methods for Discovery: Level of Care Assurance/Sub-assurances**

The state demonstrates that it implements the processes and instrument(s) specified in its approved waiver for evaluating/reevaluating an applicant's/waiver participant's level of care consistent with level of care provided in a hospital, NF or ICF/IID.
i. Sub-Assurances:

a. Sub-assurance: An evaluation for LOC is provided to all applicants for whom there is reasonable indication that services may be needed in the future.

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of applicants who have a level of care (LOC) completed prior to entry into the waiver. N = Number of eligible applicants who have a LOC completed prior to entry into the waiver D = Number of eligible applicants reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
All waiver enrollments (both initial and re-determination) are submitted to Central Office for processing. Each enrollment packet will have a signed Level or Care prior to being enrolled.

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<th>Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
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<th>Sampling Approach (check each that applies):</th>
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<td>Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</td>
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**Performance Measure:**
Number and Percent of applicants who had a LOC assessment to determine if services are needed in the future. **NUMERATOR:** Number of applicants for whom there is reasonable indication that services may be needed in the future who had a LOC assessment to determine if services are needed in the future. **DENOMINATOR:** Total number of applicants reviewed.

**Data Source** (Select one):
Record reviews, on-site
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
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b. **Sub-assurance: The levels of care of enrolled participants are reevaluated at least annually or as specified in the approved waiver.**

**Performance Measures**

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

c. **Sub-assurance: The processes and instruments described in the approved waiver are applied appropriately and according to the approved description to determine participant level of care.**

**Performance Measures**

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

**Performance Measure:**
Number and percent of initial LOC determinations where the instrument and process were accurately applied.  
N = Number of initial LOC determinations where the instrument and process were accurately applied.  
D = Number of initial LOC
Determinations reviewed.

**Data Source** (Select one):
- Record reviews, off-site
  - If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

**Level of care documentation**

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**Data Aggregation and Analysis:**
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### If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.

The Operating Agency trains and monitors 310 Board personnel and Support Coordinators responsible for completing level of care assessments (ICAPs). Monitoring includes, on a quarterly basis, random sampling of ICAPs completed by trained individuals, to evaluate for validity and inter-rater reliability, and observation, on a quarterly basis, of a sample of trained individuals completing the ICAP process.

### b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems

i. Describe the States method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information regarding responsible parties and GENERAL methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on the methods used by the state to document these items.
Individual problems regarding performance of level of care evaluations are currently handled by Regional Office staff of the Operating Agency. Resolution of these problems involves, as appropriate, re-training, enhanced monitoring for a period of time, a performance improvement plan, corrective action plan or other appropriate action steps. There is no Medicaid funding paid for someone not in active status with the Medicaid Fiscal Agent as of the date of service and no individual will be enrolled without a LOC, so there is never an issue of payments made incorrectly.

The Regional Office has designated staff (QIDPs) trained and experienced in administering LOC instruments and who are trained on the strategies employed by the state to discover/identify problems/issues and trained to review all supporting documentation that feeds into the level of care evaluation. An assessment in the information system will capture review results. A report will aggregate the data results to reveal patterns where success is less than 86%. Intervention, in general, will consist of:

a. Bringing the data to the attention of the 310 Board staff and/or Support Coordinators responsible for the discovered areas of weakness.

b. When data shows consistent problems over two consecutive quarters, technical assistance / training will be provided at the point of weakness.

c. If no improvement is seen in the next quarter after the intervention, a performance improvement plan or corrective action plan will be required.

ii. Remediation Data Aggregation

Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

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</table>

c. Timelines

When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Level of Care that are currently non-operational.

☐ No
☐ Yes

Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Level of Care, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility
**Freedom of Choice.** As provided in 42 CFR §441.302(d), when an individual is determined to be likely to require a level of care for this waiver, the individual or his or her legal representative is:

i. informed of any feasible alternatives under the waiver; and
ii. given the choice of either institutional or home and community-based services.

**a. Procedures.** Specify the state's procedures for informing eligible individuals (or their legal representatives) of the feasible alternatives available under the waiver and allowing these individuals to choose either institutional or waiver services. Identify the form(s) that are employed to document freedom of choice. The form or forms are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

1. Freedom of Choice: being informed of feasible alternatives under the waiver.

As part of assessment and service coordination, participants and/or responsible parties are provided with adequate information to make an informed decision regarding community based care and the option to receive those services in non-disability specific setting based on the individual's choice. This process frequently includes visits to programs and meetings with multiple providers in the area. Service coordination addresses problems and presents feasible solutions. Service coordination also includes an exploration of all resources currently utilized by the individual both formal and informal, as well as those waiver services that may be provided to meet the individual's needs. If any needs cannot be met, these also are discussed with the individual and his family to fully inform them of the alternatives. All individuals are provided choice among service providers available.

2. Freedom of Choice: being given the choice of either institutional or home and community based services.

Each person served through the waiver must make a written choice of institutional or community-based care, which will remain in effect until such time as the client changes his/her choice. The only exception to making a written choice would occur when the person is not capable of signing the Plan of Care form and has no legal or responsible party who can sign. In such a case, the support coordinator must document the reason(s) for absence of a signed choice and efforts made to locate a responsible party who could have signed for the person.

**b. Maintenance of Forms.** Per 45 CFR §92.42, written copies or electronically retrievable facsimiles of Freedom of Choice forms are maintained for a minimum of three years. Specify the locations where copies of these forms are maintained.

Records are maintained by the 310 agencies and also by the Operating Agencies Regional Offices.

---

**Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility**

**B-8: Access to Services by Limited English Proficiency Persons**

**Access to Services by Limited English Proficient Persons.** Specify the methods that the state uses to provide meaningful access to the waiver by Limited English Proficient persons in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services “Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons” (68 FR 47311 - August 8, 2003):

Accommodations made for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons include a language line as well as several publications in Spanish on the Medicaid Website such as the Covered Services Handbook, and basic eligibility documents. The language translation line offers numerous languages and meaningful access through the Medicaid toll free telephone number. Through the translators the LEP person can request and receive any available Medicaid assistance and apply for available Medicaid services. Hispanic is the only significant Limited English Proficiency population in the State of Alabama at 4.1%.

---

**Appendix C: Participant Services**

**C-1: Summary of Services Covered (1 of 2)**

**a. Waiver Services Summary.** List the services that are furnished under the waiver in the following table. If case
management is not a service under the waiver, complete items C-1-b and C-1-c:

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Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
- Statutory Service

Service:
- Day Habilitation

Alternate Service Title (if any):

HCBS Taxonomy:

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</table>

Category 2:                       Sub-Category 2:
Day Habilitation services are services which involve the provision of regularly scheduled activities in non-residential settings, separate from the member’s residence or other residential living arrangement. This service can be provided in a Day Habilitation Facility or in the Community. Regardless of where the service is delivered, activities are designed to foster the acquisition of positive social skills and interpersonal competence, greater independence and ability to exercise and communicate personal choices and preferences. When delivered in the community, services must be designed to enhance opportunities for community integration, participation and involvement including opportunities for positive interactions and relationships with members of the broader community and opportunities to acquire and maintain valued social roles in one’s community. The service provides assistance that supports community participation including achievement of valued social roles that reflect a member’s individualized interests and desires with regard to type(s) of community involvement and community contributions the member prefers. Activities build on the strengths and gifts that each member has to offer to the wider community, identified through individualized strengths-based assessment, and enable the member to broaden horizons and develop/pursue adult learning and personal enrichment goals.

For individuals of retirement age, Day Habilitation services may be used to provide retirement activities. Services should provide supports to assist individuals of retirement age to participate in meaningful retirement activities in their communities and to develop relationships through participation in those activities.

Day Habilitation services shall support and enhance, rather than supplant, an individual’s involvement in public education, post-secondary education/training and competitive integrated employment (or services designed to lead to competitive integrated employment).

Day Habilitation services shall be coordinated with any needed therapies in the individual’s person-centered services plan, such as physical, occupational, or speech therapy. For members with documented degenerative medical conditions, Day Habilitation activities in both facility and integrated community settings may include training, supports and community involvement opportunities that are designed to maintain skills and functioning and to prevent or slow regression, rather than acquiring new skills or improving existing skills.

Day habilitation services are expected to be furnished in a variety of settings, except for the member’s residence, and utilize a provider-owned or controlled setting as a hub or base. Day Habilitation settings must comply fully with the HCBS Settings Rule, therefore ensuring each member’s Day Habilitation service plan includes opportunities to participate a variety of community-based opportunities that are consistent with the purpose and intended outcome of the service and that facilitate the member’s interactions with people from the broader community. This includes opportunities for career exploration and career planning activities specific to pursuing competitive integrated employment for working-age members not already engaged in competitive integrated employment.

When Day Habilitation is authorized, four levels of Day Habilitation can be used for authorization, based on participant characteristics:

Level one day habilitation is for individuals whose ICAP service score is 61 to 99. Minimum staffing ratio for Facility-Based is 1:15; minimum staffing ratio for Community-Based is 1:4; maximum group size for Community-Based is 4 individuals.

Level two day habilitation is for individuals whose ICAP service score is 36 to 60. Minimum staffing ratio for Facility-Based is 1:12; minimum staffing ratio for Community-Based is 1:3; maximum group size for Community-Based is 4 individuals.

Level three day habilitation is for individuals whose ICAP service score is 1 to 35. Minimum staffing ratio for Facility-Based is 1:8; minimum staffing ratio for Community-Based is 1:2; maximum group size for Community-Based is 4 individuals.

Level four day habilitation is for individuals who need one to one support. Minimum staffing ratio for Facility-Based is 1:1; minimum staffing ratio for Community-Based is 1:1; maximum group size for Community-Based is 4 individuals.

Reimbursement rates are associated with each level, based on the associated minimum staffing ratios needed to support persons with different ICAP scores, and whether the service is delivered in a facility-based (provider owned or controlled) setting or integrated community settings. Rates for community-based Day Habilitation (Day Habilitation-Community Access) take account of the more intensive staffing ratios and different costs that are applicable for services delivered in integrated community settings.

For each individual whom the day program transports between his place of residence and the Day Habilitation
facility, when his residence is more than 10 miles as measured in a straight radius from the day program site, an additional payment is available per day of transport. The transportation add-on is also available for Community Day Habilitation, with the same 10-mile rule.

Meals provided as part of these services shall not constitute a “full nutritional regimen” (3 meals per day).

Members who receive Day Habilitation services may also receive one or more Supported Employment services included in the waiver, Prevocational services and physical, occupational, or speech therapy.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

- Day Habilitation services may not be authorized for any individual also receiving Community Experience services per their Plan of Care.
- Day Habilitation services may not be used to support or provide activities involving paid work, including any situation where work done by an individual is required to be paid under state and federal labor laws and any services that are vocational in nature (i.e., for the primary purpose of producing goods or performing services).
- Volunteering cannot involve volunteering for the provider of the service or volunteering in situations where an individual must be paid under existing state and federal labor laws.
  * Day Habilitation services (both facility and community-based) must be delivered according to the individual person-centered plan and using the minimum staffing ratios outlined above. Individuals with similar interests and goals may share staff support as part of the provider meeting the minimum staffing ratios outlined above and the maximum group size of 4 individuals.
  * Day habilitation services cannot exceed 5 hours per day.
  * Day services can only be billed for 247 days (248 days in leap years) per waiver participant.
  * Different types of face-to-face waiver services may not be billed for the same unit of time.

**Service Delivery Method** *(check each that applies)*:

- ☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- ☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by *(check each that applies)*:

- ☐ Legally Responsible Person
- ☐ Relative
- ☐ Legal Guardian

**Provider Specifications**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Day Habilitation Program</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Appendix C: Participant Services**

**C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type: Statutory Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Name: Day Habilitation</td>
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</table>

**Provider Category:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
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</table>

**Provider Type:**

| Certified Day Habilitation Program |

**Provider Qualifications**

License *(specify):*
Day Habilitation providers must demonstrate:

- Ability and capacity to offer members regular (daily) opportunities to access the broader community.
- Use of an individualized service planning process that ensures individual member goals are identified and used to guide service delivery and opportunities offered both in the facility and in the broader community.
- Understanding and use of community mapping strategies to identify opportunities for community involvement and participation that align with each member’s individualized interests and desires with regard to type(s) of community involvement and community contributions they prefer.

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**

ADMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

**Frequency of Verification:**

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

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**Appendix C: Participant Services**

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

**Service Type:**

- Statutory Service

**Service:**

- Supported Employment

**Alternate Service Title (if any):**

Employment Support

**HCBS Taxonomy:**

- **Category 1:**
  - 03 Supported Employment

- **Category 2:**
  - 03 Supported Employment

- **Sub-Category 1:**
  - 03021 ongoing supported employment, individual

- **Sub-Category 2:**
  - 03022 ongoing supported employment, group
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 3:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03 Supported Employment</td>
<td>03010 job development</td>
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Service Definition (Scope):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 4:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 4:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 Other Services</td>
<td>17990 other</td>
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</table>
The setting in which the individual is receiving Supported Employment services comports fully with standards applicable to HCBS settings delivered under Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, and to specific the individual’s choice and assessed need as set forth in the person-centered POC. Freedom of choice also includes the right to select any provider with an active provider agreement with the Department of Mental Health Division of Developmental Disabilities if the provider is available, willing, and able to provide the services needed, and choice of the setting in which services and supports are received which shall be integrated in, and support full access to the greater community, including opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, and receive services in the community to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS. The person centered plan and the plan of care describes all the supports and services necessary to support the person to achieve their desired outcomes and attain or maintain a quality life as defined by them, including services that may be provided through natural supports, the Medicaid State Plan or any other applicable plans and should include a choice of non-disability specific options.

There are two variations of Supported Employment covered within this waiver: 1) Individual Assessment/Discovery, 2) Employment Small Group and Employment Individual.

Individual Assessment/Discovery is a one-time, time-limited and targeted service designed to help an individual, who wishes to pursue individualized, integrated employment or self-employment, to identify through person-centered assessment, planning and exploration: strong interests toward one or more specific aspects of the labor market, skills, strengths and other contributions likely to be valuable to employers or valuable to the community if offered through self-employment and conditions necessary for successful employment or self-employment. Discovery may involve a comprehensive analysis of the person’s history, interviews with family, friends and support staff, observing the person performing work skills, and career research in order to determine the person’s career interests, talents, skills, support needs and choice, and the writing of a Profile, which may be paid for through waiver funds in order to provide a valid assessment for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services which begin with the development of an Employment Plan through VR.

Employment Small Group, most often consists of groups of individuals being supported in enclave or mobile work crew activities. This is reimbursed per 15 minutes unit of service. There are two level of staffing for Employment Small Group. Each level has its own individual to staff ratio. Employment Small Group are services and training activities provided in regular business, industry, and community settings for groups. Group size 1:2-3 and 1:4 have a ratio of one provider staff for each and reimbursement is made based on the group size. Examples of Small Group Employment include mobile crews and other business-based workgroups employing small groups of workers. Employment Small Group services must be provided in a manner that promotes integration into the workplace and interaction between participants and people without disabilities in those workplaces. The outcome of this service is sustained paid employment and work experience leading to further career development and community-based individual employment for which the compensation is at or above the minimum wage, but not less than the customary wage and level of benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by individuals without disabilities.

Employment Individual. Employment Individual includes two distinct levels of services: 1)Job Developer and 2)Job Coach and is reimbursed per 15 minutes unit of service. Both Job Development and Job Coaching services must be provided in integrated settings where the participant is paid at minimum wage (or better).Employment Individual services are the ongoing supports to participants who, because of their disabilities, need intensive on-going support to obtain and maintain an individual job in competitive or customized employment, or self-employment, in an integrated work setting in the general workforce for which an individual is compensated at or above the minimum wage, but not less than the customary wage and level of benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by individuals without disabilities. The outcome of this service is sustained paid employment at or above minimum wage in an integrated setting in the general workforce, in a job that meets personal and career goals. Two procedure codes under this heading are specifically intended to support the provision of supported employment at competitive wages in an integrated worksite: Job Coach and Job Developer. These are different roles and are performed, normally, by different staff. However, some providers may choose to utilize one staff to perform the two distinct services so long as documentation supports the differing activities. The provider agency must also have a QIDP. Supported Employment (both group and individual) services do not include facility based, or other similar types of vocational services furnished in specialized facilities that are not part of the general workplace.

Transportation accommodations to the worksite or supported employment provider's home-base should be a component of the planning process and integrated into the person centered plan. While developing the plan which
will reflect employment goals; transportation issues, concerns, and access should be addressed. All avenues of possible sources of transportation should be considered including public transportation and natural supports such as family. If training is needed in order for a person to access transportation then that training should be outlined in the plan.

**Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:**
The following limitation (A) applies to both (Supported) Employment Small Group and Individual services. Additional limitations regarding (Supported) Employment Individual are listed in (B) below.

(A) Supported employment services furnished under the waiver are not available under a program funded by either the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or P.L. 94-142. Documentation will be maintained in the file of each individual receiving this service that:

1. The service is not otherwise available under a program funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or P.L. 94-142.

FFP will not be claimed for incentive payments, subsidies, or unrelated vocational training expenses such as the following:

1. Incentive payments made to an employer to encourage or subsidize the employer's participation in a supported employment program;
2. Payments that are passed through to users of supported employment programs; or
3. Payments for vocational training that is not directly related to an individual's supported employment program.

Supported Employment, individual and group, does not include facility based or other similar types of vocational services furnished in specialized facilities not a part of the general workplace. Supported Employment, individual and group does not include volunteer work. Such volunteer learning and training activities that prepare a person for entry into the paid workforce are addressed through prevocational services. The Individualized Job Coach and Employment Small Group cannot overlap traditional services; these services cannot be provided during the same hours of the day as Day Habilitation or Prevocational Habilitation. It is expected that the job coach will fade his or her support as the individual becomes more integrated into the employer's workforce. Also, personal care on the worksite can be used to supplant some of the job coach’s faded hours. Thus, the maximum hours for an individual will be presumed to be 836 or 3344 units per year. The optimal support for waiver participants is natural supports in the work environment. However, for those participants who require on-going paid support after the 836 hours are exhausted, a request can be made to the RO Employment Specialists for increased time. Request should justify the need for an extension. The Employment Coordinator will forward the approval to the CSD for approval and addition onto the POC. The Individualized Job Developer can overlap traditional services, up to the maximum 40 hours per year. An employment plan is required initially, and subsequent updates can request modifications to the above limitations based on the observations of the professionals involved and approved by the RO Employment Specialist/Coordinator. The Employment Specialist/Coordinator will forward his approval to the CSD for approval and addition onto the POC. Detailed explanation and rationale will be required.

Discovery/Assessment is limited to no more than a ninety (90) day time period and should not overlap other services and is available for individual participants interested in employment. The expectation is that the majority of the process be performed outside of a facility so a true assessment is completed per individual. Discovery shall be limited to no more than 120 units (30 hours) of service. The provider shall document each date of service, the activities performed that day, and the duration of each activity completed. Reimbursement for Assessment/Discovery should be billed at three distinct intervals during the process. The first billing for services occurs after one third, no more than 10 hours or 40 units, of the assessment/discovery process and requires documentation of activities performed that support the billing during the first period of the assessment process. The second billing for services occurs at the two thirds, no more than 10 hours or 40 units, of assessment/discovery process and also requires documentation of activities performed that support the billing during the second period of assessment process. The information developed through Discovery allows for activities of typical life to be translated into possibilities for integrated employment. Discovery results in the production of a detailed written Profile summarizing the process, learning and recommendations for next steps. The written Profile is due no later than ninety (90) days after the service commences. The final payment for assessment/discovery is billed after the completion of the report, and can include no more than 10 hours or 40 units of service. This service is limited to two assessments per each waiver participant, with the second assessment being conducted only if the participant changes service providers. To exceed the capped amount, documented justification should be sent to the Employment Coordinator at the Central Office, or the Employment Specialist at the Regional office. Approvals will then follow the established request for service procedures. No waiver participant can receive more than four assessment/discovery services over the lifetime of the waiver.
Expectations and Outcomes:
Once an Assessment/Discovery is complete, the job development should begin with job placement as the expected outcome. Providers must expect to submit reports requested and designed by the DMH/DDD (and the Alabama Medicaid Agency and CMS, should the requests be made). Reports will support the measurement of outcomes.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Waiver Hourly Service Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Day Habilitation Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Statutory Service
Service Name: Employment Support

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Certified Waiver Hourly Service Provider

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies and Procedures

Other Standard (specify):
Supported Employment (Individual) Service Provider Qualifications

Job Coach and Job Developer workers may be employed by, or under contract with, any agency that qualifies to provide hourly services under the waiver. Any agency or individual undertaking the provider on this service must employ or contract with a QIDP to provide the required supervision and must meet the other requirements in this addendum related to training, plans of care, documentation, and reporting.

The primary requirements for the provider agency are to:

a) Handle all payroll taxes required by law
b) Provide training and supervision as required by this scope of services
c) Maintain records to assure the worker was qualified, the service was provided, and provided in accordance with the plan of care
d) Implement a plan and method for providing backup at any time it is needed
e) Implement and assure the person and his or her family are and remain satisfied with the service

Assessment Discovery: ADMH/DDD approved Employment Training completion is necessary for the provision of this service.

Supported Employment Individual: Job Coach

The minimal requirement for this position is graduation from high school or its equivalent and two years of work experience. A Bachelor's Degree, preferable with a major concentration in rehabilitation, industrial arts, vocational education, psychology or a related field is preferred. Work experience of a supervisory or training nature as well as knowledge of persons with disabilities would be particularly desirable.

The Job Developer, in addition to the Job Coach Qualifications, will complete a minimum of one certificate-based job development and placement curriculum. The Supported Employment Coordinator for the Division of Developmental Disabilities will provide an approved listing of such curriculums.

Benefits and Limitations

Job Coach hours must be flexible in order to meet needs as they arise.

Individuals who are more capable may need less support over the long term, while individuals who are less capable may need more support, therefore the number of units authorized should be based on the person-centered plan and placed on the individual plan of care.

Furthermore, it is expected that the job coach will fade his or her support as the individual becomes more integrated into the workplace.

Thus, the maximum hours for an individual will be presumed to be 836 or 3344 units per year. An employment addendum is required as part of the person-centered plan, and any updates can request modifications to the above limitations. All changes should be reflected on the individual plan of care. Detailed explanation and rationale will be required.

Job Specification:

The Job Coach is responsible to the Program Director for the training and associated support services necessary to ensure the successful employment of individuals involved in Supported Employment. The Job Coach works under the direction of a QDDP/program manager. The provider must have a QIDP to ensure the plan is implemented as prescribed.

The specific duties of the Job Coach include:

a. Training of individuals in supported work to perform specific jobs consistent with their abilities;
b. Working with employers to modify or adapt job duties or workstations so individuals in supported work can have the maximum opportunity for job success. This may involve job and task analysis, employer interviews, and actual job performance to insure a thorough understanding of the specific job and general job rules prior to placement of the client;
c. Teaching individuals associated work skills, responsibilities and behaviors not related to the specific
job being performed, such as how to complete a time-card, when and where to take bathroom and lunch breaks, safety precautions, etc.;

d. Assisting each individual placed in a job-training program to become an integrated member of the work force. This may happen in the general course of the job but could require activity such as encouragement of the individual worker or other employees to communicate with each other, or the provision of disability awareness training to workers of the company;

e. Working with individual to be placed in employment and/or with family or service provider to insure that the individual has reliable transportation to and from work, adequate housing, and emotional support for his or her job efforts;

f. Making every effort to insure that the individual in supported work and the job are appropriately matched through comprehensive vocational assessment (Situational Assessment and/or Discovery) prior to job placement. Part of the assessment may include reviewing current progress notes in individual's present placement, studying referral information, and working with the individual to assess work skills;

g. Communicating through written and oral reports on progress of individual's in supported work to Program Director and other program staff; follow oral or written instructions (such as the care plan or rehabilitation plan);

h. Providing continued ongoing support to individual's in supported work;

i. Performing other job duties necessary to ensure the success of individual's in supported work as well as any additional tasks assigned by the Program Director that will be of benefit to other individuals in the program.

Individualized Job Coach:

a. Performing a vocational assessment such as Situational Assessment or Discovery (prior to job development) which will be utilized for job development and placement.

b. Development of plan for employment as part of the person centered planning process but with distinct employment outcomes.

c. On the job training and skill development

d. Facilitating job accommodations and use of assistive technology

e. Job site analysis (matching job site needs with needs of the person), job carving

f. Educating the person and others on the job site regarding rights and responsibilities, accommodations needed, natural supports and the role of self-advocacy in the work place.

g. Participation with the interdisciplinary team to support the person to achieve chosen employment outcomes.

h. Facilitate transportation arrangements with team.

i. Documentation: progress on training goals and documentation of training; progress notes on a per day basis rather than a per unit basis.

Individualized Job Developer:

a. Marketing the service and person's skills

b. Employer Negotiation

c. Job Structuring (negotiating hours or location to meet the abilities of the person)

d. Job Carving

e. Placement: once placement is arranged, the job coach enters, and when a need is obvious and documented to transition the individual, there may be a cross-over (transfer) period to total no more than 5 hours for the two services.

The supported employment provider agency should also have a QIDP.

Training Requirements:

The training program for Supported Employment personnel will reinforce the responsibility to insure successful employment of recipients involved in supported employment. The personnel must be certified by a QIDP as having completed training approved by DMH/DDD. This certification must be documented and is subject to review by DMH/DDD and Alabama Medicaid. Minimum training requirements shall include the following areas:

a. Overview of intellectual and developmental disabilities

b. Skills to identify recipient abuse, neglect and mistreatment and reporting procedures
c. Recipient rights and grievance procedures

d. Ability to read, write and follow the individualized plan of care.

e. Planning and conducting appropriate activities to support the person in finding and maintaining employment.

Ongoing training will be conducted as needed but at least annually for training requirements b and c above.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service Type: Statutory Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Name: Employment Support</td>
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</table>

Provider Category:

Agency

Provider Type:

Certified Day Habilitation Program

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies and Procedures

Other Standard (specify):
(Supported) Employment Small Group providers must meet the same standards as the Day Habilitation provider. The Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities requires certification of programs delivering Supported Employment services. Standards are in Alabama Code, Chapters 580-3-23 and 580-5-33. There are base standards for the traditional, day habilitation model listed at (A) below; additional or modified requirements apply for the Individualized Employment model (Job Coach and Job Developer) and are listed under the Provider Type Certified Hourly Supports Program.

(A) An applicant wishing to provide these services must provide written statements of the program facility’s compliance with fire and health standards and submit these and other documentation to the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

When the application, supporting data, and site visit prove the program or service is in full compliance with certification requirements, a certification certificate will be issued by the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

Subsequent site inspections shall be scheduled in accordance with policy and procedures of the Department's Office of Certification Administration. Programmatic re-surveys are conducted at one or two year intervals depending on the previous survey outcome.

Programs delivering Supported Employment services shall have written mission statements for dissemination to prospective clients and their families. The mission statement shall address:

- Program philosophy and purpose;
- Geographical area served;
- Range of services provided; and
- Population served, including criteria for service eligibility, program admission and program discharge.

The staffing pattern shall be appropriate to the type and scope of program services and shall include staff members who meet the experiential and educational qualifications set forth in the approved job descriptions. The program shall develop and maintain appropriate, up-to-date staffing schedules. Staff to client daily ratio shall not be more than specified in the service description. No client shall ever be left unsupervised unless the activity is part of a structured activity or plan of care.

In addition to certification, the following requirements apply to the providers staff.

Employment Small Group personnel will meet the same requirements as basic direct care staff:
- Qualifications:
  - High School diploma or equivalent
  - Minimum 1 year experience working with persons with ID
  - Background check; drug testing.
- Training in career development planning and vocational assessment, in addition to what the DMH/DDD standards require.
- Assessment Discovery: ADMH/DDD approved Employment Training completion is necessary for the provision of this service.

Supported Employment Individual: Job Coach
The minimal requirement for this position is graduation from high school or its equivalent and two years of work experience. A Bachelor's Degree, preferable with a major concentration in rehabilitation, industrial arts, vocational education, psychology or a related field is preferred. Work experience of a supervisory or training nature as well as knowledge of persons with disabilities would be particularly desirable.

The Job Developer, in addition to the Job Coach Qualifications, will complete a minimum of one certificate based job development and placement curriculum. The Supported Employment Coordinator for the Division of Developmental Disabilities will provide an approved listing of such curriculums.
Benefits and Limitations

Job Coach hours must be flexible in order to meet needs as they arise.

Individuals who are more capable may need less support over the long term, while individuals who are less capable may need more support, therefore the number of units authorized should be based on the person centered plan and placed on the individual plan of care. Furthermore, it is expected that the job coach will fade his or her support as the individual becomes more integrated into the workplace. Thus, the maximum hours for an individual will be presumed to be 836 or 3344 units per year. An employment addendum is required as part of the person centered plan, and any updates can request modifications to the above limitations. All changes should be reflected on the individual plan of care. Detailed explanation and rationale will be required.

Job Specification:

The Job Coach is responsible to the Program Director for the training and associated support services necessary to ensure the successful employment of individuals involved in Supported Employment. The Job Coach works under the direction of a QIDP/program manager. The provider must have a QIDP to ensure the plan is implemented as prescribed.

The specific duties of the Job Coach include:

a. Training of individuals in supported work to perform specific jobs consistent with their abilities;
b. Working with employers to modify or adapt job duties or work stations so individuals in supported work can have the maximum opportunity for job success. This may involve job and task analysis, employer interviews, and actual job performance to insure a thorough understanding of the specific job and general job rules prior to placement of the client;
c. Teaching individuals associated work skills, responsibilities and behaviors not related to the specific job being performed, such as how to complete a time card, when and where to take bathroom and lunch breaks, safety precautions, etc.;
d. Assisting each individual placed in a job-training program to become an integrated member of the work force. This may happen in the general course of the job but could require activity such as encouragement of the individual worker or other employees to communicate with each other, or the provision of disability awareness training to workers of the company;
e. Working with individual to be placed in employment and/or with family or service provider to insure that the individual has reliable transportation to and from work, adequate housing, and emotional support for his or her job efforts;
f. Making every effort to insure that the individual in supported work and the job are appropriately matched through comprehensive vocational assessment (Situational Assessment and/or Discovery) prior to job placement. Part of the assessment may include reviewing current progress notes in individual's present placement, studying referral information, and working with the individual to assess work skills;
g. Communicating through written and oral reports on progress of individual's in supported work to Program Director and other program staff; follow oral or written instructions (such as the care plan or rehabilitation plan);
h. Providing continued ongoing support to individual's in supported work;
i. Performing other job duties necessary to ensure the success of individual's in supported work as well as any additional tasks assigned by the Program Director that will be of benefit to other individuals in the program.

Individualized Job Coach:

a. Performing a vocational assessment such as Situational Assessment or Discovery (prior to job development) which will be utilized for job development and placement.
b. Development of plan for employment as part of the person centered planning process but with distinct employment outcomes.
c. On the job training and skill development
d. Facilitating job accommodations and use of assistive technology
e. Job site analysis (matching job site needs with needs of the person), job carving
f. Educating the person and others on the job site regarding rights and responsibilities,
accommodations needed, natural supports and the role of self-advocacy in the work place.
g. Participation with the interdisciplinary team to support the person to achieve chosen employment outcomes.
h. Facilitate transportation arrangements with team.
i. Documentation: progress on training goals and documentation of training; progress notes on a per day basis rather than a per unit basis.

Individualized Job Developer:
a. Marketing the service and person's skills
b. Employer Negotiation
c. Job Structuring (negotiating hours or location to meet the abilities of the person)
d. Job Carving
e. Placement: once placement is arranged, the job coach enters, and when a need is obvious and documented to transition the individual, there may be a cross-over (transfer) period to total no more than 5 hours for the two services

The supported employment provider agency should also have a QIDP.

Training Requirements:
The training program for Supported Employment personnel will reinforce the responsibility to insure successful employment of recipients involved in supported employment. The personnel must be certified by a QIDP as having completed training approved by DMH/DDD. This certification must be documented and is subject to review by DMH/DDD and Alabama Medicaid. Minimum training requirements shall include the following areas:
a. Overview of intellectual and developmental disabilities
b. Skills to identify recipient abuse, neglect and mistreatment and reporting procedures
c. Recipient rights and grievance procedures
d. Ability to read, write and follow the individualized plan of care.
e. Planning and conducting appropriate activities to support the person in finding and maintaining employment.

Ongoing training will be conducted as needed but at least annually for training requirements b and c above.
Benefits and Limitations
Job Coach hours must be flexible in order to meet needs as they arise.

Individuals who are more capable may need less support over the long term, while individuals who are less capable may need more support, therefore the number of units authorized should be based on the person centered plan and placed on the individual plan of care. Furthermore, it is expected that the job coach will fade his or her support as the individual becomes more integrated into the workplace. Thus, the maximum hours for an individual will be presumed to be 836 or 3344 units per year. An employment addendum is required as part of the person centered plan, and any updates can request modifications to the above limitations. All changes should be reflected on the individual plan of care. Detailed explanation and rationale will be required.

Job Specification:
The Job Coach is responsible to the Program Director for the training and associated support services necessary to ensure the successful employment of individuals involved in Supported Employment. The Job Coach works under the direction of a QIDP/program manager. The provider must have a QIDP to ensure the plan is implemented as prescribed.

The specific duties of the Job Coach include:

a. Training of individuals in supported work to perform specific jobs consistent with their abilities;
b. Working with employers to modify or adapt job duties or work stations so individuals in supported work can have the maximum opportunity for job success. This may involve job and task analysis, employer interviews, and actual job performance to insure a thorough understanding of the specific job and general job rules prior to placement of the client;
c. Teaching individuals associated work skills, responsibilities and behaviors not related to the specific job being performed, such as how to complete a time card, when and where to take bathroom and lunch breaks, safety precautions, etc.;
d. Assisting each individual placed in a job-training program to become an integrated member of the work force. This may happen in the general course of the job but could require activity such as encouragement of the individual worker or other employees to communicate with each other, or the provision of disability awareness training to workers of the company;
e. Working with individual to be placed in employment and/or with family or service provider to insure that the individual has reliable transportation to and from work, adequate housing, and emotional support for his or her job efforts;
f. Making every effort to insure that the individual in supported work and the job are appropriately matched through comprehensive vocational assessment (Situational Assessment and/or Discovery) prior to job placement. Part of the assessment may include reviewing current progress notes in individual's present placement, studying referral information, and working with the individual to assess work skills;
g. Communicating through written and oral reports on progress of individual's in supported work to Program Director and other program staff; follow oral or written instructions (such as the care plan or rehabilitation plan);
h. Providing continued ongoing support to individual's in supported work;
i. Performing other job duties necessary to ensure the success of individual's in supported work as well as any additional tasks assigned by the Program Director that will be of benefit to other individuals in the program.

Individualized Job Coach:

a. Performing a vocational assessment such as Situational Assessment or Discovery (prior to job development) which will be utilized for job development and placement.
b. Development of plan for employment as part of the person centered planning process but with distinct employment outcomes.
c. On the job training and skill development
d. Facilitating job accommodations and use of assistive technology
e. Job site analysis (matching job site needs with needs of the person), job carving
f. Educating the person and others on the job site regarding rights and responsibilities,
accommodations needed, natural supports and the role of self-advocacy in the work place.
g. Participation with the interdisciplinary team to support the person to achieve chosen employment outcomes.
h. Facilitate transportation arrangements with team.
i. Documentation: progress on training goals and documentation of training; progress notes on a per day basis rather than a per unit basis.

Individualized Job Developer:
a. Marketing the service and person's skills
b. Employer Negotiation
c. Job Structuring (negotiating hours or location to meet the abilities of the person)
d. Job Carving
e. Placement: once placement is arranged, the job coach enters, and when a need is obvious and documented to transition the individual, there may be a cross-over (transfer) period to total no more than 5 hours for the two services

The supported employment provider agency should also have a QIDP.

Training Requirements:
The training program for Supported Employment personnel will reinforce the responsibility to insure successful employment of recipients involved in supported employment. The personnel must be certified by a QIDP as having completed training approved by DMH/DDD. This certification must be documented and is subject to review by DMH/DDD and Alabama Medicaid. Minimum training requirements shall include the following areas:
a. Overview of intellectual and developmental disabilities
b. Skills to identify recipient abuse, neglect and mistreatment and reporting procedures
c. Recipient rights and grievance procedures
d. Ability to read, write and follow the individualized plan of care.
e. Planning and conducting appropriate activities to support the person in finding and maintaining employment.

Ongoing training will be conducted as needed but at least annually for training requirements b and c above.

Verification of Provider Qualifications
Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:
Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services
C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Statutory Service

Service:
## Personal Care

### Alternate Service Title (if any):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCBS Taxonomy:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category 1:</strong></td>
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<td>08 Home-Based Services</td>
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<td><strong>Service Definition (Scope):</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Category 4:</strong></td>
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</table>
Personal Care Services include assistance with any activity of daily living (ADL) or instrumental activity of daily living (IADL). Assistance for ADLs includes bathing, toileting, transfer and ambulation, skin care, grooming, dressing, extension of therapies and exercise, routine care of adaptive equipment primarily involving cleaning as needed, meal preparation, assistance with eating, and incidental household cleaning and laundry. IADLs include assistance with shopping, budgeting, using public transportation, social interaction, recreation, and leisure activities. Assistance with IADLs includes accompaniment, coaching and minor problem-solving necessary to achieve the objectives of increased independence, productivity and inclusion in the community.

Personal Care can also include supporting a person at an integrated worksite where the individual is paid a competitive wage. There is a separate code for this service, to distinguish it from other personal care activities.

Personal care attendants may transport individuals in their own (the attendant's) vehicles as an incidental component of this service. For this component to be reimbursed, the personal care attendant must be needed to support the individual in accessing the community, and not merely to provide transportation. The attendant must have a valid driver's license and his/her own insurance coverage as required by State law. The provider agency shall assure the attendant has a good driving record and is in-serviced on safety procedures when transporting an individual. This service will provide transportation into the community to shop, attend recreational and civic events, go to work and participate in People First and other community building activities. It shall not replace transportation that is already reimbursable under day or residential habilitation nor the Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation program. The planning team must also assure the most cost effective means of transportation, which would include public transport where available. Transportation by a personal care attendant is not intended to replace generic transportation or to be used merely for convenience.

Personal care under the waiver may also include general supervision and protective oversight reasonable to accomplishing of health, safety and inclusion. The worker may directly perform some activities and support the client in learning how to perform others; the planning team (composed at minimum of the person and family, and support coordinator) shall determine the composition of the service and assure it does not duplicate, nor is duplicated by, any other service provided to the individual. A written description of what the personal care worker will provide to the person is required to be submitted to the state as part of or in addition to the plan of care, and will require approval by the Division of Developmental Disabilities and be subject to review by the Single State Agency for Medicaid.

Self-Directed Personal Care Services

This definition of Personal Care Services is intended to allow participants and their families to recruit, hire, train, supervise, and if necessary to discharge, their own personal care workers. The workers will be paid by a fiscal intermediary, also known as a FMSA (Financial Management Service Agency).

The definition of Self-Directed Personal Care Services includes assistance with any activity of daily living (ADL) or instrumental activity of daily living (IADL). Assistance for ADLs includes bathing, toileting, transfer and ambulation, skin care, grooming, dressing, extension of therapies and exercise, routine care of adaptive equipment primarily involving cleaning as needed, meal preparation, assistance with eating, and incidental household cleaning and laundry. IADLs include shopping, banking, budgeting, using public transportation, social interaction, recreation, and leisure activities. Assistance with IADLs includes accompaniment, coaching and minor problem-solving necessary to achieve the objectives of increased independence, productivity and inclusion in the community.

Self-Directed Personal Care may also include general supervision and protective oversight reasonable to ensure the health, safety and inclusion of the client. The worker may directly perform some activities and support the client in learning how to perform others; the planning team (composed at minimum of the person and family, and a case manager) shall determine the composition of the service.

Self-Directed Personal Care may include supporting the participant at an integrated worksite where the participant is paid a competitive wage. There is not a separate rate or service code for this support when it is self directed.

Self-Directed personal care attendants may transport individuals in their own (the attendant's) vehicles as an incidental component of this service. For this component to be reimbursed, the personal care attendant must be needed to support the individual in accessing the community, and not merely to provide transportation. Additional payment will be made to the worker for mileage. The attendant must have a valid driver's license and insurance.
coverage as required by State law. This service may provide transportation into the community to shop, attend recreational and civic events, go to work and participate in People First and other community building activities. It shall not replace transportation that is already reimbursable under day or residential habilitation nor the Medicaid non-emergency transportation program. Transportation by a personal care attendant is not intended to replace generic transportation or to be used merely for convenience.

The plan of care or an addendum shall specify any special requirements for training, more than basic training, which may be needed to support the individual. Individuals and their families shall be key informers on the matter of special training, and will be responsible for providing such training to their workers.

There is no restriction on the place of service as long as the person is eligible for the waiver in that setting and no duplication of payment occurs. Payment is for a 15-minute unit of service delivered to the individual, and does not include the worker's time of travel to and from the place of work.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:
Personal care is limited to no more than 12 hours/48 units each day for individuals living in the home with relatives or caregivers and those waiver participants living independently. The number of hours provided may exceed 12 hours/48 units per day for those who have an assessed need for additional support, but the approval will be based upon the emergent need. The plan of care or an addendum shall specify any special requirements for training, more than the basic training, which may be needed to support the individual. Parents and other caretakers shall be key informers on the matter of special training, and will be encouraged to participate in the training and supervision of the worker.

When this service is provided to participants living with their parents or guardians, it shall not supplant the cost and provision of support ordinarily provided by parents to children without disabilities, nor shall it supplant educationally related services and support that is the responsibility of local education authorities. The number of hours/units provided to the individual documents assessed need for the service as an alternative to institutional care and the reasonable cost effectiveness of his or her plan.

There is no restriction on the place of service so long as the person is eligible for the waiver in that setting and no duplication of payment occurs. Payment is for a 15-minute unit of service delivered to the individual, not including worker's time of travel to and from the place of work.

Agency provided Personal Care Workers shall not be members of the immediate family (parents, spouses, children) of the person being supported, nor may they be legally obligated in any other way to provide the service. Any other relatives, or friends, who are employed to provide services shall meet the qualifications for providers of care and, as for all other personal care workers, payment shall only be made for services actually rendered. Employment of a relative or friend shall be noted and justified in the individual's record by the provider agency.

While in general personal care will not be approved for a person living in a group home or other residential setting, the Division of Developmental Disabilities may approve it for specific purposes that are not duplicative.

Self-Directed Personal Care may not be provided to participants who lack the necessary support systems to ensure the responsibilities of employing staff are carried out and that the participant's security and well-being is maintained. Thus, this service would typically be provided to participants who live in their own homes with family members or other responsible relatives who can assist with the responsibilities of administering a self-directed service program. Self-Directed Personal Care may also be provided in settings where the individual lives in his own house or apartment alone or with others, with the assistance of family or a circle of support, but the Regional Community Service Office must review and approve this arrangement before it can be reimbursed. The purpose of this review is to assure the support is near and frequent enough to carry out the needed tasks and also to assure there is no conflict of interest.

When this service is provided to individuals living with their family/guardians, it shall not supplant the cost and provision of support ordinarily provided by family/guardians without disabilities, nor shall it supplant educationally related services and support that is the responsibility of local education authorities. Otherwise, the only limitation on hours provided is the individual's documented need for the service as an alternative to institutional care and the reasonable cost effectiveness of his or her plan.

For persons under the age of 21, this service may be used in addition to Personal Care Services available through the EPSTLD benefit in order to meet an individual's goals in their PCCP and prevent institutionalization.

**Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):**

- [x] Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- [ ] Provider managed

**Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):**

- [ ] Legally Responsible Person
- [x] Relative
- [ ] Legal Guardian

**Provider Specifications:**

12/22/2020
Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Statutory Service
Service Name: Personal Care

Provider Category: Agency
Provider Type: Certified Waiver Hourly Services Provider

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies and Procedures.

Other Standard (specify):

Personal Care Services Provider Qualifications

Personal care workers may be employed by, or under contract with, any agency qualified to provide services under the waiver, and by home health and other home care agencies, and individuals that may not otherwise be waiver providers. Any agency or individual undertaking the provision of this service must employ or contract with a QIDP to provide the required supervision and must meet the other requirements of this addendum related to training, plans of care, documentation and reporting.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH/DD Certification

Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or Biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Statutory Service
Service Name: Personal Care

Provider Category: Individual
Provider Type:
Self-Directed Personal Care Worker

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):
Self Directed Personal Care Workers:
* Must have at least two references, one from work and/or school, and one personal, which have been verified by the individual or family (with or without the support of a consultant).
* Must have background checks required by law and regulation
* Must be at least 18 years of age
* Must be able to read and write and understand instructions, as verified by the individual or family.
* If providing transportation, must have valid driver's license and insurance as required by State Law

Training Requirements

This service is intended to promote self-determination of waiver participants. The individual and/or his family are to select and hire staff, and to provide training and supervision to the worker(s). The family must be trained on the types of incidents to report, who to report to and the timeframes to report any incidents.

Basic elements of training shall be provided prior to the worker delivering services and includes:

Procedures and expectations related to the personal care worker including following the Plan of Care, the rights and responsibilities of the worker and the individual, reporting and record keeping requirements, procedures for arranging backup when needed, and who to contact within the FMSA, the case management agency and regional office. In addition and as needed, training in the following areas will be provided by the family or others and recorded.

a) Information about the specific condition and needs of the person to be served, including his or her physical, psychological or behavioral challenges, his or her capabilities, and his or her support needs and preferences related to that support.
b) If administration of ordinarily self-administered medication is required by the individual, training and ongoing supervision in medication administration.
c) Training as needed in communication skills; in understanding and respecting individual choice and direction; in respecting the individual's confidentiality, cultural and ethnic diversity, personal property and familial and social relationships; in handling conflict and complaints and in responding to emergencies.
d) Training in assisting with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living, as needed by the individual and identified by the plan of care.
e) Training on the types of incidents and incident reporting is required.

Supervision

Supervision of the self-directed personal care workers is the responsibility of the family and/or the individual.

Documentation

The family and individual must maintain documentation of the dates and hours of service provided and provide this to the FMSA bi-weekly. These records are necessary for audits performed by CMS, Medicaid, and/or ADMH/DDD monitors and auditors. Daily or weekly logs, signed by the worker and by the individual or family member, which identify the individual, the worker providing the service, the date(s) of service, the time service began and the time service ended, and the activities provided within each span of work, will be required. A form will be provided by the FMSA or may be collected by an electronic visit verification system as required by federal law.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:
Self Directed Personal Care Services Financial Management Services

The self-directed personal care workers will be employed by the family and participant, who will be employers of record. The family and individual will be supported by a Financial Management Service Agency (FMSA). The FMSA will pay the personal care workers employed by the family and participant, on a bi-weekly basis. Payment will be made on the basis of receipt of one time card per personal care worker, which will document the hours the worker has worked during the bi-weekly pay period with an indication of the service rendered for that time period (i.e. adult companion, personal care).

The FMSA will withhold the necessary tax amounts, including employer's share, and pay these amounts to the proper authorities on a quarterly basis. In addition to withholding FICA and Unemployment, the Fiscal Agent will withhold and submit income taxes for the workers. The primary requirements for the FMSA are to:

a) Handle all payroll taxes required by law
b) Assist with the documentation of training and other qualifications of workers as required by the waiver, including verification of citizenship.
c) Maintain records to assure the worker was qualified, the service was provided in accordance with the plan of care
d) Furnish background checks on prospective employees
e) Provide the person and family with easy access to resolve problems with payroll and provide a notification route for any other issues that may arise. This means that the FMSA, if it hears that a change may be needed or that a backup plan needs to start, will notify the operating agency, the self directed liaison and the case manager. The objective is to provide a network within which, no matter which contact the person or family makes, the information is shared and the reaction is comprehensive.
f) Also, the FMSA will help to assure the person and his or her family are and remain satisfied with the service.

Frequency of Verification:

Workers employed by individuals and families will have their qualifications verified initially by the FMSA, and no further verification is necessary unless a situation or qualification changes and the participant or family reports it to the FMSA. Exclusion lists are checked monthly.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Statutory Service

Service:
Prevocational Services

Alternate Service Title (if any):

HCBS Taxonomy:
Service Definition

Category 1: 04 Day Services

Sub-Category 1: 04010 prevocational services

Category 2:

Sub-Category 2:

Category 3:

Sub-Category 3:

Category 4:

Sub-Category 4:

Service Definition (Scope):

Category 4:

Sub-Category 4:
Prevocational services are designed to create a path to competitive integrated employment, which includes competitive integrated self-employment and customized employment or customized self-employment that otherwise meets the criteria for being competitive and integrated. Competitive integrated employment is employment that meets all of the following criteria: (1) ensures compensation is at least the locally established minimum wage where the member works; (2) occurs in a location typically found in the community; (3) enables the member to interact with co-workers and customers to the same extent as a person without a disability filling a similar position; (4) for wage employment, ensures the employer of record is the business or organization benefitting from the work done by the member; and (5) offers the member an individualized position.

This service can be provided in a Prevocational Facility or in the Community. Regardless of where the service is delivered, activities involve the provision of learning and skill-building experiences, including community-based volunteering for an organization other than the service provider, where a member can develop general, non-job-task-specific strengths and skills that contribute to employability in competitive integrated employment. Services are intended to develop and teach general skills for competitive integrated employment, including but not limited to: ability to communicate effectively with supervisors, coworkers and customers; generally accepted community workplace conduct and dress; ability to follow directions; ability to attend to tasks; workplace problem solving skills and strategies; general workplace safety and mobility training. Services are expected to specifically involve strategies that enhance a member’s desire for, and employability in, competitive integrated employment. Prevocational services, regardless of how and where they are delivered, are expected to help members make reasonable and continued progress toward participation in at least part-time competitive integrated employment.

Individuals receiving prevocational services must have a competitive integrated employment goals in their person-centered plan and prevocational services must be designed to support such employment goals.

Prevocational services are expected to be furnished in a variety of settings in the community, except for the member’s residence or other waiver-funded residential settings. While a provider may utilize a provider-owned or controlled setting as a hub or base for service delivery, and that setting may include individuals without disabilities who are not receiving HCBS, prevocational services must be delivered consistent with all of the requirements of the HCBS Settings Rule, therefore ensuring each individual’s Prevocational service plan includes opportunities to participate a variety of community-based activities that are consistent with the purpose and intended outcome of the service and that facilitate the individual’s access to the broader community and interactions, in the broader community, including with people not receiving HCBS. This includes opportunities for career exploration specific to pursuing competitive integrated employment.

Participation in prevocational services is not a required prerequisite for individual or small group supported employment services under the waiver. Prevocational services differ from vocational services (supports for employment as an end in and of itself) in that prevocational services, regardless of setting, are delivered for furthering habilitation goals that will lead to opportunities for competitive and integrated employment and career advancement at or above minimum wage.

Individuals receiving prevocational services may pursue competitive integrated employment opportunities while receiving prevocational services at any time to enter the general workforce.

Individuals participating in prevocational services that involve work shall be compensated in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations. Compensation at sub-minimum wage shall comply with the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA) including WIOA provision for youth with disabilities under age 26.

Reimbursement rates are associated with the minimum staffing ratios needed to support persons based on whether the service is delivered in a facility-based (provider controlled) setting or an integrated community setting, taking account of the different staffing ratios and different costs that are applicable for services delivered in integrated community settings. The minimum staffing ratio for community-based Prevocational services is 1:3 with a maximum group size of 3 individuals. The minimum staffing ratio for facility-based Prevocational Services is 1:15.

Transportation between the individual’s place of residence and the provider facility, or site where the individual starts and ends Prevocational services each day, is included as a component part of the service if such transportation cannot be arranged for the individual in another way. Transportation during the service is always a component part of the service.
Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

This service cannot be authorized or reauthorized for an individual who does not desire and document an outcome of competitive integrated employment in his/her individual plan.

An individual’s Plan of Care may include two or more types of day and employment services; however, different types of day and employment services may not be billed for the same unit of time.

Individuals receiving Prevocational Services that include facility-based service time may not also have Community Experience services in their Plan of Care.

To ensure effectiveness of service delivery models, reimbursable service models shall be those that do not limited weekly service delivery only to participation in paid facility-based work. This activity alone is not sufficient to constitute a prevocational service consistent with the approved definition.

If authorized for an individual already working in competitive integrated employment, the service must be focused on goals related to ensuring the individual’s success in, and ability to sustain, competitive integrated employment, and the individual’s competitive integrated employment must be sufficient enough to warrant the authorization of this service as a support for sustaining successful participation in competitive integrated employment (i.e. at least twelve (12) hours per week).

Prevocational services may be provided to supplement, but may not duplicate, services available and provided to the individual as part of an approved Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) funded by ADRS or under an approved Individualized Education Plan (IEP) funded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Prior to authorizing this service, the member’s record documents this service is not otherwise available to the member, in a timeframe that is otherwise typical, through a program funded by ADRS under the section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or, for individuals ages 18-22, through a program funded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (20 U.S.C.1401 et seq).

The hours of service cannot exceed 5 hours per day. Prevocational services are limited to a total 2470 hours for a waiver participant. Authorization of units beyond this limit may only be approved if the individual is actively engaged in obtaining competitive integrated employment either through ADRS services, waiver supported employment-individual services or another verifiable funding source.

The expectation is that, before the 2,470 unit limit is exhausted, a referral will be made to ADRS to begin the Milestone program for supported employment job placement and job coaching to stabilization or the individual would utilize the individual supported employment job development services under the waiver.

Service Delivery Method *(check each that applies)*:

- ☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- ✗ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by *(check each that applies)*:

- ☐ Legally Responsible Person
- ☐ Relative
- ☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

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<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Prevocational Program</td>
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Appendix C: Participant Services
C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

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<tr>
<th>Service Type:</th>
<th>Statutory Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Service Name:</td>
<td>Prevocational Services</td>
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**Provider Category:**
- [ ] Agency

**Provider Type:**
- Certified Prevocational Program

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**

**Certificate (specify):**

- Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies and procedures.

**Other Standard (specify):**
An applicant wishing to provide these services must provide written statements of the program facility's compliance with fire and health standards and submit these and other documentation to the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

When the application, supporting data, and site visit prove the program or service is in full compliance with certification requirements, a certificate will be issued by the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

Subsequent site inspections shall be scheduled in accordance with policy and procedures of the Office of Certification Administration. Programmatic re-surveys are conducted at one or two year intervals depending on the previous survey outcome.

Programs delivering Prevocational services shall have written mission statements for dissemination to prospective clients and their families. The mission statement shall address:

- Program philosophy and purpose; Geographical area served;
- Range of services provided; and
- Population served, including criteria for service eligibility, program admission and program discharge.

The staffing pattern shall be appropriate to the type and scope of program services and shall include staff members who meet the experiential and educational qualifications set forth in the approved job descriptions. The program shall develop and maintain appropriate, up-to-date staffing schedules. Staff to client daily ratio shall not be more than 1:15 in facility based prevocational. The ratio for community based prevocational service is 1:3 No client shall ever be left unsupervised unless the activity is part of a structured activity or plan of care.

Day Habilitation providers must also demonstrate:
- Ability and capacity to offer members regular (daily) opportunities to access the broader community.
- Use of an individualized service planning process that ensures individual member goals are identified and used to guide service delivery and opportunities offered both in the facility and in the broader community.
- Understanding and use of community mapping strategies to identify opportunities for community involvement and participation that align with each member’s individualized interests and desires with regard to type(s) of community involvement and community contributions they prefer.

In addition to certification, the following requirements apply to the provider's staff:

**Activity Program Aide: Job Specifications**

a) Must have at least two references from work and/or school, and one personal, which have been verified by the provider agency
b) Must have background checks required by law and regulation
c) Must be at least 18 years of age
d) Must be able to read and write and follow instructions
e) Must be able to follow the plan of care with minimal supervision unless there is a change in the person's condition
f) Must have no physical or mental impairment that would prevent providing the needed assistance to the person
g) If providing transportation, must have valid driver's license and insurance as required by State Law

**Training Requirements:**

Prior to assignment, each Habilitation Aide will be required to be certified by the provider agency as having completed a course of instruction provided or approved by the DMH which will minimally include:

1. Recipient rights and grievance procedures.
2. Overview of intellectual and developmental disabilities.
4. CPR, first aid, medical emergencies.
5. Management of challenging behavior.
6. Physical management techniques.
7. Health observation, including hygiene, medication control/universal precautions.
8. Recipient abuse, neglect and mistreatment.
9. Habilitation training programs.

Retraining will be conducted as needed, but at least annually for training requirements 1, 5, 6, 7 & 8 above. Specific Duties:
The Job Coach is responsible to the Program Director for the training and associated support services necessary to ensure the successful employment of individuals involved in Supported Employment. The Job Coach works under the direction of a QDDP/program manager. The provider must have a QDDP to ensure the plan is implemented as prescribed.
The duties of the Activity Program Aide (Pre-Vocational) include:
1. Instructs/demonstrates/interacts with clients concerning a variety of education, personal care, pre-vocational training, job safety, and social behaviors, in accordance with the individual's assessed needs and plan requirements. Uses sound judgment and abides by supervisor's instructions, minimum standards and other applicable regulatory standards in order to foster client self-sufficiency and independence.
2. Converses with/listens to clients concerning personal needs, responsibilities, expectations, aspirations, privileges, and personal/behavioral problems in a supportive and understanding manner.
3. Participates in developing, modifying, and adapting instruction and training to individual client needs.
4. Interacts often and appropriately with clients using both verbal and nonverbal methods (gestures, modeling, sign language, etc.) to provide information to clients about expected behavior, duties, and activities.
5. Observes the quality of production and integrates efficiency concepts in the work process.
6. Provides/receives information to/from peers, supervisors, other professional staff, support personnel, and clients pertaining to care plan, schedules, programs, and progress using personal contacts, meetings, memorandums, reports, records and filing systems in accordance with established schedules in order to facilitate client training, record maintenance and the exchange of other pertinent information.
7. Assists in computing data for programs such as behavior management, speech, token reinforcement, vocational, and social in order to assess client progress.

Training Requirements
The Activity Program Aide (Pre-Vocational) training should demonstrate interaction with recipients concerning education, personal care, pre-vocational training, job safety and social behaviors, in accordance with the recipient's habilitation plan and care plan. The minimum training requirements:
1. Planning and coordinating all activities according to the individual habilitation and care plan.
2. Leadership with recipients doing therapeutic or rehabilitative activities programs.
3. Conferring with other professional personnel concerning the progress and needs of the recipients.
4. Providing individual instruction when needed.
5. Health observation including hygiene medication control/universal precautions.
6. Recipient abuse, neglect and mistreatment.
7. Knowledge of equipment and supplies needed for assigned activities.
8. Recipients rights and grievance procedures.
9. CPR first aid, medical emergencies.
10. Training on how to read and comprehend written materials, such as the care plan, habilitation plans and policy and procedures manuals.

Ongoing training will be conducted as needed but at least annually for above training requirements 6 and 8.

Additional Provider Requirements The provider of service
1. Must have required training prior to providing service;
2. Must keep record of required training in the personnel folder; and
3. Must maintain a service log that documents specific days on which services were delivered consistent with the recipient’s individual plan of care.
4. CPR, first aid, medical emergencies.
5. Management of challenging behavior.
6. Physical management techniques.
7. Health observation, including hygiene, medication control/ universal precautions.
8. Recipient abuse, neglect and mistreatment.
9. Habilitation training programs.

Retraining will be conducted as needed, but at least annually for training requirements 1, 5, 6, 7 & 8 above. Specific Duties:
The Job Coach is responsible to the Program Director for the training and associated support services necessary to ensure the successful employment of individuals involved in Supported Employment. The Job Coach works under the direction of a QDDP/program manager. The provider must have a QDDP to ensure the plan is implemented as prescribed.

The duties of the Activity Program Aide (Pre-Vocational) include:
1. Instructs/demonstrates/interacts with clients concerning a variety of education, personal care, pre-vocational training, job safety, and social behaviors, in accordance with the individual's assessed needs and plan requirements. Uses sound judgment and abides by supervisor's instructions, minimum standards and other applicable regulatory standards in order to foster client self-sufficiency and independence.
2. Converses with/listens to clients concerning personal needs, responsibilities, expectations, aspirations, privileges, and personal/behavioral problems in a supportive and understanding manner.
3. Participates in developing, modifying, and adapting instruction and training to individual client needs.
4. Interacts often and appropriately with clients using both verbal and nonverbal methods (gestures, modeling, sign language, etc.) to provide information to clients about expected behavior, duties, and activities.
5. Observes the quality of production and integrates efficiency concepts in the work process.
6. Provides/receives information to/from peers, supervisors, other professional staff, support personnel, and clients pertaining to care plan, schedules, programs, and progress using personal contacts, meetings, memorandums, reports, records and filing systems in accordance with established schedules in order to facilitate client training, record maintenance and the exchange of other pertinent information.
7. Assists in computing data for programs such as behavior management, speech, token reinforcement, vocational, and social in order to assess client progress.

Training Requirements
The Activity Program Aide (Pre-Vocational) training should demonstrate interaction with recipients concerning education, personal care, pre-vocational training, job safety and social behaviors, in accordance with the recipient's habilitation plan and care plan. The minimum training requirements:
1. Planning and coordinating all activities according to the individual habilitation and care plan.
2. Leadership with recipients doing therapeutic or rehabilitative activities programs.
3. Conferring with other professional personnel concerning the progress and needs of the recipients.
4. Providing individual instruction when needed.
5. Health observation including hygiene medication control/universal precautions.
6. Recipient abuse, neglect and mistreatment.
7. Knowledge of equipment and supplies needed for assigned activities.
8. Recipient's rights and grievance procedures.
9. CPR first aid, medical emergencies.
10. Training on how to read and comprehend written materials, such as the care plan, habilitation plans and policy and procedures manuals.

Ongoing training will be conducted as needed but at least annually for above training requirements 6 and 8.

Additional Provider Requirements The provider of service
a) Must have required training prior to providing service;
b) Must keep record of required training in the personnel folder; and
c) Must maintain a service log that documents specific days on which services were delivered consistent with the recipient's individual plan of care

Verification of Provider Qualifications
Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

12/22/2020
Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services
C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Statutory Service

Service:
Respite

Alternate Service Title (if any):

HCBS Taxonomy:

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Respite care is a service provided in or outside a family's home to temporarily relieve the unpaid primary caregiver. Respite care provides short-term care to an adult or child for a brief period of rest or relief for the family from day to day care giving for a dependent family member.

Respite is intended for participants whose primary caregivers typically are the same persons day after day (e.g. family members and/or adult family foster care providers), and is provided during those portions of the day when the caregivers typically provide care. Relief needs of hourly or shift staff workers will be accommodated by staffing substitutions, plan adjustments, or location changes, and not by respite care. Respite care typically is scheduled in advance, but it can also serve as relief in a crisis situation. As crisis relief, out of home respite can also allow time and opportunity for assessment, planning and intervention to try to re-establish the person in his home, or if necessary, to locate another home for him.

In-home and out of home respite services can be self-directed and the EOR may hire/supervise/fire the employee delivering the services.

Note that Waiver recipients will not reside in an adult foster care home, so there can be no duplication of billing for the two services.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Respite care, in-home both provider delivered and self-directed and out of home respite, is dependent on the individuals needs as set forth in the plan of care and requires approval by the Division of Developmental Disabilities, subject to review by the Alabama Medicaid Agency. The limitation on in home and out of home Respite Care in combination shall be 4320 15-minute units of service (equals 1080 hours or 45 days) per participant per waiver year. Respite care out of the home is typically provided in a certified group home.

Note that Waiver recipients will not reside in an adult foster care home, so there can be no duplication of billing for the two services.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

☒ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☒ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

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<td>Individual</td>
<td>Self-Directed In-home Respite Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Waiver Hourly Services Provider (for In-Home Respite)</td>
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<td>Agency</td>
<td>Community Residential Facility (for Out of Home Respite)</td>
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Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Statutory Service
Service Name: Respite

Provider Category:
Individual

Provider Type:
Self-Directed Out of Home Respite

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**

**Certificate (specify):**

Must be able to read and write and follow instructions.
*Must have at least completed tenth grade.
*Must be able to follow the plan of care with minimal supervision unless there is a change in the person's condition.
*Must have no physical or mental impairment that would prevent providing the needed oversight and care to the person.
The EOR is responsible for the supervision, training and general oversight of the Respite worker. Must be approved by the FMS to provide services

**Other Standard (specify):**

The EOR is responsible for assuring the minimum qualifications are met prior to submission of the worker application to the FMS. The FMS is responsible for conducting the background checks and also verifying minimum hiring qualifications are met for individuals performing this service. A prior approval will be required to accompany the receipt in order for the EOR to receive payment.

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**

The EOR is responsible for assuring the minimum qualifications are met prior to submission of the worker application to the FMS. The FMS is responsible for conducting the background checks and also verifying minimum hiring qualifications are met.

**Frequency of Verification:**

Initially by FMS. Exclusion lists are checked monthly.

---

**Appendix C: Participant Services**

**C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service**

**Service Type:** Statutory Service  
**Service Name:** Respite

**Provider Category:** Individual  
**Provider Type:** Self-Directed In-home Respite Services

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**

**Certificate (specify):**
Other Standard (specify):

Respite Care Workers:

* Must have background checks required by law and regulation.
* Must be at least 18 years of age.
* Must be able to read and write and follow instructions.
* Must have at least completed tenth grade.
* Must be able to follow the plan of care with minimal supervision unless there is a change in the person's condition.
* Must have no physical or mental impairment that would prevent providing the needed oversight and care to the person.

The EOR is responsible for the supervision, training and general oversight of the Respite worker.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

The EOR is responsible for assuring the minimum qualifications are met prior to submission of the worker application to the FMS. The FMS is responsible for conducting the background checks and also verifying minimum hiring qualifications are met.

Frequency of Verification:

Initially by the FMS. Exclusion lists are checked monthly

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Statutory Service
Service Name: Respite

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Certified Waiver Hourly Services Provider (for In-Home Respite)

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):
Documentation

The billing provider must maintain documentation of the services provided each day. Logs signed by the worker and cosigned by the individual or family member are acceptable.

Respite Care Provider Qualifications

Any contracted agency undertaking the provision of this service must employ or contract with a QIDP to provide the required supervision and must meet the other requirements of this addendum related to training, plans of care, documentation and reporting.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

| Service Type: Statutory Service |
| Service Name: Respite |

Provider Category:

Agency

Provider Type:

Community Residential Facility (for Out of Home Respite)

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

AI. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

Other Standard (specify):

Documentation

The billing provider must maintain documentation of the services provided each day. Logs signed by the worker and cosigned by the individual or family member are acceptable.

Respite Care Provider Qualifications

Any contracted agency undertaking the provision of this service must employ or contract with a QIDP to provide the required supervision and must meet the other requirements of this addendum related to training, plans of care, documentation and reporting.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:
DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or Biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services
C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:
Adult Companion Services

HCBS Taxonomy:

Category 1: 08 Home-Based Services
Sub-Category 1: 08040 companion

Category 2:
Sub-Category 2:

Category 3:
Sub-Category 3:

Service Definition (Scope):

Category 4:
Sub-Category 4:
Non-medical care, supervision and socialization, provided to a functionally impaired adult. Companions may assist or supervise the individual with such tasks as meal preparation, laundry and shopping, but do not perform these activities as discrete services. The provision of companion services does not include hands-on nursing care. Providers may perform light housekeeping tasks that are incidental to the care and supervision of the individual. This service is provided in accordance with a therapeutic goal in the plan of care, and not purely diversional in nature. This service is needed to prevent institutionalization.

Services include:

a. Supervising daily living activities, to include reminding client to bathe and take care of hygiene and personal grooming, reminding client to take medication, and overseeing planning and preparation of snacks and meals.
b. Staying with client in the evening and at night to ensure the safety and well-being of the person.
c. Accompanying client into the community, such as shopping.
d. Supervising/assisting with laundry, and performing light housekeeping duties that are essential to the care of the client.
e. Following written instructions such as the care plan and documenting services provided.

This service is intended to be a regularly occurring service (unlike Respite) provided at hours of the day when the more involved service of Personal Care is not needed. Companion services are limited to functionally impaired adults (age 21 and over).

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

The QIDP will provide and document in the case record on-site supervision of the companion worker every 60 days. The supervisor will conduct on-site supervision more frequently if warranted by complaints or suspicion of substandard performance by the worker.

Objective: Companion Services are to provide support and supervision that is focused on safety, non-medical care and socialization for clients participating in the ID waiver. This service is intended to be a regularly occurring service (unlike Respite) provided at hours of the day when the more involved service of Personal Care is not needed. Medicaid will not reimburse for activities performed which are not within the scope of services.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

☒ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☒ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Waiver Hourly Services Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Self-directed Adult Companion Employee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

| Service Type: Other Service |
| Service Name: Adult Companion Services |

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Certified Waiver Hourly Services Provider

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

AI. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

Other Standard (specify):

Requirements:

a. Services must be on the service plan of care with documentation in the case record of need for service. The service is 15-minutes of direct companion services provided to the client.
b. The provision of the service, and the number of units of service provided to each client, is dependent upon the individual’s needs as set forth in the service plan of care.
c. Companion service is not available to group home residents.
d. No payment will be made for companion services furnished by a member of the participant's family (parent, child, spouse or legally obligated individual).
e. Companion services are limited to functionally impaired adults (age 21 and over).
f. Companion service is non-medical and does not include hands-on care.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or Bi-Annually for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Adult Companion Services

Provider Category:
Individual

Provider Type:
Self-directed Adult Companion Employee

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):
Other Standard (specify):

Training and Documentation Requirements:
This service is intended to promote self-determination of waiver participants. The individual and/or his family are to select and hire staff, and to provide training and supervision to the worker(s).

Basic elements of training shall be provided prior to the worker delivering services and includes:

Procedures and expectations related to the companion care worker including following the person centered plan, the rights and responsibilities of the worker and the individual, reporting and record keeping requirements, procedures for arranging backup when needed, and who to contact within the FMSA, the case management agency and regional office.

Supervision

Supervision of the self-directed adult companion workers is the responsibility of the family and/or the individual.

Documentation

The family and individual must maintain documentation of the dates and hours of service provided and provide this to the FMSA bi-weekly for processing billing to Medicaid and payment to the workers. Daily or weekly logs, signed by the worker and by the individual or family member, which identify the individual, the worker providing the service, the date(s) of service, the time service began and the time service ended, and the activities provided within each span of work, will be required. A form will be provided by the FMSA.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:
Financial Management Services

The self-directed adult companion workers will be employed by the family and individual, who will be employers of record. The family and individual will be supported by a Financial Management Service Agency (FMSA). The FMSA will pay the workers employed by the family and participant, on a bi-weekly basis. Payment will be made on the basis of receipt of one time-card per worker, which will document the hours the worker has worked during the bi-weekly pay period with an indication of the service rendered for that time period (i.e. adult companion, personal care).

The FMSA will withhold the necessary tax amounts, including employer’s share, and pay these amounts to the proper authorities on a quarterly basis. In addition to withholding FICA and Unemployment, the Fiscal Agent will withhold and submit income taxes for the workers. The primary requirements for the FMSA are to:

a) Handle all payroll taxes required by law
b) Assist with the documentation of training and other qualifications of workers as required by the waiver, including verification of citizenship.
c) Maintain records to assure the worker was qualified, the service was provided in accordance with the plan of care
d) Furnish background checks on prospective employees
e) Provide the person and family with easy access to resolve problems with payroll and provide a notification route for any other issues that may arise. This means that the FMSA, if it hears that a change may be needed or that a backup plan needs to start, will notify the operating agency, the self directed liaison and the case manager. The objective is to provide a network within which, no matter which contact the person or family makes, the information is shared and the reaction is comprehensive.
f) Also, the FMSA will help to assure the person and his or her family are and remain satisfied with the service

Frequency of Verification:

Workers employed by individuals and families will have their qualifications verified initially by the FMSA, and no further verification is necessary unless a situation or qualification changes and the participant or family reports it to the FMSA. Exclusion lists are checked monthly.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:

Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:

Assistance in Community Integration

HCBS Taxonomy:

Category 1: Sub-Category 1:
Service Definition (Scope):

The Assistance in Community Integration service enables waiver participants to obtain, and/or maintain their own housing as set forth in the participant’s approved plan of care (POC). Services must be provided in the home or a community setting. The service includes the following components:

1. Conducting a community integration assessment identifying the participant’s preferences related to housing (type, location, living alone or with someone else, identifying a roommate, accommodations needed, or other important preferences) and needs for support to maintain community integration (including what type of setting works best for the individual, assistance in budgeting for housing/living expenses, assistance in obtaining/accessing sources of income necessary community living, assistance in establishing credit and in understanding and meeting obligations of tenancy).

2. Assisting participant with finding and securing housing as needed. This may include arranging for or providing transportation.

3. Assisting participant in securing supporting documents/records, completing/submitting applications, securing deposits, and locating furnishings.

4. Developing an individualized community integration plan based upon the assessment as part of the overall Person Centered Plan. Identify and establish short and long-term measurable goal(s), and establish how goals will be achieved and how concerns will be addressed.

5. Participating in Person-Centered plan meetings at re-determination and/or revision plan meetings as needed.

6. Providing supports and interventions per the Person-Centered Plan (individualized community integration portion). Identify any additional supports or services needed outside the scope of Community Integration services and address among the team.

7. Supports to assist the individual in communicating with the landlord and/or property manager regarding the participant’s disability (if authorized and appropriate), detailing accommodations needed, and addressing components of emergency procedures involving the landlord and/or property manager.

8. Assistance in Community Integration will provide supports to preserve the most independent living arrangement and/or assist the individual in locating the most integrated option appropriate to the individual.

A waiver recipient receiving this service will not also be authorized to receive the Housing Stabilization service.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Assistance in Community Integration Service must be:

a. Authorized and included in the participant’s service plan;

b. Necessary for the participant's safe transition to the community;

c. Exclusive of expenses for monthly rental or mortgage expense; food, regular utility charges; and/or household appliances or items that are intended for pure diversion or recreational purposes; or that are not necessary for the participant's safe transit;

d. A waiver recipient receiving this service will not also be authorized to receive the Housing Stabilization service.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):
Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

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</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Assistance in Community Integration

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
DMH Transition Services

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):

Bachelor’s degree in a Human Services field, Business Administration, or Public Administration, with experience (24 months or more) in the identification and/or the accessing of housing resources. Human services field includes the following disciplines: Social Work, Psychology, Criminal/Juvenile Justice, Special Education, Sociology, Speech Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling, Speech Pathology, Audiology, Nursing, Physical or Occupational Therapy, and any related academic disciplines associated with the study of Human Behavior, Human Skill Development, or Basic Human Care Needs. Duties require constant contact with officials in the state mental health system, other agencies, housing authorities/organizations and the general public.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

AL Department of Mental Health

Frequency of Verification:

Verification of qualifications will be conducted once. There is no need to re-evaluate.
State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

**Service Type:**
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

**Service Title:**
Assistive Technology Services

**HCBS Taxonomy:**

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**Service Definition (Scope):**

Assistive technology means an item, piece of equipment to include Specialized Durable Medical Equipment (including any equipment not covered by Medicaid State Plan Services), service animal or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified or customized that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of participants. Assistive technology services means a service that directly assist an individual in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device that may includes:

(A) the evaluation of the assistive technology needs of a participant, including a functional evaluation of the impact of the provision of appropriate assistive technology and appropriate services to the participant in the customary environment of the participant; (B) services consisting of purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices for participants; (C) services consisting of selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices; (D) coordination and use of necessary therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as therapies, interventions, or services associated with other services in the service plan; (E) training or technical assistance for the participant, or, where appropriate, the family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives of the participant; and (F) training or technical assistance for professionals or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of participants. Providers of this service must maintain documentation of items purchased for each individual.

**Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:**

A prescription from the participant's physician is required for this service. Items reimbursed with waiver funds shall be in addition to any medical equipment and supplies furnished under the State plan and shall exclude those items which are not of direct medical or remedial benefit to the recipient. Payment is for the cost of the item provided. There is a $5,000 per year, per individual maximum cost. For children under 21 years, State Plan Services available through EPSDT are utilized prior to expending waiver funds.

Self-Directed Assistive Technology is only available to those participants who are self-directing personal care, companion and/or LPN/RN services.
Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- Legally Responsible Person
- Relative
- Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Assistive Technology Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Home Medical Equipment and Services Providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Self Directed Home Medical Equipment Agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Assistive Technology Services

Provider Category:
- Agency

Provider Type:
- Assistive Technology Provider

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):
- Business License

Certificate (specify):
- Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

Other Standard (specify):
- ADMH Certified/Enrolled Providers

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:
- ADMH

Frequency of Verification:
- Initial and annually thereafter
### C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

**Service Type:** Other Service  
**Service Name:** Assistive Technology Services

**Provider Category:**  
Agency

**Provider Type:**  
Home Medical Equipment and Services Providers

**Provider Qualifications**

- **License (specify):**  
  Alabama Code Chapter 34-14C-1 through 8

- **Certificate (specify):**  
  Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

- **Other Standard (specify):**  
  Providers of this service must meet the same standards required for the providers under the Alabama State Plan.

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**  
Licensure is by the Alabama Board of Home Medical Equipment Services Providers

**Frequency of Verification:**  
Annually

---

### Appendix C: Participant Services

**C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service**

**Service Type:** Other Service  
**Service Name:** Assistive Technology Services

**Provider Category:**  
Agency

**Provider Type:**  
Self Directed Home Medical Equipment Agency

**Provider Qualifications**

- **License (specify):**  
  Licensure is by the Alabama Board of Home Medical Equipment Services Providers.

- **Certificate (specify):**

- **Other Standard (specify):**
Providers of this service must meet the same standards required for the providers under the Alabama State Plan.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

FMSA

Frequency of Verification:

Upon purchase.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:

Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:

Benefits and Career Counseling

HCBS Taxonomy:

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<th>Category 1:</th>
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<td>03030 career planning</td>
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<th>Sub-Category 3:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Service Definition (Scope):

Category 4:

Sub-Category 4:
Benefits and Career Counseling is two distinct services: Benefits Reporting Assistance and Benefits Counseling.

The Benefits Reporting Service (BRS) is designed to assist waiver participants/families to understand general information on how SSI/SSDI benefits are affected by employment. The BRS will be employed by a provider agency. The BRA will receive referrals from a variety of sources, including Support Coordinators, families, service providers, and CWIC housed in each region of the state. Once the participant enters employment, the BRS will be available to answer questions, assist in the execution of the work incentive plan, and assist with the submission of income statement and/or Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE) to SSA as required to the extent needed as indicated by the individual. The BRS must document services and activities.

The second service, Benefits Counseling, is a more intensive service provided by a Community Work Incentives Coordinator (CWIC) who will receive referrals from the BRA, case managers, family and/or service providers. CWICs will provide intensive individualized benefits counseling, benefits analysis, develop a work incentive plan and ongoing benefits planning for a participant changing jobs or for career advancement. The CWIC will work in conjunction with the BRA to develop trainings and webinars based on SSA information provided and may assist or provide trainings and education as needed. The CWIC will be available to work with waiver participants to provide information on waiver benefits and employment and may also assist with the submission of income statement and/or Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE) to SSA as required to the extent needed as indicated by the individual.

BRA services and CWIC services must be documented and billed in 15 minute increments.

These positions require proactive, well organized professionals who work well independently and as effective team members. They must have the ability to manage multiple high priority tasks, possess and use excellent time management skills and have good verbal and written communication skills.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Both services are billed in 15 minute increments. BRS is limited to 12 units/3 hours per month per waiver participant per year (144 units or 36 hours per year). CWIC service is limited to 60 units/15 hours per year per waiver participant. Documentation of service provided is required.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- ☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- ☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- ☐ Legally Responsible Person
- ☐ Relative
- ☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>DMH or DVRS Certified Work Incentives Counselor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Supported Employment Provider</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

- Service Type: Other Service
- Service Name: Benefits and Career Counseling

Provider Category:

- Agency

Provider Type:
**DMH or DVRS Certified Work Incentives Counselor**

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**

**Certificate (specify):**

The individual(s) must be a Certified Community Work Incentives Coordinator (CWIC) through completion of training recognized by the Social Security Administration for delivery of this service. This may include a Level 5 security clearance from Social Security Administration/Department of Homeland Security due to Personally Identifiable Information (PII).

**Other Standard (specify):**

CWICs must be organized and able to communicate effectively with families, providers, case managers, and participants.

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**

- AL Department of Mental Health Certification Surveyors
- AL Department of Rehabilitation Services

**Frequency of Verification:**

CWIC: as needed to remain certified per the Social Security Administration.

---

**Appendix C: Participant Services**

**C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service**

**Service Type:** Other Service  
**Service Name:** Benefits and Career Counseling

**Provider Category:** Agency

**Provider Type:**

Supported Employment Provider

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**

**Certificate (specify):**

Providers must meet ADMH standards and requirements as outlined in the service description to provide Supported Employment Services. BRA must meeting the same requirements as a job coach and must be certified through completion of approved specialized SSA training program (ADRS SSA Boot Camp).

**Other Standard (specify):**
Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

| ADMH/DD Certification Surveyors |

Frequency of Verification:

| Initially and biennially based or more frequently based on certification scores. |

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:

| Other Service |

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:

| Community Experience |

HCBS Taxonomy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04 Day Services</td>
<td>04070 community integration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Category 2: | Sub-Category 2: |

| Category 3: | Sub-Category 3: |

Service Definition (Scope):

| Category 4: | Sub-Category 4: |

|   |   |
Community Experience services are provided on either an individual or small group basis and are services that support non-work-activities and opportunities for community participation, involvement and relationships with the broader community that are customized to the individual’s interests and goals. The intent of this service is to engage in non-paid activities that allow the person to either acquire new adaptive skills or support the person in utilizing and maintaining existing adaptive skills in order to enable the person to become actively involved in their community and acquire/maintain valued social roles. Community Experience services are directly linked to goals and expectations for community involvement, participation and membership identified in the person-centered plan. The intended outcome of these services is to facilitate and support access to the community and connections with members of the broader community, including increased skills and increased engagement with natural supports, paving the way for reduced need for paid supports.

These services assist the participant in acquiring, retaining, or improving socialization and networking skills, independent use of community resources and community participation outside the place of residence. This service is specifically designed to offer waiver participants a choice to receive non-work day services exclusively in non-disability-specific, fully integrated settings.

Community Experience-Individual is delivered in a 1:1 staffing ratio for those at Day Habilitation Level 4 with a need for this intensity of staffing ratio, which is determined necessary through functional and health risk assessments (and a behavioral assessment that supports this specialized staffing if related to behavioral challenges) prior to approval. Community Experience Small Group services are provided to groups of no more than four participants, with a staff to participant ratio of 1:4 (maximum group size; minimum staffing ratio).

Community Experience is provided outside of the person's residence and can be provided during the day, evening, or weekends. Transportation to and from the service and to/from integrated activities and integrated settings is a component of this service. Transportation is provided by the agency responsible for the service or by staff/family/or other natural support. Transportation provided through Community Experience services is included in the cost of doing business and incorporated in the rate.

Self-directed Waiver recipients may access this service from a Day Habilitation agency. All service specifications and limits must be observed, whether or not the recipient is self-directing services.

Self-directed Waiver recipients may access this service from a Day Habilitation agency. All service specifications and limits must be observed, whether or not the recipient is self-directing services.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

These services may not involve paid work of any kind.
Community Experience is not available to any waiver participant that is also receiving services that include a facility-based component (i.e. Day Habilitation and/or Prevocational Services). If a waiver participant is receiving either of these services, the provider has an ability to provide these services in the community as well as in the facility, eliminating the need for a separate authorization of Community Experience services.
Community Experience services are not facility-based and may not take place in a provider owned or controlled facility.
Community Experience cannot be billed during the same unit of time as any other face-to-face waiver service.
Community Experience Services do not include educational services otherwise available through a program funded under 20 USC Chapter 3, section 1400 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
Community Experience services must not duplicate any Supported Employment services provided through the waiver.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- Legally Responsible Person
- Relative
Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Community Experience

Provider Category: Agency
Provider Type: Certified Day Habilitation Program

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

Other Standard (specify):

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:
DMH Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:
Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.
Service Title: Crisis Intervention

HCBS Taxonomy:

Category 1: 10 Other Mental Health and Behavioral Services

Sub-Category 1: 10030 crisis intervention

Category 2:  

Sub-Category 2: 

Category 3:  

Sub-Category 3: 

Service Definition (Scope):

Crisis Intervention provides immediate therapeutic intervention, available to an individual on a 24-hour basis, to address personal, social, and/or behavioral problems which otherwise are likely to threaten the health and safety of the individual or of others and/or to result in the individual's removal from his current living arrangement.

Crisis intervention may be provided in any setting in which the individual resides or participates in a program. The service includes consultation with family members, providers and other caretakers to design and implement individualized crisis treatment plans and provide additional direct services as needed to stabilize the situation.

Individuals with intellectual disabilities are occasionally at risk of being moved from their residences to institutional settings because the person, or his or family members or other caretakers, are unable to cope with short term, intense crisis situations. Crisis intervention can respond intensively to resolve the crisis and prevent the dislocation of the person at risk. The consultation which is provided to caregivers also helps to avoid or lessen future crises.

When the need for this service arises, the service will be added to the plan of care for the person. A separate crisis intervention plan will be developed to define in detail the activities and supports that will be provided. All crisis intervention services shall be approved, at least by phone followed up in writing, by the regional community service office of the DMH prior to the service being initiated.

Specific crisis intervention service components may include the following:
- Analyzing the psychological, social and ecological components of extreme dysfunctional behavior or other factors contributing to the crisis;
- Assessing which components are the most effective targets of intervention for the short term amelioration of the crisis;
- Developing and writing an intervention plan; Consulting with those connected to the crisis in order to implement planned interventions, and following-up to ensure positive outcomes from interventions or to make adjustments to interventions; and
- Providing intensive direct supervision when an individual is physically aggressive or there is concern that the individual may take actions that threaten the health and safety of self and others.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Crisis intervention services are expected to be of brief duration (10 weeks, maximum). When services of a greater duration are required, the individual shall be transitioned to a more appropriate service program or setting. Crisis intervention services under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan.
Service Delivery Method *(check each that applies):

☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by *(check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Waiver Provider or DMH/DDD (State Agency) Regional Team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Crisis Intervention

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Certified Waiver Provider or DMH/DDD (State Agency) Regional Team

Provider Qualifications

License *(specify):*

Certificate *(specify):*


Other Standard *(specify):*

Providers of crisis intervention shall consist of a team under the direction and supervision of a psychologist, counselor or social worker licensed by the State of Alabama and meeting the requirements of a QDDP (as defined at 42 CFR 483.430). All team members shall have at least one year of work experience in serving persons with developmental disabilities, and shall, either within their previous work experience or separately, have a minimum of 40 hours training in crisis intervention techniques prior to providing services. The team shall be mobile and prepared to provide direct staffing if that is necessary to implement the plan.

Crisis teams may be agency based (certified waiver residential and day habilitation providers, or DMH/DDD Regional Offices), or they may stand alone.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:

12/22/2020
Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services
C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:
Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

HCBS Taxonomy:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 Equipment, Technology, and Modifications</td>
<td>14020 home and/or vehicle accessibility adaptations</td>
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<th>Sub-Category 4:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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</table>

Service Definition (Scope):

Those physical adaptations to the home, required by the recipient's plan of care, which are necessary to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the individual, or which enable the individual to function with greater independence in the home and without which, the recipient would require institutionalization. Such adaptations may include the installation of ramps and grab-bars, widening of doorways, modification of bathroom facilities, or installation of specialized electric and plumbing systems which are necessary to accommodate the medical equipment and supplies which are necessary for the welfare of the recipient, but shall exclude those adaptations or improvements to the home which are of general utility and not of direct medical or remedial benefit to the waiver client, such as carpeting, roof repair, central air conditioning, etc. Adaptations that add to the total square footage of the home are excluded from this benefit. An evaluation by a Physical Therapist may be necessary to assist in the determination of structural requirements and need for the EAA service. All services shall be provided in accordance with applicable State or local building codes and ADA standards.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:
Rental and leased property are excluded from modifications as it the landlord's responsibility for ensuring property is accessible, however, in the event that costs prohibits adaptations, some modification could be considered, such as, modular ramps or any that could be moved if the individual changes residence. Adaptations to the work environment covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act, or those that are the responsibility of other agencies, are not covered. Covered adaptations of rented or leased homes should be those extraordinary alterations that are uniquely needed by the individual and for which the property owner would not ordinarily be responsible.

Payment is for the cost of material and labor. The unit of service would be the job. Total costs of environmental accessibility adaptations shall not exceed $5,000 per year, per individual. This service does not require a prescription from the participant's physician. All other community resources should be explored and exhausted prior to expending waiver funding.

Self-Directed Environmental Accessibility Adaptations are only available to those participants who are self-directing personal care and/or LPN/RN services.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Self Directed Contractor</td>
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</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Contractor

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Meets all applicable State (Alabama Code 230-X-1) and Local Licensure requirements.

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):

All construction, wiring, plumbing meets applicable building codes.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

12/22/2020
Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Self Directed Contractor

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):
Meets all applicable State (Alabama Code 230-X-1) and Local Licensure requirements.

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):
All construction, wiring, plumbing meets applicable building codes.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

Alabama Licensing Board for General Contractors.

Frequency of Verification:
Annual

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:
Housing Stabilization Service

HCBS Taxonomy:

Category 1: 16 Community Transition Services

Sub-Category 1: 16010 community transition services

Category 2:

Sub-Category 2:

Category 3:

Sub-Category 3:

Service Definition (Scope):

Category 4:

Sub-Category 4:

Housing Stabilization Service enables waiver participants to identify housing options, select housing based on their need and income, and/or maintain their own housing as set forth in the participant’s approved plan of care (POC). Services must be provided in the home or a community setting. The service includes the following components:

1. Conducting a Housing Coordination and Stabilization Assessment identifying the participant’s preferences related to housing (type, location, living alone or with someone else, identifying a roommate, accommodations needed, or other important preferences) and needs for support to maintain housing (including accessing housing, meeting terms of lease, and eviction prevention), budgeting for housing/living expenses, obtaining/accessing sources of income necessary for rent, home management, establishing credit and understanding and meeting obligations of tenancy as defined in lease terms.

2. Assisting participant with finding and securing housing as needed. This may include arranging or providing transportation.

3. Assisting participant in securing supporting documents/records, completing/submitting applications, securing deposits, and locating furnishings.

4. Developing an individualized housing stabilization plan based upon the Housing Coordination and Stabilization Assessment as part of the overall Person Centered Plan. Identify short and long-term measurable goal(s), establishes short and long-term goals, establish how goals will be achieved and how concerns will be addressed, and identifies where other provider(s) or services may be needed in order to achieve the goal(s).

5. Participating in Person-Centered plan meetings at redetermination and/or revision plan meetings as needed.

6. Providing supports and interventions per the Person-Centered Plan (individualized housing stabilization portion). Identify any additional supports or services needed outside the scope of Housing Stabilization Services and address among the team.

7. Communicating with the landlord and/or property manager regarding the participant’s disability (if authorized and appropriate), detailing accommodations needed, and addressing components of emergency procedures involving the landlord and/or property manager.

8. If at any time the participant’s housing is placed at risk (i.e., eviction, loss of roommate or loss of income), Housing Stabilization Services will provide supports to retain housing or locate and secure new housing or sources of income to continue community based supports which includes locating new housing, sources of income, etc. A waiver recipient receiving this service will not also be authorized to receive the Assistance in Community Integration service.

Stable housing is critical for preventing unnecessary institutionalization and is a recognized social determinant of health. Stable housing promotes better outcomes in terms of such factors as physical health and mental health which, if compromised, can lead to increased risk of institutionalization.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:
Housing Stabilization Service must be:

a. Authorized and included in the participant's service plan;
b. Necessary for the participant's safe transition to the community, or to increase independence;
c. Exclusive of expenses for monthly rental or mortgage expense; food, regular utility charges; and/or household appliances or items that are intended for pure diversion or recreational purposes; or that are not necessary for the participant's safe transit;
d. A waiver recipient receiving this service will not also be authorized to receive the Assistance in Community Integration service.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- [ ] Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- [X] Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- [ ] Legally Responsible Person
- [ ] Relative
- [ ] Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>DMH Transition Services</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Housing Stabilization Service

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
DMH Transition Services

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):
Bachelor's degree in a Human Services field, Business Administration, or Public Administration with at least 24 months of experience in the identification and/or the accessing of housing resources. Human services fields include the following disciplines: Social Work, Psychology, Criminal/Juvenile Justice, Special Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling, Speech Pathology, Audiology, Nursing, Physical or Occupational Therapy and any related academic disciplines associated with the study of human behavior, human skills development or basic human care needs. Duties require constant contact with officials in the state mental health system, other agencies, housing authorities/organizations and general public.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

AL Department of Mental Health

Frequency of Verification:

Verification of qualifications will be conducted once. There is no need to re-evaluate.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:

Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:

Individual Directed Goods and Services

HCBS Taxonomy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 1:</th>
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<tr>
<td>17 Other Services</td>
<td>17010 goods and services</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category 3:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 3:</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 4:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 4:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Individual Directed Goods and Services are services available to only those participants self directing services who are able to save funds through worker's employment wages negotiations. Individual goods and services are equipment or supplies not otherwise available through the Medicaid State Plan and items/services that address an identified need in the service plan (including improving and maintaining the participant's opportunities for full membership in the community) and meet the following requirements: the item or service would decrease the need for other Medicaid services; and/or promote inclusion in the community; and/or increase the participant's safety in the home environment; the item or service is not illegal or otherwise prohibited by Federal and State statutes and regulations, and the participant does not have the funds to purchase the item or service or the item or service is not available through another source.

Goods and Services are required to meet the identified needs and outcomes in the individual's person centered plan, are the most cost effective to meeting the assessed need, assures health, safety, and welfare, and are directly beneficial to the individual self-directing services in achieving at least one of the following outcomes: Improved cognitive, social, or behavioral functioning; maintain the individual's ability to remain in the community; enhance inclusion and family involvement; develop or help maintain personal, social, or physical skills; decrease dependency on formal supports services; increase independence. It is preferable that individual goods and services needs are identified during the yearly redetermination for services through the development of a savings plan. Items identified through this process should be placed on the plan of care. The Case Manager should ensure that state plan services are utilized first, followed by waiver funded services as appropriate. Individual Goods and Services can be used to pay for items that are in excess of those allowed by state plan services or when a participant has reached his yearly cap.

Experimental or prohibited treatments are excluded, as well as room and board; items solely for entertainment of recreation; cigarettes and alcohol.

The process begins with the enrollment meeting between the person (and family if applicable) and the self directed liaison. The liaison will review all the employer of record paperwork and discuss the budgetary and employer authority and responsibility. During this meeting the person's budgetary and employer authority will be discussed along with what is considered acceptable and not acceptable uses of this service and a spending plan is developed identifying items for purchase. A list will be provided to the person (and family) indicating items that are strictly prohibited. It is also during this time that the person may identify items of interest and the savings plan is developed. These items will be listed on the person's budget and submitted to the FMSA. A copy of the spending plan will be kept in the client record and maintained by the Case Manager. The FMSA will follow their process of working with the individual on procurement and reimbursement, as well as adjust the person's budget accordingly. The FMSA will notify the Regional Office, and the case manager or self-directed liaison of the actual amount spent on Individual Directed Goods and Services monthly.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Individual goods and services are limited to those individuals self directing services. The limit on amount is determined individually based on the balance of the individual's savings account maintained by the Financial Management Services Agency. The duration of this service is again based on the individual's savings account balance and the individual's participation in self-directed services. If an individual returns to traditional waiver services the ability to access any dollars from the savings account and utilize this service will be terminated. Additionally, dollars not utilized will be refunded to the Division of Developmental Disabilities. Dollars can be accumulated past the fiscal year, however, cannot exceed $10,000.00 at any given time. The case manager/liaison will be responsible for monitoring the balances of the savings to ensure proper utilization.

Items, goods or services that are not for the primary benefit of the participant are prohibited. Items, goods or services that are unrelated to the person's assessed long-term support needs and outcomes related to those needs are prohibited. State plan services and waiver service funds should be expended prior to utilizing the Individual Goods and Services funds. The case manager has oversight of expenditures of Individual Goods and Services and must document the need of any item or service in the case record. Individual Goods and services can be utilized prior to expenditure of waiver funds in the event there are no providers accessible in the participant's area. This must be documented in the case record.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):
Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☐ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☒ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Self Directed Vendor of Goods or Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Family, friend, neighbor, supportive home care worker)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Home Health Care Agency or Other Merchants or Contractors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services
C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Individual Directed Goods and Services

Provider Category:
Individual

Provider Type:
Self Directed Vendor of Goods or Services (Family, friend, neighbor, supportive home care worker)

Provider Qualifications
License *(specify):*

Certificate *(specify):*

Other Standard *(specify):*

Typical vendors in the community, according to the goods, services and supports needed. The person's experience/knowledge providing the good and/or service matches the good/service provided.

Verification of Provider Qualifications
Entity Responsible for Verification:
Self Directed Liaison
Financial Management Services Agency (FMSA)

Frequency of Verification:
Annually or at the time of purchase
Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Individual Directed Goods and Services

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Home Health Care Agency or Other Merchants or Contractors

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):
Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

Other Standard (specify):

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:
Typical vendors in the community, according to the goods, services and supports needed. The person's experience/knowledge providing the good and/or service matches the good/service provided.

Frequency of Verification:
Annually or at the time of purchase.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:
Occupational Therapy

HCBS Taxonomy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 1:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Other Health and Therapeutic Services</td>
<td>11080 occupational therapy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Service Definition (Scope):

Occupational therapy is the application of occupation-oriented or goal-oriented activity to achieve optimum functioning, to prevent dysfunction, and to promote health. The term occupation as used in occupational therapy refers to any activity engaged in for evaluation, specifying, and treating problems interfering with functional performances. Services include assisting in the evaluation of an individual to determine level of functioning by applying diagnostic and prognostic tasks and guiding and treating individuals in the prescribed therapy to secure and/or obtain necessary functioning. Provision of this service will prevent institutional placement. Therapist may also provide consultation and training to staff or caregivers (such as clients family and/or foster family). Consultation/Training Services to direct caregivers will be allowed when the service to caregivers is for the direct benefit of the recipient and is necessary to enable the recipient to be cared for outside of an institution.

Occupational therapy under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan and is not available to adults when the service is covered under the State Plan.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Occupational Therapy requires a physician's prescription and documentation in the form of an initial assessment and development of a treatment plan with established goals that must be present in the case record and must justify the need for service. Services must be listed on the care plan and be provided and billed in 15-minute units of service. Occupational therapy is limited to no more than 50 hours or 200 units for the initial plan. If it appears that more therapy is needed, the OT will re-evaluate and submit another treatment plan that includes goals and outcomes, to the case manager who will complete a request for action to the CSD to approve. No more than an additional 50 hours, or 200 units will be allowed per occurrence per individual. The OT should teach the primary caregiver how to continue needed exercises for the participant. Occupational therapy under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan and is not available to adults when the service is covered under the State Plan. Group therapy is not allowed.

Documentation

Providers of service must maintain a service log that documents specific days on which physical therapy services were delivered. Occupational therapist must document each therapy session in a treatment note and must sign each note denoting whether or not progress is made.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- Legally Responsible Person
- Relative
- Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:
Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Provider Category: Agency
Provider Type: Occupational Therapist employed or contracted by a certified agency.

Provider Qualifications

License

Occupational Therapists are licensed under the Code of Alabama, 1975 Sec. 34-39-5

Certificate

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies

Other Standard

The employer must verify that the therapist has not been debarred from providing services by Medicaid or Medicare at the time of initial hiring followed by monthly reviews of INDIVIDUALS EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE ALABAMA TITLE XIX (MEDICAID) PROGRAM located on AMA website and the OIG website. Documentation of the monthly checks is required for each worker.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:

Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:
Personal Emergency Response System

HCBS Taxonomy:

Category 1: 14 Equipment, Technology, and Modifications

Sub-Category 1: 14010 personal emergency response system (PERS)

Category 2:

Sub-Category 2:

Category 3:

Sub-Category 3:

Category 4:

Sub-Category 4:

Service Definition (Scope):

Personal emergency response system (PERS) is a service that provides a direct telephonic or other electronic communications link between someone living in the community and health professionals to secure immediate assistance in the event of a physical, emotional or environmental emergency. PERS may also include cellular telephone service used when a conventional PERS is less cost-effective or is not feasible. This service may include installation, monthly fee (if applicable), upkeep and maintenance of devices or systems as appropriate.

The use of these technologies requires assurance that safeguards are in place to protect privacy, provide informed consent, and that documented needs are addressed in the least restrictive manner. The person centered plan should identify options available to meet the need of the individual in terms of preference while also ensuring health, safety, and welfare. Personal risk factors should be discussed, information regarding data collection should be discussed, customized list of individuals/providers to be notified of alerts should be customized, who will be allowed access to data (service provider/staff), and choice should be afforded between providers both equipment and monitoring. The person centered plan should also include the purpose of the PERS, back-up system for PERS in times of electronic outages or failure, training of caregiver (paid and unpaid), provider/caregiver response time for different events, safeguards for protection of the person's privacy related to remote support and data collection. If remote support includes video (in person's bedroom), informed consent must be addressed (and documented) and privacy concerns should be addressed.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Emergency Response System installation and testing is approximated to cost $500.00; Emergency Response Monthly Service Fee (excludes installation and testing) is approximated to cost no more than $83.00/month; Emergency Response system purchase is approximated to cost $1,500.00. The maximum cost for all PERS per year is $3000.00

This service will not be authorized for person's receiving residential habilitation. PERS will not replace supervision and monitoring of activities of daily living which are provided to meet requirements of another service (i.e. personal care; day habilitation). Self-directed PERS is only available to those participants who are self-directing personal care and/or LPN/RN services.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- Provider managed
Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- Legally Responsible Person
- Relative
- Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Service Provider Agency and authorized PERS vendor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Self Directed authorized PERS vendor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Personal Emergency Response System

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Service Provider Agency and authorized PERS vendor

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):

The PERS provider should assure that these devices, where applicable, meet Federal Communication Commission standards or Underwriters Laboratory standards or the equivalent.

The installation of PERS systems should be done by qualified installers representing the health agency managing the personal emergency response system. In the event these installers are not available the agency should seek experienced technicians to complete necessary line adaptations.

PERS Minimum Requirements:
1) Provide an alert button or other mechanism that can be activated by the person to indicate the needs for emergency assistance and/or utilize technology to detect a possible adverse event indicating the need for immediate response.
2) Immediately transmit/communicate the alert to a central clearinghouse that maintains 24/7 immediate/real time recognition of and response to the alert and includes a “failsafe” procedure that assures that every alert for assistance is responded to in a timely manner as defined in the person's person centered plan or PERS parameters.
3) A call tree that reflects the person's needs and preferences.
4) Assurance that any agency or individual who creates, collects, records, maintains, stores, or discloses any individually identifiable participant data complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and all other data privacy laws and requirements.
5) Address the documented risk factors and preferences of the person.
Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

DMH

Frequency of Verification:

At time of purchase.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Personal Emergency Response System

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Self Directed authorized PERS vendor

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):

The PERS provider should assure that these devices, where applicable, meet Federal Communication Commission standards or Underwriters Laboratory standards or the equivalent.

The installation of PERS systems should be done by qualified installers representing the health agency managing the personal emergency response system. In the event these installers are not available the agency should seek experienced technicians to complete necessary line adaptations.

PERS Minimum Requirements:
1) Provide an alert button or other mechanism that can be activated by the person to indicate the needs for emergency assistance and/or utilize technology to detect a possible adverse event indicating the need for immediate response.
2) Immediately transmit/communicate the alert to a central clearinghouse that maintains 24/7 immediate/real time recognition of and response to the alert and includes a "failsafe" procedure that assures that every alert for assistance is responded to in a timely manner as defined in the person's person centered plan or PERS parameters.
3) A call tree that reflects the person's needs and preferences.
4) Assurance that any agency or individual who creates, collects, records, maintains, stores, or discloses any individually identifiable participant data complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and all other data privacy laws and requirements.
5) Address the documented risk factors and preferences of the person.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

12/22/2020
Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:
Physical Therapy

HCBS Taxonomy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 1:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Other Health and Therapeutic Services</td>
<td>11090 physical therapy</td>
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</table>

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<th>Sub-Category 2:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 3:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 3:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Service Definition (Scope):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 4:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 4:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Physical therapy is treatment of an individual by the employment of effective properties of physical measures and the use of therapeutic exercises and rehabilitative procedures with or without assistive devices, for the purpose of preventing, correcting, or alleviating a physical or mental disability. Services must begin with the PT evaluation that, if necessary, results in the development of a treatment plan. The treatment plan should outline the frequency of service delivery, goals of therapy, and outcomes or milestones to be reached by the participant. The PT should recommend exercises to the participant/family that will be completed at home that will help to ensure maximum potential is reached. The evaluation of an individual to determine level of functioning by applying diagnostic and prognostic tasks and providing treatment training programs that are designed to: preserve and improve abilities for independent function, such as range of motion, strength, tolerance, coordination and facility performing activities of daily living; and prevent irreducible progressive disabilities through means such as the use of orthotic and prosthetic appliances, assistive and adaptive devices, positioning, behavior adaptations and sensory stimulation. Therapist may also provide consultation and training to staff or caregivers (such as client's family and/or other caregiver). Services to direct caregivers will be allowed when the service to caregivers is for the direct benefit of the recipient and is necessary to enable the recipient to be cared for outside of an institution.

Physical therapy under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan and is not available to adults when the service is covered under the State Plan.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Physical Therapy requires a physician's prescription and documentation in the form of an initial assessment and development of a treatment plan with established goals that must be present in the case record and must justify the need for service. Services must be listed on the care plan and be provided and billed in 15-minute units of service. Physical therapy is limited to no more than 50 hours or 200 units for the initial plan. If it appears that more therapy is needed, the PT will re-evaluate and submit another treatment plan that includes goals and outcomes, to the case manager who will complete a request for action to the CSD to approve. No more than an additional 50 hours, or 200 units will be allowed per occurrence per individual. The PT should teach the primary caregiver how to continue ROM exercises for the participant. Physical therapy under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan, and is not available to adults when the service is covered under the State Plan. Group therapy is not allowed.

Documentation

Providers of service must maintain a service log that documents specific days on which physical therapy services were delivered. Physical therapist must document each treatment note and must sign each note denoting whether or not progress is made.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Physical Therapist employed or contracted by a certified agency.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service
Service Type: Other Service  
Service Name: Physical Therapy  

Provider Category: 
Agency  

Provider Type: 
Physical Therapist employed or contracted by a certified agency.  

Provider Qualifications  
License *(specify):*

Physical Therapists are licensed under the Code of Alabama, 1975 Sec.34-24-212  

Certificate *(specify):*

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies  

Other Standard *(specify):*

Verification of Provider Qualifications  
Entity Responsible for Verification: 
DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors  
The Employer must verify that the PT has not been debarred from providing Medicaid/Medicare services at initial hiring followed by monthly reviews of INDIVIDUALS EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE ALABAMA TITLE XIX (MEDICAID) PROGRAM located on AMA website and/or the OIG website. Documentation of the checks is required.  

Frequency of Verification: 
Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns. Employers must check Exclusion lists monthly and must keep documentation to verify the check was completed.  

Appendix C: Participant Services  
C-1/C-3: Service Specification  

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).  

Service Type:  
Other Service  
As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.  

Service Title:  
Positive Behavior Support  

HCBS Taxonomy:  

12/22/2020
Positive Behavior Support (PBS) is a set of researched-based strategies that combine behavioral and biomedical science with person-centered, valued outcomes and systems change to increase quality of life and decrease problem behaviors by teaching new skills and making changes in a person's environment. The strategies take into consideration all aspects of the person's life and are intended to enhance positive social interactions across work, academic, recreational, and community settings while reducing actions that are not safe or that lead to social isolation, loneliness or fearfulness. PBS provides framework for approaches that emphasize understanding the person, strengthening environment that build on individual strengths and interests, and decreasing interventions that focus on controlling problematic behavior in order to fit the person's environment. Billable tasks include: conducting functional behavior assessments, behavior support plan (BSP) development, training to implement the BSP, data entry/analysis/graphing, monitoring effectiveness of BSP, writing progress notes/reports, etc. BSP may include consultation provided to families, other caretakers, and habilitation services providers. BSP shall place primary emphasis on the development of desirable adaptive behavior rather than merely the elimination or suppression of undesirable behavior. A behavior support plan may only be implemented after positive behavioral approaches have been tried, and its continued use must be reviewed every thirty days with reports due quarterly.

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) waiver service is comprised of two general categories of service tasks. These are (1) development of a Behavior Support Plan (BSP) and (2) implementation of a BSP. In addition, this waiver service has three service levels: two professional and one technical, each with its own procedure code and rate of payment. The service levels are distinguished by the qualifications of the service provider and by supervision requirements. Both professional and technical level service providers may perform tasks within both service categories, adhering to supervision requirements that are described under provider qualifications.

The two professional service provider levels are distinguished by the qualifications of the person providing the service. Both require advanced degrees and specialization, but the top level also requires board certification in behavior analysis. The third service provider level is technical and requires that the person providing the service be under supervision to perform PBS tasks. Providers of this service are required to perform the required monthly exclusion lists, AMA and OIG for all staff. Documentation of monthly checks are required.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:
The maximum units per year of both professional and technician level units in combination cannot exceed 1200 and the maximum units of any combination of professional level one (1) or two (2) cannot exceed 800. Maximum units of Technician level service are the balance between billed professional level one (1) and two (2) units and the combined maximum per year. Professional level providers may provide more than the 800 unit limit, but these additional units will be paid at the Technician level up to the 1200 max on total units. Providers of service must document which tasks are provided by date performed in addition to their clinical notes. There will be no accommodation for exceeding the overall cap of 1200 units for all three levels. The following do not qualify for billing under this waiver service: 1) individual or group therapy, 2) group counseling, 3) behavioral procedures not listed in a formal BSP or that do not comply with the current Behavioral Services Procedural Guidelines and Community Certification Standards, 4) non-traditional therapies, such as music therapy, massage therapy, etc., 5) supervision.

PBS service under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- Legally Responsible Person
- Relative
- Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
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Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Positive Behavior Support

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Individual employed or contracted by a certified agency.

Provider Qualifications
License (specify):

Certificate (specify):

Board Certified Behavior Analyst or Assistant

Other Standard (specify):
Three levels of provider may provide Positive Behavior Support services. The qualifications are as follows:

Level 1: Providers must have either a Ph.D. or M.A. and be certified as a Behavior Analyst (BCBA) by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board.

Behavior Analysis Certification Board
3323 Thomasville Rd. Suite B
Tallahassee, FL 32308
Phone (850) 386-4444; FAX (850) 386-2404; Web www.BACB.com

Level 2: Providers must have either a Doctoral or Master's level degree in the area of Behavior Analysis, Psychology, Special Education or a related field and three years experience working with persons with Developmental Disabilities. Level 2 providers with a Doctorate do not require supervision.

Level 3: Providers must be either a QIDP (per the standard at 43 CFR 483.430) or be a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCABA). Level 3 providers require supervision averaging at a minimum of one hour per week by either a Level 1 provider or a Level 2 Doctoral provider.

All PBS service providers must complete an Orientation Training. This will consist of training to ensure providers are aware of the minimum standards of practice outlined in the Behavioral Services Procedural Guidelines adopted by the Department. Providers must also complete any additional orientation training refresher courses when BSP Guidelines have been updated. The orientation will be provided by DDD via Department of Mental Health's e-learning software. The DMH will maintain a registry of trained BPS providers and record of their orientation. The provider will maintain a record of who is supervising the Level 3 provider and will make available upon request/audit.

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**

DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

**Frequency of Verification:**

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

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**Appendix C: Participant Services**

**C-1/C-3: Service Specification**

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

**Service Type:**

Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

**Service Title:**

Remote Supports
<table>
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<td>14 Equipment, Technology, and Modifications</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service Definition (Scope):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 4:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The provision of supports to a waiver participant at their place of residence by Remote Support staff housed at a remote location and who are engaged with the person through equipment with the capability for live, two-way communication. Remote Supports shall be provided in real time, not via a recording, by awake staff at a remote monitoring base using the appropriate stable, reliable connection.

While Remote Supports are being provided, the remote support staff shall not have duties other than remote support. Equipment used to meet this requirement may include but is not limited to one or more of the following components:

- Sensor Based System (e.g. motion sensors, doors, windows, personal pagers, smoke detectors, bed sensors etc.)
- Radio frequency identification;
- Live video feed;
- Live audio feed;
- Web-based monitoring system;
- Another device that facilitates live two-way communication;
- Contact ID

Remote Supports are provided pursuant to the Person-Centered Plan (PCP) and required protocol(s) that are developed from, and support implementation of, the PCP. Remote Supports are intended to address a person's assessed needs in his/her residence, and are to be provided in a manner that promotes autonomy and minimizes dependence on paid support staff. Remote Supports should be explored prior to authorizing services that may be more intrusive, including Personal Assistance-Home. A person's team, including the person themselves, shall assess whether Remote Support is appropriate and sufficient to ensure the person's health and welfare assuming all appropriate protocols are in place to minimize risk as compared to the overall benefit of Remote Supports for the individual.

A backup support person is always identified, available and responsible for responding to the site of the person’s residence whenever the person otherwise needs in-person assistance, including emergencies. Backup support may be provided on an unpaid basis by a family member, neighbor, friend, or other person selected by the individual, or on a paid basis by a local provider of waiver services. When backup support is provided on a paid basis by a local provider, that provider shall be the primary contact for the Remote Support vendor.

The Remote Support staff shall have detailed and current written protocols for responding to a person's needs as specified in the PCP, including contact information for the backup support person(s) to provide assistance when necessary. The PCP and written protocols shall also set forth the procedures to be followed should the person request that the equipment used for delivery of Remote Support be turned off. When a person needs assistance, but the situation is not an emergency, the Remote Support staff shall address the situation as specified in the individual’s Remote Supports written protocol(s). If the protocol involves the Remote Support staff contacting backup support, the backup support person shall verbally acknowledge receipt of a request for assistance from the Remote Support staff and shall arrive at the person's location within a reasonable amount of time (as specified in the PCP, but no longer than one (1) hour) when a request for in-person assistance is made.

If a known or reported emergency involving a person arises, the Remote Support staff shall immediately assess the situation and call emergency personnel first, if that is deemed necessary, and then contact the backup support person. The Remote Support staff shall stay engaged with the person during an emergency, as appropriate to the situation, until emergency personnel or the backup support person arrives.

The Remote Supports vendor shall provide initial and ongoing training to its staff to ensure they know how to use the monitoring base system and have training on the most recent versions of the written protocols for each person supported. The Remote Supports vendor shall ensure a suitably trained person from their agency, or from another provider agency for the person, provides the person who receives Remote Supports with initial and ongoing training on how to use the remote support system as specified in the PCP.

The Remote Supports vendor shall have a backup power system (such as battery power and/or generator) in place at the monitoring base in the event of electrical outages. The Remote Supports vendor shall have other backup systems
and additional safeguards in place which shall include, but are not limited to, contacting the backup support person in the event the monitoring base system stops working for any reason. The Remote Supports vendor shall comply with all federal, state, and local regulations that apply to the operation of its business or trade, including but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. section 2510 to section 2522 as in effect on the effective date of this rule. The Remote Supports vendor shall have an effective system for notifying emergency personnel such as police, fire, emergency medical services, and psychiatric crisis response entities.

**Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:**

For children 21 years and younger, State Plan Services available through EPSDT are utilized prior to expending waiver funds.

- Remote Supports shall only be provided in waiver participants’ places of residence when paid or unpaid sources of support are not present in the residence, except temporarily, if needed, when the Remote Supports are being initially introduced. In Supported Living or Community-Based Residential settings, the reimbursement rate to the provider shall be adjusted to account for the use of Remote Supports and the provider’s role in providing backup support for the waiver participant(s) in the residence.

- Camera systems are located in communal areas of the home where the individual is likely to spend time and not places where an individual may wish to go to gain privacy (e.g., bathroom or bedroom). Systems are customizable and can be located wherever the individual prefers.

- When Remote Supports involve the use of audio and/or video equipment that permits remote support staff to view activities and/or listen to conversations in the residence, the person who receives the service and each person who lives with the person shall consent in writing after being fully informed of what remote support entails including, but not limited to, that the remote support staff will observe their activities and/or listen to their conversations in the residence, where in the residence the remote support will take place, and whether or not recordings will be made. If the person or a person who lives with the person has a guardian, the guardian shall consent in writing. The person's service and support administrator shall keep a copy of each signed consent form with the PCP.

- A monitoring base shall not be located at the residence of a person who receives Remote Supports.

- A secure network system requiring authentication, authorization, and encryption of data that complies with applicable state laws currently in effect shall be in place to ensure that access to computer, video, audio, sensor, and written information is limited to authorized persons.

- If a Reportable Event as defined in the DDD Critical Incident Prevention and Management System occurs while a person is being monitored, the Remote Supports provider shall retain, or ensure the retention of, any video and/or audio recordings and any sensor and written information pertaining to the incident for at least seven years from the date of the incident.

- With relevant substantiating documentation and DDD central office approval, a Community Services Director (CSD) may authorize use of this service in the home of a waiver participant(s) living with family as a cost-effective alternative to other medically necessary covered benefits, transition to an enrollment group with a higher expenditure cap, or to avoid institutional placement. Reauthorization is possible with re-assessment and CSD and DDD central office approval.

- All residents of a home where Remote Supports are provided must give advance, informed consent to being subject to the remote monitoring apparatus, as must anyone who later joins the residence. In addition, there must be a protocol (e.g., a written sign, etc.) for informing visitors to the residence that they might be recorded.

- When a person receives Remote Supports with paid backup support, the Remote Supports provider shall bill for the Remote Supports and provide the remote support directly or through a contract with a Remote Supports vendor that meets the requirements of this rule. In the event that the remote support staff contact the Remote Supports provider to request emergency or in-person assistance, the paid backup support person's time shall be billed as Personal Assistance or Self-Directed Personal Assistance, as applicable.

**Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):**

- [ ] Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- [X] Provider managed
Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☒ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Paid Back Up Support Worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Back Up Support Worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Technology Installer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Remote Supports

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Paid Back Up Support Worker

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):
As applicable to federal, state and local statutes

Certificate (specify):
As applicable to federal, state and local statutes

Other Standard (specify):
Recognized and experienced with Remote Supports technology

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

| ADMH DDD Certification |

Frequency of Verification:
Annually

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Remote Supports

Provider Category:
Individual

Provider Type:
Back Up Support Worker

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

As applicable to federal, state and local statutes

Certificate (specify):

As applicable to federal, state and local statutes

Other Standard (specify):

Recognized and experienced with Remote Supports

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

ADMH DDD Certification

Frequency of Verification:

Annually

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Remote Supports

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Technology Installer

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):

As applicable to federal, state and local statutes

Certificate (specify):

As applicable to federal, state and local statutes

Other Standard (specify):

Recognized and experienced vendor or Remote Supports technology with experience in at least two (2) other states and current capability to provide Remote Supports Service

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

ADMH DDD Certification

Frequency of Verification:

Annually

12/22/2020
Appendix C: Participant Services
C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

**Service Type:** Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

**Service Title:** Skilled Nursing

**HCBS Taxonomy:**

- **Category 1:** 05 Nursing
- **Sub-Category 1:** 05020 skilled nursing
- **Category 2:**
- **Sub-Category 2:**
- **Category 3:**
- **Sub-Category 3:**
- **Service Definition (Scope):**
  - **Category 4:**
  - **Sub-Category 4:**

12/22/2020
Services listed in the service plan of care which are within the scope of the State’s Nurse Practice Act and are provided by a registered professional nurse, or licensed practical or vocational nurse under the supervision of a registered nurse licensed to practice in the State. A RN is required to perform the supervisory visit every 60 days for a LPN providing this service. Includes, as a component of this service, a discrete service administering an intramuscular injection at a quarter-hour, rather than the typical hourly, rate unit.

The RN completes an in-home assessment to determine if services may be safely and effectively administered in the home. This assessment also will identify the need for service and the amount of time needed. Services consist of nursing procedures that meet the person’s health needs as ordered by a physician. There is no restriction on the place of service.

The registered nurse establishes a nursing care plan complying with the plan of treatment. The RN must make monthly supervisory visits to evaluate the appropriateness of services rendered by a licensed practical nurse (LPN).

LPNs may provide skilled care for the recipient if a licensed physician prescribes the service. The LPN works under the supervision of the RN. The RN evaluates the participant and establishes the Nursing Plan of care prior to assigning services to the LPN. There is no restriction on the place of service.

This service may also, when provided to a participant or family which is self-directing personal care services, include training and supervision related to medical care and/or assistance with ordinarily self-administered medications to be provided by the personal care worker. This training and supervising component of nursing is only available to people who receive personal care at home, either agency-based or self directed. It is not available to agencies providing residential and day programs, because payment for the nurse supervision is already included in the rate paid for those services.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

RN/LPN Services must be prescribed by a physician and is based upon the individual's assessed need. The need for continued nursing must be ordered by the individual's physician every year at the time of the annual redetermination.

When Nursing is provided to self-directing participants and families, it is intended to focus on training and supervision of the personal care worker and is not intended as a private duty nursing service. Skilled nursing service under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because EPSDT Private Duty Nursing is covered under the State Plan. If the child doesn't meet the criteria for EPSDT Private Duty Nursing, they can access skilled nursing through the waiver. A record of the RN/LPN visit will be captured by an Electronic Visit Verification Monitoring system.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- ☒ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- ☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- ☐ Legally Responsible Person
- ☐ Relative
- ☒ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

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<th>Provider Category</th>
<th>Provider Type Title</th>
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<td>Registered or Licensed Practical Nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Registered or Licensed Nurse Employed by a Self Directing Participant or Family</td>
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</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service
### Service Type: Other Service
**Service Name:** Skilled Nursing

**Provider Category:**
- Agency

**Provider Type:**
- Registered or Licensed Practical Nurse

**Provider Qualifications**

- **License** *(specify):*
  
  Nurses are licensed under the Code of Alabama; 1975 Sec.34-21

- **Certificate** *(specify):*
  
  Nurses typically are employed by certified waiver providers, certified under Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30, Nurse Delegation Program and DD Operational Policies and Procedures

- **Other Standard** *(specify):*
  
  The service(s) of the nurse must be documented by a nursing note that includes the identity and Medicaid number of the individual, the date of service, the beginning and ending time of the service, and the nursing service(s) provided within that time. In addition, the nursing note should include, as appropriate, the nurse’s assessment, changes in the individual’s condition, follow-up measures, communications with family, care-givers or physicians, training or other pertinent information. The nurse must sign and date the note.

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**

The Alabama Board of Nursing verifies nursing licenses. DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors verify waiver provider certification. The Employer must verify that the RN/LPN has not been debarred from providing Medicaid/Medicare services at initial hiring followed by monthly reviews of INDIVIDUALS EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE ALABAMA TITLE XIX (MEDICAID) PROGRAM located on AMA website and/or the OIG website. Documentation of the checks is required.

**Frequency of Verification:**

Nursing licenses are renewed annually. Exclusion lists are viewed monthly and require documentation that the check was completed. Waiver provider certification occurs prior to Contract Approval. Annually or Bi-Annually for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

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### Appendix C: Participant Services

**C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service**

**Service Type:** Other Service

**Service Name:** Skilled Nursing

**Provider Category:**
- Individual

**Provider Type:**
- Registered or Licensed Nurse Employed by a Self Directing Participant or Family

**Provider Qualifications**

- **License** *(specify):*
Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):

The FMSA (Financial Management Services Agency) will hold the provider enrollment by permission of the Alabama Medicaid Agency.

Note that a nurse, either an RN or an LPN, may work for an agency and also work for an individual or family, so long as there is no duplication of payment or conflict of interest. Either issue would involve the nurse working for an agency which also provides direct services to the participant who is self-directing his or her personal care. Because both the agency’s service and the self-directed service will need to be prior authorized (all waiver services are prior authorized from the plan of care), this potential conflict / duplication would be apparent to the Operating Agency, which will ensure it does not arise.

The service(s) of the nurse must be documented by a nursing note that includes the identity and Medicaid number of the consumer, the date of service, the beginning and ending time of the service, and the nursing service(s) provided within that time. In addition the nursing note should include, as appropriate, the nurse's assessment, changes in participant's condition, follow-up measures, communications with family, care-givers or physicians, training or other pertinent information. The nurse must sign and date the note.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

The Alabama Board of Nursing verifies nursing licenses. The FMSA (Financial Management Services Agency) will verify the nurse is Licensed. The Employer must verify that the RN/LPN has not been debarred from providing Medicaid/Medicare services at initial hiring followed by monthly reviews of INDIVIDUALS EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE ALABAMA TITLE XIX (MEDICAID) PROGRAM located on AMA website and/or the OIG website. Documentation of the checks is required.

Frequency of Verification:

Licenses for Nursing are renewed annually. The FMSA verification will be annual as well. The Exclusion list must be checked monthly by the employer. Documentation is required to ensure the checks are completed each month.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:

| Other Service |

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:

12/22/2020
Specialized Medical Supplies

HCBS Taxonomy:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 1</th>
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<table>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Definition (Scope):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specialized medical supplies are those which are specified in the plan of care and are necessary to maintain the individual's health, safety and welfare, prevent further deterioration of a condition, or increase an individual's ability to perform activities of daily living. Specialized medical supplies are supplies that address the participant's physical health and any ancillary supplies. All items shall meet applicable standards of manufacture and design.

Providers of this service must maintain documentation of items purchased for each individual. State plan services must be utilized prior to the expenditure of waiver funds for medical supplies.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Supplies reimbursed under this service shall not include common over-the-counter personal care items, supplies otherwise furnished under the Medicaid State plan, and items which are not of direct medical or remedial benefit to the recipient and does not include items such as soap, cotton swabs, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo or sanitary items. Costs for medical supplies are limited to $1800 per year, per individual and must be prescribed by the participant's physician. This service is not available to participants under the age of 21 years as medical supplies are covered through EPSDT for this age group.

Self-directed medical supplies services are available to those participants who are also self-directing personal care and/or LPN/RN services.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- [X] Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- [X] Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

- [ ] Legally Responsible Person
- [ ] Relative
- [ ] Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

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<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Self Directed Medical Supplies Vendor</td>
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</table>
Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Specialized Medical Supplies

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:

Specialized Medical Supplies Vendor

Provider Qualifications
License (specify):
Business License

Certificate (specify):
Certified by the Board of DME and DMH Certification

Other Standard (specify):

Verification of Provider Qualifications
Entity Responsible for Verification:
ADMH

Frequency of Verification:
Prior to contract, annually

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Specialized Medical Supplies

Provider Category:
Individual

Provider Type:

Self Directed Medical Supplies Vendor

Provider Qualifications
License (specify):

Certificate (specify):
Other Standard (specify):

Authorized Medical Supplies Vendor.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:

FMSA

Frequency of Verification:

Initially and Annually

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Service Type:

Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

Service Title:

Speech and Language Therapy

HCBS Taxonomy:

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<p>| Service Definition (Scope): |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category 4:</th>
<th>Sub-Category 4:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Speech and language therapy include diagnostic, screening, preventive, corrective services provided on an individual basis, when referred by a physician (M.D., D.O.). These services may include: Screening and evaluation of individuals, speech and hearing functions and comprehensive speech and language evaluation; participation and may include swallowing therapy in the continuing interdisciplinary evaluation of individuals for purposes of implementing, monitoring and following up on individuals habilitation programs; and treatment services as an extension of the evaluation process that include: consulting with others working with the individual for speech education and improvement, designing specialized programs for developing an individual's communication skills comprehension and expression. Provision of this service in the community is an alternative to an institutional level of care. Therapist may also provide training to staff and caregivers (such as a client's family and/or foster family). Services to direct caregivers will be allowed when the service to caregivers is for the direct benefit of the recipient and is necessary to enable the recipient to be cared for outside of an institution. Speech Therapy is expected to be therapeutic with outcomes and goals based on the therapist evaluation.

Speech/language therapy under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan and is not available to adults when the service is covered under the State Plan.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

Services must be listed on the care plan and prescribed by the participant's physician and related to a participant's particular diagnosis. An evaluation is required by the speech therapist to determine the need for service. If there is a need for service, the Speech Therapist must develop the treatment plan outlining the frequency of service and length of time expected to meet outlined goals and expected outcomes. The need for service must be documented in the case record and the outcome is expected improvement for the waiver participant. Speech and Language Therapy is limited 30 visits in any one planned therapy program. The service is expected to terminate when the goals of the developed treatment plan are met or when no further progress is anticipated. However, a request for an extension of therapy, up to an additional 30 visits, complete with proper justification showing the progress toward the goal(s) must be submitted by the case manager to the CSD for approval following the regular RFA established process. Services shall be provided and billed as an encounter unit of service and with only one encounter daily.

Documentation of service provided by the Speech Therapist is required for each encounter and each note must be signed by the therapist. Notes must be maintained in the client file. Speech/Language Therapy must be due to an acute episode and should terminate once therapy becomes maintenance in nature. Speech/language therapy under the waiver is not available to children under the age of 21 when provided as the result of an EPSDT screening, because that service is covered under the State Plan, and is not available to adults when the service is covered under the State Plan. Group therapy will not be reimbursed.

Providers of service must maintain a service log that documents specific days on which speech and language therapy services were delivered and detailed documentation of what the service entailed. Therapist must keep notes and document participant progress toward the planned goals. Documentation of progress toward specific goals are required.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

☐ Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
☒ Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):

☐ Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

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<td>Speech Therapist employed or contracted by a certified agency.</td>
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Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Name: Speech and Language Therapy</td>
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</table>

**Provider Category:**
Agency

**Provider Type:**
Speech Therapist employed or contracted by a certified agency.

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**
Speech Therapists are licensed under the Code of Alabama, 1975 Sec. 34-28A-1, Ch. 870-x-1-7

**Certificate (specify):**
Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies and Procedures

**Other Standard (specify):**

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**
DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors.

**Frequency of Verification:**
Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or Bienially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

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Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Service Specification

State laws, regulations and policies referenced in the specification are readily available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

**Service Type:**
Other Service

As provided in 42 CFR §440.180(b)(9), the State requests the authority to provide the following additional service not specified in statute.

**Service Title:**
Supported Employment Transportation

**HCBS Taxonomy:**

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12/22/2020
Service Definition (Scope):

Employment transportation is the provision of service to permit waiver participants access to and from their place of employment in the event that the support team is unable to facilitate transportation through other means. The Team's efforts to secure transportation must be documented in the case record. The provision of this service must be necessary to support the person in work related travel and cannot be reimbursed for merely transportation. This service shall not duplicate or replace the Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation program. In addition, this does not preclude other arrangements such as transportation by family or friend. It is the expectation that, as part of the person-centered planning process and employment outcomes, that long term transportation to and from the worksite will be facilitated and arranged.

Payment for this service will be reimbursed based on the IRS mileage rate and requires documentation (i.e. vendor receipt or travel log) of service or by mile. The unit of service is a mile.

Transportation must be provided by public carriers (i.e. charter bus or metro transit bus) or private carriers (i.e. Taxicab). Commercial transportation, including day or residential provider agency - Must have a business license. All drivers must have a valid driver’s license of appropriate type (e.g. commercial) for transport in Alabama. A list of transportation resources by county is posted on the Department of Mental Health's website.

Specify applicable (if any) limits on the amount, frequency, or duration of this service:

The unit of service is a mile, to be reimbursed at the IRS federal mileage rate and is based on adequate documentation. Documentation for reimbursement includes actual receipts from public or private transportation providers or mileage logs and should also include progress toward obtaining long term transportation as part of measuring the employment outcomes.

Payment made for mileage includes the provider’s cost of an insurance waiver to cover any harm that might befall the participant as a result of being transported. The attendant must have a valid driver’s license and his/her own insurance coverage as required by State law. The provider agency shall assure the attendant has a good driving record and receives in-service training on safety procedures when transporting a participant. It shall not replace transportation that is already reimbursable under day or residential habilitation nor the Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation program. This service is reserved for only those waiver participants who are employed. The planning team must also assure the most cost effective means of transportation, which would include public transport where available. Employment Transportation is not intended to replace generic transportation or to be used merely for convenience.

Service Delivery Method (check each that applies):

- [ ] Participant-directed as specified in Appendix E
- [x] Provider managed

Specify whether the service may be provided by (check each that applies):
☐ Legally Responsible Person
☐ Relative
☐ Legal Guardian

Provider Specifications:

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<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Day or Residential Habilitation Provider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Certified Waiver Hourly Services Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency</td>
<td>Taxi or Common Carrier (Uber, Lyft)</td>
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</table>

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Supported Employment Transportation

Provider Category:
Agency

Provider Type:
Public Mass Transit

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):
CDL License

Certificate (specify):

Other Standard (specify):
Those who want to drive school buses, church buses, shuttles or charter buses carrying 16 or more passengers, must get a Commercial Driver's License Endorsement Class C on their regular driver's license.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:
AL Department of Public Safety: Commercial Driver's License Office.

Frequency of Verification:
Every four years.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service
Service Name: Supported Employment Transportation

Provider Category:
Agency
**Provider Type:**

Certified Day or Residential Habilitation Provider

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**

**Certificate (specify):**

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies and Procedures

**Other Standard (specify):**

*If providing transportation, must have valid driver’s license and insurance as required by State Law.*

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**

DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

**Frequency of Verification:**

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

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**Appendix C: Participant Services**

**C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service**

**Service Type:** Other Service

**Service Name:** Supported Employment Transportation

**Provider Category:**

Agency

**Provider Type:**

Certified Waiver Hourly Services Provider

**Provider Qualifications**

**License (specify):**

**Certificate (specify):**

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, and 580-5-30 and DD Operational Policies and Procedures

**Other Standard (specify):**

Must have valid driver’s license and insurance as required by State Law.

**Verification of Provider Qualifications**

**Entity Responsible for Verification:**

DMH/DDD Certification Surveyors

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12/22/2020
Frequency of Verification:

Prior to Contract Approval, Annually or biennially for already approved providers (based on previous survey score), or more often as needed based on service monitoring concerns.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1/C-3: Provider Specifications for Service

Service Type: Other Service  
Service Name: Supported Employment Transportation

Provider Category:  
Agency  

Provider Type:  
Taxi or Common Carrier (Uber, Lyft)

Provider Qualifications

License (specify):  
Valid driver's license (called a Class D).

Certificate (specify):  

Other Standard (specify):  
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs in Alabama are required only to have a regular current, valid driver's license (called a Class D) and a business license, to operate.

Verification of Provider Qualifications

Entity Responsible for Verification:  
AL Department of Public Safety: Local Driver's Licensing Office or Probate Court.

Frequency of Verification:  
Every four years.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-1: Summary of Services Covered (2 of 2)

b. Provision of Case Management Services to Waiver Participants. Indicate how case management is furnished to waiver participants (select one):

- Not applicable - Case management is not furnished as a distinct activity to waiver participants.
- Applicable - Case management is furnished as a distinct activity to waiver participants.

Check each that applies:

- As a waiver service defined in Appendix C-3. Do not complete item C-1-c.
- As a Medicaid state plan service under §1915(i) of the Act (HCBS as a State Plan Option). Complete item C-1-c.
c. Delivery of Case Management Services. Specify the entity or entities that conduct case management functions on behalf of waiver participants:

Local agencies established under Act 310 of the Alabama Statutes and Regional Offices of the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

Appendix C: Participant Services
C-2: General Service Specifications (1 of 3)

a. Criminal History and/or Background Investigations. Specify the state's policies concerning the conduct of criminal history and/or background investigations of individuals who provide waiver services (select one):

- No. Criminal history and/or background investigations are not required.
- Yes. Criminal history and/or background investigations are required.

Specify: (a) the types of positions (e.g., personal assistants, attendants) for which such investigations must be conducted; (b) the scope of such investigations (e.g., state, national); and, (c) the process for ensuring that mandatory investigations have been conducted. State laws, regulations and policies referenced in this description are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid or the operating agency (if applicable):

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<tr>
<th>Background checks are verified at initial application/certification and at least every two years by the ADMH-DDD Certification Team. A sample size of 10%, which always includes the Executive Director/Director, is reviewed for each agency. Agencies not receiving a full two-year certification will be required to receive the background check verifications at their one-year follow up certification visit.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Officers and owners of provider agencies must obtain both a statewide and a national criminal background clearance. This is a condition for initial certification. This is the responsibility of the Certification Administration Division of the Operating Agency. Direct care staff must have a national background check. ADMH will check the exclusion list at AMA and the OIG websites to ensure the applicant provider has not been previously debarred.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background checks are verified at initial application/certification and at least every two years by the ADMH-DDD Certification Team. A sample size of 10%, which always includes the Executive Director/Director, is reviewed for each agency. Agencies not receiving a full two-year certification will be required to receive the background check verifications at their one-year follow up certification visit.</td>
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</table>

Author: DMH Office of Certification

b. Abuse Registry Screening. Specify whether the state requires the screening of individuals who provide waiver services through a state-maintained abuse registry (select one):

- No. The state does not conduct abuse registry screening.
- Yes. The state maintains an abuse registry and requires the screening of individuals through this registry.
Specify: (a) the entity (entities) responsible for maintaining the abuse registry; (b) the types of positions for which abuse registry screenings must be conducted; and, (c) the process for ensuring that mandatory screenings have been conducted. State laws, regulations and policies referenced in this description are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable):

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Appendix C: Participant Services
C-2: General Service Specifications (2 of 3)

c. Services in Facilities Subject to §1616(e) of the Social Security Act. Select one:

- ☐ No. Home and community-based services under this waiver are not provided in facilities subject to §1616(e) of the Act.
- ☐ Yes. Home and community-based services are provided in facilities subject to §1616(e) of the Act. The standards that apply to each type of facility where waiver services are provided are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

Appendix C: Participant Services
C-2: General Service Specifications (3 of 3)

d. Provision of Personal Care or Similar Services by Legally Responsible Individuals. A legally responsible individual is any person who has a duty under state law to care for another person and typically includes: (a) the parent (biological or adoptive) of a minor child or the guardian of a minor child who must provide care to the child or (b) a spouse of a waiver participant. Except at the option of the State and under extraordinary circumstances specified by the state, payment may not be made to a legally responsible individual for the provision of personal care or similar services that the legally responsible individual would ordinarily perform or be responsible to perform on behalf of a waiver participant. Select one:

- ☐ No. The state does not make payment to legally responsible individuals for furnishing personal care or similar services.
- ☐ Yes. The state makes payment to legally responsible individuals for furnishing personal care or similar services when they are qualified to provide the services.

Specify: (a) the legally responsible individuals who may be paid to furnish such services and the services they may provide; (b) state policies that specify the circumstances when payment may be authorized for the provision of extraordinary care by a legally responsible individual and how the state ensures that the provision of services by a legally responsible individual is in the best interest of the participant; and, (c) the controls that are employed to ensure that payments are made only for services rendered. Also, specify in Appendix C-1/C-3 the personal care or similar services for which payment may be made to legally responsible individuals under the state policies specified here.

☐ Self-directed
☐ Agency-operated

e. Other State Policies Concerning Payment for Waiver Services Furnished by Relatives/Legal Guardians. Specify state policies concerning making payment to relatives/legal guardians for the provision of waiver services over and above the policies addressed in Item C-2-d. Select one:

- ☐ The state does not make payment to relatives/legal guardians for furnishing waiver services.
The state makes payment to relatives/legal guardians under specific circumstances and only when the relative/guardian is qualified to furnish services.

Specify the specific circumstances under which payment is made, the types of relatives/legal guardians to whom payment may be made, and the services for which payment may be made. Specify the controls that are employed to ensure that payments are made only for services rendered. Also, specify in Appendix C-1/C-3 each waiver service for which payment may be made to relatives/legal guardians.

Waiver services can be made to family members who are not 1) parent to child, 2)Spouse to spouse, 3) child to parent or 4) family members who are legally responsible for the participant. Other family members must meet all other hiring requirements and qualifications to perform the duties.

Relatives/legal guardians may be paid for providing waiver services whenever the relative/legal guardian is qualified to provide services as specified in Appendix C-1/C-3.

Specify the controls that are employed to ensure that payments are made only for services rendered.

Other policy.

Specify:

f. Open Enrollment of Providers. Specify the processes that are employed to assure that all willing and qualified providers have the opportunity to enroll as waiver service providers as provided in 42 CFR §431.51:

The Operating Agency holds semi-annual orientations for individuals and agencies interested in enrolling in any of the programs and services offered by the Alabama Department of Mental Health, including the waiver programs. This orientation is advertised on the Department's website as a necessary step in becoming enrolled, with details and contact information included in the advertisement.

If applicant providers have questions about the class registration process, they may contact the DD Certification Division at the telephone number listed on the department's website.

Links found on ADMH website:

ADMH Continuing Education Website for Mental Health Providers and Professionals
* Instructions for Accessing and Completing the Online Course
* Prospective Community Provider Orientation Registration Form
* To Confirm Receipt of Your Registration

Prospective providers are encouraged to visit other areas of the Alabama Department of Mental Health website, including Certification Administration, Life Safety and Technical Services, Nurse Delegation Program, and the Bureau of Special Investigations, which are all areas involved in the certification process. There are many other resources available through each of the department's service divisions - Developmental Disabilities (formerly Intellectual Disabilities or Mental Retardation) and the division of Mental Illness and Substance Abuse.

Appendix C: Participant Services

Quality Improvement: Qualified Providers

As a distinct component of the States quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the States.
a. Methods for Discovery: Qualified Providers

The state demonstrates that it has designed and implemented an adequate system for assuring that all waiver services are provided by qualified providers.

i. Sub-Assurances:

a. Sub-Assurance: The State verifies that providers initially and continually meet required licensure and/or certification standards and adhere to other standards prior to their furnishing waiver services.

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance, complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:

1. Number and percent of new contracted providers that met initial licensure and/or certification standards established by AMA. Numerator: Number of new contracted providers meeting initial licensure and/or certification standards established by AMA. Denominator: All new contracted providers.

Data Source (Select one):

Other

If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

Certification Surveys include Record Reviews Onsite and Onsite Observation, Interviews and Monitoring.

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Confidence Interval =

Describe Group:
Providers which score above 89% are given a two-year certificate and certified less than annually.

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**Performance Measure:**

2. Number and percent of existing contracted providers that continue to meet licensure and/or certification standards and other standards established by AMA.

**Numerator:** Number of existing contracted providers that continue to meet licensure and/or certification standards and other standards established by AMA.

**Denominator:** All existing contracted providers
Data Source (Select one):

Other

If 'Other' is selected, specify:

Certification Surveys include both Record Reviews onsite and Onsite Observation, Interviews and Monitoring.

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b. Sub-Assurance: The State monitors non-licensed/non-certified providers to assure adherence to waiver requirements.

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance, complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of enrolled self-directed employees who continue to meet waiver training/standards requirements. N = Number of self-directed employees newly enrolled during the measurement period who continue to meet waiver training/standards requirements. D = Number of self-directed employees newly enrolled during the measurement period.

Data Source (Select one):
Training verification records
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
Training Verification Form

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12/22/2020
Performance Measure:
Number and percent of non-licensed/non-certified providers that met state compliance requirements. Numerator: Number of non-licensed/non-certified providers that met state compliance requirements. Denominator: Number of non-licensed/non-certified providers.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
Exemption Letters for non licensed/non certified providers

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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of new self-directed employees that meet waiver training requirements. Numerator: Number of new self-directed employees that meet waiver training requirements. Denominator = Number of new self directed employees.

Data Source (Select one):
Training verification records
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
New Employee Enrollment packet

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**c. Sub-Assurance:** The State implements its policies and procedures for verifying that provider training is conducted in accordance with state requirements and the approved waiver.

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance, complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the
Performance Measure:
Number and percent of providers that meet training requirements in accordance with state requirements in the approved waiver. Numerator: Number of providers that meet training requirements in accordance with state requirements in the approved waiver. Denominator: Number of providers

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

Certification Surveys include Record Reviews Onsite and Onsite Observation, Interviews and Monitoring

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ii. If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.

b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems
i. Describe the States method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information regarding responsible parties and GENERAL methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on the methods used by the state to document these items.

Provider agencies are certified initially and either annually or biennially, or placed on provisional status, depending on their survey score.

Provisional status is a temporary condition which allows an agency to submit a plan of correction and, when approved, implement that plan. Provisional status may not exceed 60 days. At the end of that period, a re-survey is conducted, with the expectation that the agency will at least score high enough to give them a one-year certificate.

In addition to the routine certification surveys, the Operating agency may also conduct For Cause surveys, in response to concerns or complaints about treatment and care of participants.

ii. Remediation Data Aggregation

Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Party (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>☐ State Medicaid Agency</td>
<td>☐ Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ Operating Agency</td>
<td>☐ Monthly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
c. Timelines
When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Qualified Providers that are currently non-operational.

- **No**
- **Yes**

Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Qualified Providers, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

---

Appendix C: Participant Services

**C-3: Waiver Services Specifications**

Section C-3 ‘Service Specifications’ is incorporated into Section C-1 ‘Waiver Services.’

Appendix C: Participant Services

**C-4: Additional Limits on Amount of Waiver Services**

**a. Additional Limits on Amount of Waiver Services.** Indicate whether the waiver employs any of the following additional limits on the amount of waiver services *(select one)*.

- **Not applicable** - The state does not impose a limit on the amount of waiver services except as provided in Appendix C-3.
- **Applicable** - The state imposes additional limits on the amount of waiver services.

When a limit is employed, specify: (a) the waiver services to which the limit applies; (b) the basis of the limit, including its basis in historical expenditure/utilization patterns and, as applicable, the processes and methodologies that are used to determine the amount of the limit to which a participant's services are subject; (c) how the limit will be adjusted over the course of the waiver period; (d) provisions for adjusting or making exceptions to the limit based on participant health and welfare needs or other factors specified by the state; (e) the safeguards that are in effect when the amount of the limit is insufficient to meet a participant's needs; (f) how participants are notified of the amount of the limit. *(check each that applies)*

- **Limit(s) on Set(s) of Services.** There is a limit on the maximum dollar amount of waiver services that is
authorized for one or more sets of services offered under the waiver.

Furnish the information specified above.

☐ Prospective Individual Budget Amount. There is a limit on the maximum dollar amount of waiver services authorized for each specific participant.

Furnish the information specified above.

☐ Budget Limits by Level of Support. Based on an assessment process and/or other factors, participants are assigned to funding levels that are limits on the maximum dollar amount of waiver services.

Furnish the information specified above.

☐ Other Type of Limit. The state employs another type of limit.

Describe the limit and furnish the information specified above.

Appendix C: Participant Services

C-5: Home and Community-Based Settings

Explain how residential and non-residential settings in this waiver comply with federal HCB Settings requirements at 42 CFR 441.301(c)(4)-(5) and associated CMS guidance. Include:

1. Description of the settings and how they meet federal HCB Settings requirements, at the time of submission and in the future.

2. Description of the means by which the state Medicaid agency ascertains that all waiver settings meet federal HCB Setting requirements, at the time of this submission and ongoing.

Note instructions at Module 1, Attachment #2, HCB Settings Waiver Transition Plan for description of settings that do not meet requirements at the time of submission. Do not duplicate that information here.
Facility-based settings:
Day Habilitation, Employment in a sheltered workshop setting

Any provider who may be subject to heightened scrutiny will be listed and the compiled list sent to CMS via AMA by the deadline in July 2021. In October, 2021 the final list of settings identified to submit for the heightened scrutiny process will be sent to CMS. Any setting identified that are on the grounds of an institution or adjacent to an institution information will be sent to CMS immediately. The DD Division will continue to work with all providers so that all will be compliant on March 17, 2022. On-going monitoring will be completed through the regional office routine monitoring visits. Support coordinators will complete the Individual Experience Assessment on each participant annually to further ensure ongoing compliance. For cause reviews may also be conducted as deemed necessary. Certification staff will be monitoring on the regularly scheduled visits as well. A list of providers who are not compliant as required by CMS will be sent by the deadline. Currently, all providers require some form of remediation.

Provider owned/controlled services:  Day Habilitation, Prevocational Services, Respite, Skilled Nursing, Supported Employment, Transportation.

On-going monitoring will be completed through the regional office routine monitoring visits. Support coordinators will complete the Individual Experience Assessment on each participant annually to further ensure ongoing compliance.

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (1 of 8)

State Participant-Centered Service Plan Title:

Individual Service Plan

a. Responsibility for Service Plan Development. Per 42 CFR §441.301(b)(2), specify who is responsible for the development of the service plan and the qualifications of these individuals (select each that applies):

- [ ] Registered nurse, licensed to practice in the state
- [ ] Licensed practical or vocational nurse, acting within the scope of practice under state law
- [ ] Licensed physician (M.D. or D.O)
- [ ] Case Manager (qualifications specified in Appendix C-1/C-3)
- [x] Case Manager (qualifications not specified in Appendix C-1/C-3).

Specify qualifications:

If employed by ADMH:
- Bachelor’s degrees in human services field and 24 months or more of experience working with vulnerable populations in community settings(s).
  Preference should be given for experience working with individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or working in support coordination, case management, or roles with similar responsibilities.
  Human Service field includes the following disciplines: Social Work, Psychology, Criminal/Juvenile Justice, Special Education, Sociology, Speech Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling, Speech Pathology, Audiology, Nursing, Physical or Occupational Therapy, and any related academic disciplines associated with the study of Human Behavior, Human Skill Development, or Basic Human Care Needs.

If employed by 310 Board:
- Bachelor’s degrees in human services field
  Preference should be given for experience working with individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or working in support coordination, case management, or roles with similar responsibilities.
  Human Service field includes the following disciplines: Social Work, Psychology, Criminal/Juvenile Justice, Special Education, Sociology, Speech Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling, Speech Pathology, Audiology, Nursing, Physical or Occupational Therapy, and any related academic disciplines associated with the study of Human Behavior, Human Skill Development, or Basic Human Care Needs.

- [ ] Social Worker
  Specify qualifications:
Specify the individuals and their qualifications:

The individual's team, composed of the individual, legal representative if applicable, family & friends as appropriate, support coordinator, and all other persons providing services and support to the individual, is responsible for development of the person-centered plan. It is important that people are present that know the individual very well. Note: wherever reference is made to the individual in Appendix D, the legal representative is also included, if the individual has a legal representative.

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (2 of 8)

b. Service Plan Development Safeguards. Select one:

- Entities and/or individuals that have responsibility for service plan development may not provide other direct waiver services to the participant.

- Entities and/or individuals that have responsibility for service plan development may provide other direct waiver services to the participant.

The state has established the following safeguards to ensure that service plan development is conducted in the best interests of the participant. Specify:

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (3 of 8)

c. Supporting the Participant in Service Plan Development. Specify: (a) the supports and information that are made available to the participant (and/or family or legal representative, as appropriate) to direct and be actively engaged in the service plan development process and (b) the participant's authority to determine who is included in the process.

ADMH DDD applied for and received the NCAPPS grant for Technical Assistance to evaluate, enhance and/or develop a Person Centered Planning process, policies, tools, etc. ADMH DDD has also engaged an SME and consultant to assist with its work to set forth a new vision for PCP implemented on 10/1/2020, with ongoing evaluation processes for quality improvement and implementation of its newly proposed waiver (the latter upon approval by CMS).

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (4 of 8)

d. Service Plan Development Process. In four pages or less, describe the process that is used to develop the participant-centered service plan, including: (a) who develops the plan, who participates in the process, and the timing of the plan; (b) the types of assessments that are conducted to support the service plan development process, including securing information about participant needs, preferences and goals, and health status; (c) how the participant is informed of the services that are available under the waiver; (d) how the plan development process ensures that the service plan addresses participant goals, needs (including health care needs), and preferences; (e) how waiver and other services are coordinated; (f) how the plan development process provides for the assignment of responsibilities to implement and monitor the plan; and, (g) how and when the plan is updated, including when the participant's needs change. State laws, regulations, and policies cited that affect the service plan development process are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid

12/22/2020
agency or the operating agency (if applicable):
Overview: There is a global service plan (Person Centered Plan) that is developed with the individuals, family/guardian and friends as appropriate and other persons that provide services and supports to the individual, as appropriate in the planning process, i.e. PT, OT. The Support Coordinator facilitates and writes the PCP. Once the individual’s goals and objectives are identified, waiver and non-waiver services are categorized. The Support Coordinator then briefly summarizes all areas of needed services and supports on the individual Plan of Care along with services and supports that the individual is currently receiving regardless of the funding source.

a. Who Develops the Plan, who participates in the process, and the timing of the plan?
The individual's team chosen by the individual (family/guardian & friends, as appropriate, Support Coordinator, QDDP, and/or all other persons providing services and supports to the individual) is responsible for development of the individual's person centered plan. Invitations are extended to, and efforts are made to include, all persons that the individual requests to be invited to his/her meeting. Other specialty areas may not be present at the meeting but may provide written input such as a physician's report or PT/OT evaluations, etc. Each individual has on planning each year and is in control of when and where the meeting occurs.

b. The types of assessments that are conducted to support the person-centered plan development process, including securing information about participant needs, preferences and goals, and health status?
The Support Coordinator collects a history of the individual and family prior to the team meeting. Assessments may include: Functional needs assessment, Level of care screening tool, ICAP, Medical Assessments, Clinical Assessments (if indicated, vocational assessments (as appropriate), IEP (if appropriate) informal assessments and observations, informal conversations with the individual/guardian/family, friends and providers, Person Centered Planning Tools. Optional Tools for the planning are: My Preferences-What works for Me; What Doesn't Work for Me, Places I Go, Decisions and Choices I Make Vs. Others Make for Me, My Gifts and Competencies, Lifecourse Trajectory, Lifecourse Integrated Support Star and Tools for Developing a Vision. The PCP meeting itself produces extensive information identifying the individual's preferences, goals and objectives.

From the information gathered before and during the team meeting, a person-centered plan is developed, which is essentially an action plan.

c. Once there is a determination of needs from the person centered planning process, information is provided to the individual and/or family by the case management agency or Support Coordinator (Support Coordination or an intake specialist), regarding providers in their respective area, that offer the services and supports they are requesting. Direct service providers and the Regional Community Services Office also make information available. Visits are arranged, upon request, to the various service provider's sites to give individuals an opportunity to make an informed decision about their services and supports.

d. How the plan development process ensures that the service plan addresses participant goals, needs (including health care needs) and preferences?
The person centered plan is developed with the individual, family/guardian and friends as appropriate and other persons that provide services and supports to the individual as appropriate. The plan identifies individual strengths as well as areas where the individual requires supports. The individual's information that is gathered before and during the team meeting is very thorough and identifies all areas of needed services and supports, and clearly delineates the individual participant's preferences. Individuals are assisted in obtaining preventive and routine health services including physical examinations, immunizations and screenings that are consistent with their age and risk factors as recommended by their personal physician. Preventive health care strategies/interventions contained in the person centered plan, based on the person’s current health status and age, are implemented and will be carried out according to the Centers for Disease Control recommendations regarding preventive/screening practices. Emphasis will be placed on age specific screening tests. Each person’s person-centered plan indicates his/her health needs and outlines specific actions and time frames to address these needs. Actions taken are documented. Health needs include, but are not limited to, physical, neurological, dental, nutrition, vision, hearing, speech/language, PT/OT and psychiatric services. As part of the person centered plan, health care plans and supports are modified in a timely manner based upon acute health care changes.

e. How waiver and other services are coordinated?
The service plans address all supports and services an individual is to receive, including both services provided through the waiver and services provided through other means. For each need, the plan must describe the service or support which will meet that need, and who will provide it. Support Coordinators are responsible for coordinating services.
f. How the plan development process provides for the assignment of responsibilities to implement and monitor the plan. The action plan will outline what everyone is to do to implement the plan, and the Support Coordinator’s responsibilities will include monitoring the plan's implementation. The direct service provider has the first responsibility for monitoring its own services to assure the implementation of the person centered plan and the participant's health and welfare. External monitoring, however, is also in place. The Support Coordinator, as stated above, monitors/reviews services, and does so on a quarterly basis as a minimum. In addition, The Regional DMH Office provides a 6 month minimum visit/review to each service site and a semi-annual random review of the Support Coordinator records. Additionally, The DMH Programmatic Certification offices have monitoring of the person centered plan responsibility. If a provider fails to comply that specific indicator will be marked accordingly which impacts the assurance score and ultimately the overall certification score. Other monitoring and technical assistance reviews are completed by DMH Advocacy office and DMH Quality Enhancement office. When concerns are identified to the state/regional office, technical assistance needs are established and timeframes for the needed follow-up actions or additional reviews as appropriate.

g. How and when plans are updated, including when the participant's needs change?
Person Centered Plans are subject to continuous revision based on changes in the individual's condition and/or on assessed need or newly identified goal. However, at a minimum, the entire team performs a formal review at least annually. The Support Coordinator will maintain at least quarterly contact with each individual or their family or guardian. During quarterly contact, the Support Coordinator will monitor the individual's health and welfare. Progress notes will document the contact and whether the outcomes stated in the person's plan are occurring.

It is also the Support Coordinator's responsibility to review the provider's notes at least quarterly, and note any problems, discrepancies, dramatic changes or other occurrences that would indicate a need for renewed assessment. This review of the provider notes will include making further inquiries and taking appropriate action if there is reason to believe the person's health or welfare is potentially at risk.

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (5 of 8)

e. Risk Assessment and Mitigation. Specify how potential risks to the participant are assessed during the service plan development process and how strategies to mitigate risk are incorporated into the service plan, subject to participant needs and preferences. In addition, describe how the service plan development process addresses backup plans and the arrangements that are used for backup.
The team, through the development of profile information, brings out and documents elements of risk, and describes those actions and actors who will compensate for risk elements. This function is accomplished through profiles such as:

"What is important to me?" (the participant)
"What is my current health?" (with prompts for both positive and negative attributes)
"What are my daily routines?"
"What choices do I get to make?"
"What works for me and does not work for me?"
"What are our hopes and fears?" (Optional - used specifically to discuss risks)
"What are the barriers and opportunities?" (Optional - used specifically to discuss risks)
"What do the team and others need to know and do to support me?"

Information pulled into the plan may show several risks, but do so in the most objective, person centered way possible, without setting up a section for "problem behavior" or "risk abatement." When the team develops the action plan, and an objective is going to involve a degree of risk, the objective describes who is going to do what to minimize that risk, whether that be providing experiential learning for the participant, or paving the way by discussing issues beforehand with people with whom the participant is going to come into contact with, or ensuring that direct support staff have the necessary training and resources to support the participant in meeting the objective safely. The family and the provider QIDPs frequently take the lead in designing strategies to accommodate and mitigate risk. Any restriction is noted in the person centered plan and must be monitored by all parties within the timeframes to assess the effectiveness of the plan. All restrictions are expected to fade within a given timeframe, depending on individual behaviors. Both are required elements of the PCP.

In addition, an Individual Safety Assessment is completed during the plan meeting. This assessment addresses more straightforward risk factors such as ability to evacuate in case of a fire, ability to call for help, or does the person need special modification for emergency planning. Each individual should be trained and understand their emergency plan.

Each person should have an individualized emergency plan. People are supported to become knowledgeable about how to access emergency medical care and to access it as needed. Medication ordered by a physician to respond in a potential emergency is available in the appropriate dose, quantity and form. Organizations have emergency plans to deal with a variety of situations and accommodate the individual needs of people. Emergency contact numbers are readily available and accessible to staff and people receiving supports. Information (general topics) which will be discussed in a person-centered planning meeting is presented and communicated to the person in a method he/she understands and/or to the legally authorized representative prior to the scheduled meeting, except in the event an emergency meeting is necessary.

In addition to administrative requirements in Chapter 580-5-33-.3 through .10 and .12 through .13, the organization provides training to staff on the services to be provided and how the person wants to be supported. This training includes:

(a) Review of the person-centered plan.

(b) Information about the specific conditions and required supports of the person to be served, including his/her physical, psychological or behavioral challenges, his/her capabilities, and his/her support needs and preferences related to that support.

(c) Reporting and record keeping requirements.

(d) Procedures for arranging backup worker when needed.

A person-centered plan is developed and approved for the person receiving services; there is documentation establishing that the plan is followed and is modified as needed.

(a) The person-centered plan is adequately detailed so that the worker can provide the services required by the individual.

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (6 of 8)

f. Informed Choice of Providers. Describe how participants are assisted in obtaining information about and selecting from among qualified providers of the waiver services in the service plan.
An individual coming into services, initially and after the person centered planning process, is provided information about services and supports by the 310 agency or Support Coordinator. Other providers and/or the Regional Office may also provide information, but the lead responsibility resides with the Support Coordinator. The individual and family verify their choice(s) of provider(s) by signing a document that lists that (those) choice(s). The individual and/or family/guardian are again provided information and an opportunity to exercise choice at the individual's annual review meeting, as well as, choosing providers when other services are added to the POC. If the individual decides prior to the annual review meeting that he/she wants to change current services, a special team meeting is convened with Regional Office staff and/or a DMH Advocate included to address concerns and ensure information is provided about other available services and supports.

The Dissatisfaction of Services form is presented to each waiver participant and his/her family/representative as part of the planning process, and each participant or family/representative must sign, acknowledging receipt of the information regarding his/her right to a hearing. The individual's signature on the free-choice of provider form, and on the plan of care, combined with the information presented in the Dissatisfaction of Services Form, assures the person is aware of his/her right to choose the services and providers he/she wants.

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (7 of 8)

g. **Process for Making Service Plan Subject to the Approval of the Medicaid Agency.** Describe the process by which the service plan is made subject to the approval of the Medicaid agency in accordance with 42 CFR §441.301(b)(1)(i):

Medicaid nurses conduct a scientifically calculated random record review each month of all plans of care for persons initially enrolled or re-determined for waiver services during the previous month. These records are made available through the case management entity and the Regional Community Services Office. Service Plans are also required to be maintained by the service provider and can be made available upon request. In addition, Medicaid Quality Assurance staff perform a separate review of a random sample of plans of care and related documents annually for each provider, to assure the individuals receiving services under the waiver have a plan of care in effect for the period of time the services were provided. This review also ensures that the need for the services that were provided was documented in the plan, and that all service needs were addressed in the plan of care prior to delivery.

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (8 of 8)

h. **Service Plan Review and Update.** The service plan is subject to at least annual periodic review and update to assess the appropriateness and adequacy of the services as participant needs change. Specify the minimum schedule for the review and update of the service plan:

- Every three months or more frequently when necessary
- Every six months or more frequently when necessary
- Every twelve months or more frequently when necessary
- Other schedule

Specify the other schedule:

i. **Maintenance of Service Plan Forms.** Written copies or electronic facsimiles of service plans are maintained for a minimum period of 3 years as required by 45 CFR §92.42. Service plans are maintained by the following (check each that applies):

- Medicaid agency
Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-2: Service Plan Implementation and Monitoring

a. Service Plan Implementation and Monitoring. Specify: (a) the entity (entities) responsible for monitoring the implementation of the service plan and participant health and welfare; (b) the monitoring and follow-up method(s) that are used; and, (c) the frequency with which monitoring is performed.

The services and supports that are provided to an individual are based on a person centered plan (PCP) developed by a team based on the goals identified during the planning process.

Monitoring the implementation of the PCP and the participant's health and welfare is the responsibility of the support coordinator, the direct service provider, and members of the planning team as specified in the action plan (who is to follow-up on specific objectives is spelled out in the PCP), the support coordinator, Regional Community Services Office (RCSO), Certification staff, and Protection and Advocacy. The support coordinator reviews the services provided to an individual against the PCP quarterly at a minimum. The support coordinator has an in-person follow-up with the individual at least once per quarter, and reviews individual satisfaction with the services provided, the adequacy of these services, and the individual's need or desire, if any, for the planning team to reconvene. If issues arise that adversely affects the individual's health or welfare, such as lack of staff based on the PCP, the Behavior Support Plan and/or the staffing plan, the support coordinator will notify the DMH Regional Community Services Office, which will intervene immediately.

The RCSO monitors both the implementation of the plan and the participant's health and welfare as part of the Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery waiver assurances. On an on-going bases the RCSO monitor will pull a sample of waiver participant’s PCP to ensure compliance with the waiver which includes reviewing staffing patterns, ensuring individual emergency plans are being followed, and incidents are being reported. If there is an instance where staffing is inconsistent with the individual plan the RCSO monitoring report will summarize the findings, including notation if a plan of action is needed, if so when is it needed and what is it to cover, and notation of planned follow-up by the RCSO if needed, and when and how (in person, letter or telephone). The RCSO may request that an incident report be submitted for further review. If it is determined that the lack of staffing or emergency plan implementation put the participant at risk of harm to self or others then a “for cause review” by Certification staff can be requested.

The Certification staff reviews a sample of participant records, including the PCP and health and incident records, as a component of the comprehensive provider certification process. As part of the DDD certification process, Certification staff will review a sample size of individual records to ensure the individualized emergency plans are developed for everyone and address a variety of situations based on the person, as well as ways to accommodate the individual needs of that person. This falls under Best Possible Health. Best Possible Health requires 100% in order to receive a certificate to provide services. If this section is not passed with 100% then the provider will be placed on “Provisional” status and a plan of correction must be submitted and implemented. Once the plan of correction is approved the provider will receive a one year certification.

Finally, if a complaint or request for review is made to the ALDMH Internal Rights Protection and Advocacy Program and inadequate staffing or lack of implementation of an emergency plan is noted then the DDD will be asked to investigate.

b. Monitoring Safeguards. Select one:
Entities and/or individuals that have responsibility to monitor service plan implementation and participant health and welfare may not provide other direct waiver services to the participant.

Entities and/or individuals that have responsibility to monitor service plan implementation and participant health and welfare may provide other direct waiver services to the participant.

The state has established the following safeguards to ensure that monitoring is conducted in the best interests of the participant. Specify:
As described in a. above, every person on the team has a responsibility to monitor both plan implementation and participant health and welfare, and this includes both the QIDPs of the direct care provider and the Support Coordinator. However, the operating state agency also monitors both of these, as described, and in this way ensures that the best interest of the participant is safeguarded. While it is a function of the support coordinator to review the person-centered-plan and follow-up to ensure goals are being addressed, there are other layers of authority that review, monitor, and ensure plans are being implemented.

The DMH Regional Community Services Waiver Coordinator reviews participant’s plans throughout the year to ensure the Operating Agency is meeting the required quality indicators as approved in the waiver document. Additionally, the Operating Agency’s Certification personnel reviews a sample of participant’s person-centered-plan as part of the site review. The Certification personnel will conduct a Positive Outcome Measures survey to ensure the support Coordinator is providing adequate services to meet the person’s needs. The Basic Assurances Standards are listed below. In addition, focused conversations that include suggested questions are listed.

580-5-33-.15 Support Coordinator Standards
Indicators:
A. The organization demonstrates the capacity to provide the core elements of support coordination.
B. The Support Coordinator performs a written comprehensive face-to-face assessment of the person’s assets, needs, supports, goals and preferences.
C. The Support Coordinator coordinates planning.
D. The Support Coordinator arranges services and supports.
E. The Support Coordinator monitors services and supports.
F. Documentation supports evaluation of the person-centered plan and promotes continuity of services and supports.
G. The Support Coordination agency implements a system for transition/discharge planning.

Support Coordinators coordinate services and resources. The Support Coordinator is an agent who partners with the person to determine priorities and preferences for services. He or she assists the person in assessing needs, defining expected outcomes and developing or coordinating an outcome-based person-centered plan. The Support Coordinator locates services and resources that are consistent with the person’s preferences, develops community linkage and monitors, reviews, and revises plans. The Support Coordinator will also seek out generic resources in the community. The Support Coordinator ensures, through this collaborative process, that the choices made by the person are actualized in the broader community.

FOCUSED CONVERSATIONS
Gather information directly from people to determine how they receive Support Coordinator services. Here are some suggested questions for people and those who know them best. In addition, there are also some questions or areas the organization will want to address.

Suggested questions for the person:
1. What does your support coordinator do?
2. How does he/she help you?
3. How does that work for you?
4. Tell me about what happens when your support coordinator visits.
5. Are you satisfied with the services and supports you receive?
6. Are these the services you want?
7. Do you have enough services? Are they meeting your needs and expectations?
8. Can you change services or providers if you so choose?
9. How do you want your life to be in the future?
10. What is important to you to accomplish or learn?
11. Whom do you talk with about your future?
12. What are your hopes and dreams for yourself?
13. What assistance (if any) do you need to make these things happen?
14. What have you done that you feel good about?
15. What have you accomplished over the past few (one to three) years that has made you feel good about yourself?
As a distinct component of the State's quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the State's methods for discovery and remediation.

a. Methods for Discovery: Service Plan Assurance/Sub-assurances

The state demonstrates it has designed and implemented an effective system for reviewing the adequacy of service plans for waiver participants.

i. Sub-Assurances:

a. Sub-assurance: Service plans address all participants assessed needs (including health and safety risk factors) and personal goals, either by the provision of waiver services or through other means.

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of participant service plans that address personal goals.
Numerator: Number of participant service plans that address personal goals.
Denominator: Number of participants reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Record reviews, on-site
If 'Other' is selected, specify:

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### Random Sampling
- Confidence Interval +/- 5%
- Confidence Level 95%

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### Data Aggregation and Analysis:

**Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):**
- [x] State Medicaid Agency
- [x] Operating Agency
- [x] Sub-State Entity
- [ ] Other Specify:

**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):**
- [x] Weekly
- [ ] Monthly
- [x] Quarterly
- [x] Annually
- [x] Continuously and Ongoing

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12/22/2020
Performance Measure:
Number and percent of participant service plans that address all participant’s assessed needs, including health and safety risk factors. Numerator: Number of participant service plans that address all participant’s assessed needs, including health and safety risk factors. Denominator: Number of participants reviewed.

**Data Source** (Select one):
Record reviews, on-site
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
**Participant Assessment form and person centered service plan**

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### Sub-assurance: The State monitors service plan development in accordance with its policies and procedures.

**Performance Measures**

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

### Sub-assurance: Service plans are updated/revised at least annually or when warranted by changes in the waiver participants needs.

**Performance Measures**

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

**Performance Measure:**
Number and percent of reviewed participants who have all assessed needs addressed in the service plan. Numerator: Number of reviewed participants who have all assessed needs addressed in the service plan. Denominator: Number of participants reviewed.

**Data Source (Select one):**
- Record reviews, on-site
If 'Other' is selected, specify:

**Person Centered Service Plan**

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Performance Measure:

Number and percent of participants whose services plans were reviewed with the participant according to the timeframes specified in the waiver. 

$N =$ Number of participants reviewed whose services plans were reviewed with the participant according to the timeframes specified in the waiver. 

$D =$ Number of participants reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):

Record reviews, on-site

If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

Person Centered Service Plan

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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of participants whose needs changed and whose service plans were revised accordingly. Numerator: Number of participants reviewed whose needs changed and whose service plans were revised accordingly. Denominator: Number of participants whose needs changed that were reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Record reviews, on-site
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
Person centered service plans

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Specify:

- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually
- Continuously and Ongoing
- Other

Performance Measures

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section, provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of reviewed waiver recipients that receive services and supports in the frequency specified in the service plan. N = Number of reviewed waiver recipients. D = Number of waiver recipients reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Record reviews, off-site
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
Participant Records-Claims

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Sub-assurance: Services are delivered in accordance with the service plan, including the type, scope, amount, duration and frequency specified in the service plan.
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- [ ] Continuously and Ongoing
- [ ] Other
  - Specify:

**Performance Measure:**
Number and percent of reviewed waiver recipients that receive service and supports in the type specified in the service plan. Numerator: Number of reviewed waiver recipients that receive service and supports in the type specified in the service plan. Denominator: The number of waiver recipients reviewed.

**Data Source** (Select one):
- Record reviews, on-site
- [ ] Other
  - Specify:

**Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):**

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    - Random sample
    - Confidence Interval +/-5%
    - Confidence level 95%
| [ ] Other Specify: | [ ] Annually | [ ] Stratified Describe Group: |
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**Performance Measure:**
Number and percent of reviewed waiver recipients that receive services and supports in the amount specified in the service plan. N = Number of reviewed waiver recipients that received services and supports in the amount specified in the service plan. D = Number of waiver recipients reviewed.

**Data Source** (Select one):
- Record reviews, off-site
- Claims
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### Performance Measure:
Number and percent of reviewed waiver recipients that receive services and supports in the duration specified in the service plan. \( N \) = Number of reviewed waiver recipients that received services and supports in the duration specified in the service plan. \( D \) = Number of waiver recipients reviewed.

#### Data Source (Select one):
- Record reviews, off-site
- If 'Other' is selected, specify:
- Participant records
- Claims

### Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):
- [ ] Other
  - Specify:

### Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):
- [x] Annually

### Continuous and Ongoing
- [ ]

### Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):
- [ ] Other
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### Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies):
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### Sampling Approach (check each that applies):
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- [x] Less than 100% Review

### Operating Agency
- [x] Representative Sample
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    - Random Sample
    - Confidence interval +/- 5%
    - Confidence Level 95%

### Sub-State Entity
- [ ] Quarterly

### Other
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### Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):
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### Other
- [ ] Stratified
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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of participants that receive services and supports in the scope specified in the service plan. Percentage = NUMERATOR [Number of participants reviewed that receive services and supports in the scope specified in the service plan] / DENOMINATOR [Number of participants reviewed]

Data Source (Select one):
Record reviews, off-site
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
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e. Sub-assurance: Participants are afforded choice: Between/among waiver services and providers.

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of reviewed participant records that have a signed freedom of choice form that specifies that choice was offered among waiver services and waiver service providers. N = Number of reviewed participant records that have a signed freedom of choice form that specifies that choice was offered among waiver services and waiver service providers. D = Number of participants reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
Freedom of choice form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Sampling Approach (check each that applies):</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Weekly</td>
<td>100% Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Operating Agency</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Representative Sample</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Confidence Interval =</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Random Sample</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Confidence Interval +/-.5%</td>
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<th>Stratified Describe Group:</th>
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<th>Continuously and Ongoing</th>
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Data Aggregation and Analysis:

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<td>Sub-State Entity</td>
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<td>Other Specify:</td>
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</table>
### Performance Measure:
Number and percent of reviewed individuals offered a choice between/among service and providers. Numerator: Number of reviewed individuals offered a choice between/among services and providers. Denominator: Number of participants reviewed.

### Data Source (Select one):
- Record reviews, on-site
- If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
  - Freedom of Choice Form

#### Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):
- [ ] State Medicaid Agency
- [x] Operating Agency
- [ ] Sub-State Entity
- [ ] Other
  - Specify:

#### Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies):
- [ ] Weekly
- [ ] Monthly
- [ ] Quarterly
- [ ] Annually
- [ ] Continuously and Ongoing
- [ ] Other
  - Specify:

#### Sampling Approach (check each that applies):
- [ ] 100% Review
- [x] Less than 100% Review
- [x] Representative Sample
  - Confidence Interval =
  - Random Sample
  - Confidence interval +/-5%
  - Confidence level 95%
- [ ] Stratified
  - Describe Group:
- [ ] Other
  - Specify:
### Data Aggregation and Analysis:

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<tr>
<td>✔ Operating Agency</td>
<td>☐ Monthly</td>
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<td>☐ Quarterly</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✔ Continuously and Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Other Specify:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Performance Measure:

Number and % of participant/survey respondent who answered "yes all services" or "sometimes or some services" to being able to choose/change what kind of services they receive. 

\[ \text{N} = \text{Number of participants/survey respondents who answered } \text{"yes all services" or } \text{"sometimes or some services" to being able to choose or change what kind of services they receive.} \]

\[ \text{D} = \text{Number of survey respondents reviewed.} \]

### Data Source (Select one):

Reports to State Medicaid Agency on delegated Administrative functions

If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

- NCI Survey

<p>| Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies): | Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies): | Sampling Approach (check each that applies): |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Medicaid Agency</th>
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<th>100% Review</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Operating Agency</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Less than 100% Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Representative Sample</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Confidence Interval =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sample size deemed appropriate by NCI</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>95% confidence level</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+/-5% margin of error</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<th>Other</th>
<th>Annually</th>
<th>Stratified</th>
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<tr>
<td>Specify:</td>
<td>Describe Group:</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Continuously and Ongoing</th>
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<td>Specify:</td>
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Data Aggregation and Analysis:

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<td>Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Annually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ii. If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.

b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems
   i. Describe the States method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information regarding responsible parties and GENERAL methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on the methods used by the state to document these items.

Remediation of individual problems occurs when problems are discovered by the regional office in monitoring plans. All of the discovery measures previously listed are produced by this monitoring, and the report of monitoring also includes notation of follow up actions needed. The measures of remediation actions needed and performed are included in the electronic aggregation and reporting system, and are listed below:

Remediation: Measure 1
The number and percent of reviews which required individual technical assistance.

Remediation: Measure 2
The number and percent of reviews which required agency wide technical assistance and training.

Remediation: Measure 3
The number and percent of reviews which required Plan of Correction.

If there are any reviews which required a plan of correction but the plan was either not submitted, not acceptable or not implemented, follow-up action would consist of referral to a "for-cause" certification review. In addition, depending on what the specific deficits were, funding could be recouped.

ii. Remediation Data Aggregation
Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Party (check each that applies):</th>
<th>Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):</th>
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<td>☒ Operating Agency</td>
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<td>☐ Sub-State Entity</td>
<td>☒ Quarterly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Other</td>
<td>☐ Annually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
c. Timelines
When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Service Plans that are currently non-operational.

☐ No
☐ Yes
Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Service Plans, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

Applicability (from Application Section 3, Components of the Waiver Request):

☐ Yes. This waiver provides participant direction opportunities. Complete the remainder of the Appendix.
☐ No. This waiver does not provide participant direction opportunities. Do not complete the remainder of the Appendix.

CMS urges states to afford all waiver participants the opportunity to direct their services. Participant direction of services includes the participant exercising decision-making authority over workers who provide services, a participant-managed budget or both. CMS will confer the Independence Plus designation when the waiver evidences a strong commitment to participant direction.

Indicate whether Independence Plus designation is requested (select one):

☐ Yes. The state requests that this waiver be considered for Independence Plus designation.
☐ No. Independence Plus designation is not requested.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (1 of 13)

a. Description of Participant Direction. In no more than two pages, provide an overview of the opportunities for participant direction in the waiver, including: (a) the nature of the opportunities afforded to participants; (b) how participants may take advantage of these opportunities; (c) the entities that support individuals who direct their services and the supports that they provide; and, (d) other relevant information about the waiver’s approach to participant direction.
Participants in the waiver will be offered an opportunity to self-direct services as the common law employer of record with budgetary authority if there is sufficient support available. A participant may self-direct select supports and services and also receive traditional supports and services from a provider agency, as long as both services are in the plan of care and are not duplicative. Self-Directed services include supports: Personal Care (and Personal Care transportation where applicable), Adult Companion Services, nursing (RN, LPN), Specialized Medical Supplies, Assistive Technology, Environmental Accessibility Adaptations, PERS, In-home Respite, Out of Home Respite, and Individual Goods and Services for further supports and maintenance.

Participants who self-direct either RN or LPN services, do so at the standard rates for these waiver services to train and monitor any Personal Care assistant activity which may only be provided with delegation from a nurse. The activities which may be delegated are dictated by the rules of the State Board of Nursing. The hours of nurse service necessary for this function must be specified in the plan of care and will be prior authorized. Using this service in this way, for nurse delegation, may only be used by participants who self-direct, and is not available for certified providers because the funding is already included in the rate paid to the providers.

Each participant may select self-directed services, or request more information about it, during the initial and each subsequent planning meeting. Participants newly enrolled into the waiver will be offered the opportunity from the beginning, and individuals already enrolled in the waiver and receiving services will be offered the opportunity no later than their next team meeting, which occurs, at a minimum, once per year. Support Coordinators and Regional Office staff will be able to answer questions about the service option, and provide general written information, and if a participant or his/her family wants more information before making a choice, there will be self-directed liaisons(SDL)available to provide it in each region of the state.

A fiscal intermediary (Financial Management Service Agency or FMSA) will be available for each participant who chooses to self-direct services. The FMSA will be paid as an administrative cost. In addition to the services of the FMSA, participants who self-direct will have a SDL liaison available, also who will be able to inform and consult, intervene, and trouble shoot any problems the participant may have. The self-directed liaison (SDL) model is adopted as an initial step for those interested in self-directing services. The SDL will make initial contact, explain the services in depth and assist in the completion of the employer paperwork to send to the FMS for initial set up. The SDL will train the EOR on all aspects of self-direction of services, including EOR responsibilities, required documentation, and timesheet processing. The SDL will review EOR paperwork initially and as the EOR gains experience, will check random samples to ensure compliance.

Participants who select self-direction will have a budget based on the plan of care developed during the person centered planning process. Units of service will be authorized and converted into a dollar amount. Funds saved through wage negotiations will be placed into a savings account managed by the FMSA. The savings plan will be developed based on items/services needed and identified in the PCP/POC. This plan can be revised as participant needs change. The participant will manage their services, with the assistance of the FMSA and self directed liaison and/or support coordinator if requested, by setting the employee rate, utilizing unused dollars to purchase more self-directed services if desired, covering the cost of overtime reimbursement (if applicable), purchasing worker's compensation insurance, or utilizing Individual Goods and Services as appropriate.

Individual Directed Goods and Services can be accessed with accompanying self-directed waiver services and procured through the participant's savings account maintained by the FMSA. The spending plan developed will list the items the participant intends to save for and purchase and must be approved by the SDL and/or support coordinator. The reimbursement or purchase of goods and services on behalf of the waiver participant will be made through the FMSA. When reimbursing the participant a valid receipt will be needed. If the participant cannot pay for the good or service up front then the FMSA will work out a process to procure a receipt and pay the vendor in advance. A valid receipt will be sent to the self-directed liaison and/or support coordinator to ensure the good or service was rendered or received.

Utilization will be reviewed routinely to ensure authorized dollars are being appropriately allocated to ensure health, safety, and welfare of the participant. Under utilization of dollars will be reviewed on an individual basis. Budgets will be reviewed annually and adjusted up or down based on utilization and needs.

The support coordinator should provide an overview to the families/representatives/legal guardians and participant's employee(s) on how to identify and report critical incidents and report incidents. All incidents should be to the case manager and/or Regional Office. The same follow-up procedures found in Appendix G apply.
Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (2 of 13)

b. Participant Direction Opportunities. Specify the participant direction opportunities that are available in the waiver. 

Select one:

- **Participant: Employer Authority.** As specified in Appendix E-2, Item a, the participant (or the participant’s representative) has decision-making authority over workers who provide waiver services. The participant may function as the common law employer or the co-employer of workers. Supports and protections are available for participants who exercise this authority.

- **Participant: Budget Authority.** As specified in Appendix E-2, Item b, the participant (or the participant’s representative) has decision-making authority over a budget for waiver services. Supports and protections are available for participants who have authority over a budget.

- **Both Authorities.** The waiver provides for both participant direction opportunities as specified in Appendix E-2. Supports and protections are available for participants who exercise these authorities.

c. Availability of Participant Direction by Type of Living Arrangement. Check each that applies:

- **X** Participant direction opportunities are available to participants who live in their own private residence or the home of a family member.
- **☐** Participant direction opportunities are available to individuals who reside in other living arrangements where services (regardless of funding source) are furnished to fewer than four persons unrelated to the proprietor.
- **☐** The participant direction opportunities are available to persons in the following other living arrangements

Specify these living arrangements:

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (3 of 13)

d. Election of Participant Direction. Election of participant direction is subject to the following policy (select one):

- **☐** Waiver is designed to support only individuals who want to direct their services.
- **☒** The waiver is designed to afford every participant (or the participant's representative) the opportunity to elect to direct waiver services. Alternate service delivery methods are available for participants who decide not to direct their services.
- **☐** The waiver is designed to offer participants (or their representatives) the opportunity to direct some or all of their services, subject to the following criteria specified by the state. Alternate service delivery methods are available for participants who decide not to direct their services or do not meet the criteria.

Specify the criteria

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (4 of 13)
Information Furnished to Participant. Specify: (a) the information about participant direction opportunities (e.g., the benefits of participant direction, participant responsibilities, and potential liabilities) that is provided to the participant (or the participant's representative) to inform decision-making concerning the election of participant direction; (b) the entity or entities responsible for furnishing this information; and, (c) how and when this information is provided on a timely basis.

Information describing benefits, responsibilities and liabilities, together with an overview of the FMSA role and process, will be available in a brochure and on the Operating Agency's web site. This information will also describe how waiver participants and/or their families can find more information and go about accessing the service. The brochures will be provided to support coordinator to take with them to all planning meetings, so that they may share the information with participants and team members. Once an individual and/or family indicates interest at a planning meeting, a referral will be made to the self directed liaison for that region to make contact with the person and/or family and explain, in detail, the entire process. If the person / family wish to proceed, the SDL will provide them a packet of forms, which he or she will help them complete if necessary, will explain the budget and budget process, and will initiate the referral to the FMSA with notification to the regional office.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (5 of 13)

f. Participant Direction by a Representative. Specify the state's policy concerning the direction of waiver services by a representative (select one):

- The state does not provide for the direction of waiver services by a representative.
- The state provides for the direction of waiver services by representatives.

Specify the representatives who may direct waiver services: (check each that applies):

- Waiver services may be directed by a legal representative of the participant.
- Waiver services may be directed by a non-legal representative freely chosen by an adult participant.

Specify the policies that apply regarding the direction of waiver services by participant-appointed representatives, including safeguards to ensure that the representative functions in the best interest of the participant:

Representative may include family members with whom the participant lives. For individuals who live in their own private residence and need to designate a representative, some special requirements will apply. A representative has to be able to assure the Regional Office that he or she has no conflict of interest and will support the participant's best interests. Second, there must be evidence that he or she is competent, willing and able to fulfill all the responsibilities, including providing sufficiently close supervision to a) assure the participant's health and welfare and b) sign the worker's timesheets with assurance each timesheet is accurate and truthful. Third, the representative must be chosen by the participant, but can neither be paid for being a representative nor be someone who is paid to provide any other service to the participant. In cases where the person chosen by the participant as the representative may be questionable, a background check may be indicated.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (6 of 13)

g. Participant-Directed Services. Specify the participant direction opportunity (or opportunities) available for each waiver service that is specified as participant-directed in Appendix C-1/C-3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Service</th>
<th>Employer Authority</th>
<th>Budget Authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Directed Goods and Services</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12/22/2020
Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (7 of 13)

h. Financial Management Services. Except in certain circumstances, financial management services are mandatory and integral to participant direction. A governmental entity and/or another third-party entity must perform necessary financial transactions on behalf of the waiver participant. Select one:

- Yes. Financial Management Services are furnished through a third party entity. (Complete item E-1-i).

  Specify whether governmental and/or private entities furnish these services. Check each that applies:

  - Governmental entities
  - Private entities

- No. Financial Management Services are not furnished. Standard Medicaid payment mechanisms are used. Do not complete Item E-1-i.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (8 of 13)

i. Provision of Financial Management Services. Financial management services (FMS) may be furnished as a waiver service or as an administrative activity. Select one:

- FMS are covered as the waiver service specified in Appendix C-1/C-3

  The waiver service entitled:

  

- FMS are provided as an administrative activity.

Provide the following information

i. Types of Entities: Specify the types of entities that furnish FMS and the method of procuring these services:
The Financial Management Service Agency (FMSA) procurement is through a competitive RFP issued by ADMH/DDD. The vendor organizations awarded the contracts demonstrated clear superiority of experience and capabilities. Based on experience, cost, and references. Each contract is set for two years then the RFP process has to be completed again.

PMPM cost for FMS services is based on the number of participants enrolled. The initial enrollment fee and the PMPM fee is based on the number of enrollees. The higher the number enrolled, the PMPM fee is reduced.

**ii. Payment for FMS.** Specify how FMS entities are compensated for the administrative activities that they perform:

The payments for the services provided by the FMSA will be based on an invoice submitted monthly. Payments are calculated according to a per-participant-per-month fee schedule. The fee is for a variety of activities specified in the vendor contract, and the fee is the same for every participant for whom an activity is provided during the month.

**iii. Scope of FMS.** Specify the scope of the supports that FMS entities provide *(check each that applies)*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supports furnished when the participant is the employer of direct support workers:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Assist participant in verifying support worker citizenship status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Collect and process timesheets of support workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Process payroll, withholding, filing and payment of applicable federal, state and local employment-related taxes and insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Specify:*

The FMSA process all worker applications. The FMSA furnishes background checks on prospective employees. The FMSA assures prospective employees meet waiver requirements. The FMSA will enroll self-directed employees that meet requirements and have valid licenses if applicable. The FMSA will procure goods and/or services on behalf of the participant. The FMSA will maintain separate savings accounts for each participant and monitor its usage on a regular basis. The FMS will also report budget balances to the regional office and self directed liaison. The FMS will perform monthly exclusion checks for all workers as required by federal regulations and AMA policies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supports furnished when the participant exercises budget authority:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Maintain a separate account for each participant’s participant-directed budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Track and report participant funds, disbursements and the balance of participant funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Process and pay invoices for goods and services approved in the service plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Provide participant with periodic reports of expenditures and the status of the participant-directed budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Other services and supports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Specify:*
iv. Oversight of FMS Entities. Specify the methods that are employed to: (a) monitor and assess the performance of FMS entities, including ensuring the integrity of the financial transactions that they perform; (b) the entity (or entities) responsible for this monitoring; and, (c) how frequently performance is assessed.

On a quarterly basis, the FMSA will provide reports and documentation to the Central office and the self-directed liaison and/or Support coordinator, and the self-directing participants, that will identify the amounts paid to and on behalf of employees and include copies of the signed time sheets for those employees for each pay period. The reimbursement to the FMSA will be based on the timecard submissions. If there has been an error in timecard submissions then the error will be corrected by the following pay period. The self-directed liaison, Support Coordinator will be responsible for all follow-up conversations with participants or the representative to 1) notify them of any change to compensation and 2) ensure that time keeping processes are clearly understood.

The SDL/support coordinator closely monitors units paid and remaining as well as account balances to ensure there are sufficient funds in each account to cover the cost of payroll. Goods and Services will be authorized through the self-directed liaison and or Support Coordinator and receipts for items paid for up front by the FMSA will be reconciled. A receipt for each item purchased is required for reimbursement.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (9 of 13)

j. Information and Assistance in Support of Participant Direction. In addition to financial management services, participant direction is facilitated when information and assistance are available to support participants in managing their services. These supports may be furnished by one or more entities, provided that there is no duplication. Specify the payment authority (or authorities) under which these supports are furnished and, where required, provide the additional information requested (check each that applies):

☒ Case Management Activity. Information and assistance in support of participant direction are furnished as an element of Medicaid case management services.

Specify in detail the information and assistance that are furnished through case management for each participant direction opportunity under the waiver:
Support Coordinators will have sufficient training and printed information to explain in general the self directed option to families and participants. If the family is interested in this option, the Support Coordinator will notify the liaison to make contact with the family and participant and explain the option in greater detail. As more families and participants express interest in self-direction, support coordinator will become more knowledgeable about the details, and thus more helpful. The self-directed liaison explains in full to the family/individual what services can be directed and what "self-directing" services means. At any time the individual or family needs clarification or more information, the liaison, the regional office or the Central Office can provide more information.

The self-directed liaison is an essential link to families and waiver participants who are interested in self-directing services. There is printed material that is available on line but word of mouth has been the most effective way of informing people about the program. Support Coordinators are working closely with the self-directed liaison during the initial phase. Support Coordinators will coordinate with the client and SDL and services will be transferred from “traditional” to “self-directed”. Also included in this is the process for developing the budget for the participant based on the current plan of care. All these pieces work together to establish a person into self-directed services.

ADMH Regional Office staff function as self-directed liaisons. Their salaries and benefits are expensed at 50% State and 50% Federal as waiver admin employees. Their services are not a component of another service.

**Waiver Service Coverage.**

Information and assistance in support of participant direction are provided through the following waiver service coverage(s) specified in Appendix C-1/C-3 (check each that applies):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant-Directed Waiver Service</th>
<th>Information and Assistance Provided through this Waiver Service Coverage</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Directed Goods and Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistive Technology Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance in Community Integration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Companion Services</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Behavior Support</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respite</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Stabilization Service</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supported Employment Transportation</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Habilitation</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Support</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits and Career Counseling</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Emergency Response System</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech and Language Therapy</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote Supports</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled Nursing</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Administrative Activity. Information and assistance in support of participant direction are furnished as an administrative activity.

Specify (a) the types of entities that furnish these supports; (b) how the supports are procured and compensated; (c) describe in detail the supports that are furnished for each participant direction opportunity under the waiver; (d) the methods and frequency of assessing the performance of the entities that furnish these supports; and, (e) the entity or entities responsible for assessing performance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant-Directed Waiver Service</th>
<th>Information and Assistance Provided through this Waiver Service Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Accessibility Adaptations</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevocational Services</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized Medical Supplies</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Intervention</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Experience</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Operating Agency will hire a limited number of individuals who have knowledge and experience in the field of Intellectual Disabilities, who have no conflict of interest, and who are willing to be trained to provide detailed information and day-to-day support to families and participants who indicate an interest in using this service option.

ADMH Regional Office staff function as self-directed liaisons. Their salaries and benefits are expensed at 50% State and 50% Federal as waiver admin employees. Their services are not a component of another service. They will be trained by state staff and by the FMSA, in order to have the detailed knowledge with which to assist participants and their families. The supports for the self directed option consist of explaining the benefits and costs (requirements) to the family or participant, explaining how the process works, and exactly what the self directed option entails in terms of responsibility and liability. This discussion ranges from recruiting, hiring, supervising and possibly firing staff, to keeping time sheets, developing backup plans, managing their staff within the funds available, and how to utilize the Goods and Services waiver service. When the family and / or participant choose(s) to proceed, the self-directed liaison will provide the packet of needed forms and explain and demonstrate each one. This is extremely detailed, and the family may ask the liaison to help them complete the forms. Additionally, the budget will be discussed.

The liaison may return to the family as often as necessary to set up the system. The liaison, regional office, and the FMSA will collaborate to ensure the processes are in place to assure the health and welfare of participants, and to ensure that payments and services are legal and sufficient.

The liaisons will meet with the Central Office on a routine basis for review and approval of their work. The liaisons will track and document all services rendered based on the scope of their contract and invoice the Department for their time. They may also be asked to consult with the regional office and / or the FMSA about progress or problems in any particular situation. Any concerns regarding the effectiveness of a liaison will be brought to the attention of Operating Agency’s central office. The final review element for the liaison's performance is the family or participant. They will be communicating directly with the regional office, and with the support coordinator, and if they wish, an advocate, so any problem they may experience with the liaison can and should be reported through those channels.

The Self-Directed Liaison (SDL) is an essential link to families and waiver participants who are interested in self-directing services. The program remains small but is growing nonetheless. There is printed material available online but word of mouth has been the most effective way of informing people about the program. Support Coordinators work closely with the SDL during the initial phase of self-directed enrollment and will notify the Regional office that a participant has made a choice to be transferred from “traditional” to “self-directed” services.

It is the responsibility of the SDL to provide assistance to anyone interested in self-directing services. This includes identifying the services that can be directed, informing interested parties about their role and responsibility (i.e. timecard submission, documentation, etc.), communicating with participants and notifying case management or the region and central offices of any concerns, and assisting participants with their budget. The SDL is generally the first person that a caregiver contacts with concerns and the SDL then reports issues to the appropriate source.

The SDL works with the fiscal management agency as well. Working with the participant and caregivers, the SDL ensures that time cards are submitted correctly, that the individualized budget is submitted, and provides notification and technical assistance to anyone participating in the program.

After sufficient time has passed and the family gains confidence to handle all aspects of SDS, the SDL will fade and responsibility for assistance will fall to the support coordinator.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (10 of 13)

k. Independent Advocacy (select one).

- ☐ No. Arrangements have not been made for independent advocacy.
- ☐ Yes. Independent advocacy is available to participants who direct their services.
Describe the nature of this independent advocacy and how participants may access this advocacy:

The Alabama Department of Mental Health operates an advocacy program independent of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (the Operating Agency). This program monitors participants to ensure their rights are not violated and operates a toll-free Advocacy Access Line during normal state business hours and a voice mail response system for after-hour callers for participants to request assistance or report issues. The number for this hotline is provided to all participants upon entry to the waiver program and will also be included with the brochure and manual provided to self-directing participants.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (11 of 13)

I. Voluntary Termination of Participant Direction. Describe how the state accommodates a participant who voluntarily terminates participant direction in order to receive services through an alternate service delivery method, including how the state assures continuity of services and participant health and welfare during the transition from participant direction:

Any participant who is self-directing his or her services may request to discontinue this model at any time by contacting the support coordinator, liaison, or the regional office, all of which will notify the Operating Agency immediately. The support coordinator provides the participant with free choice of providers who will take over delivering the services. If appropriate and desired by the participant, the staff which has been providing the services may be employed by the provider agency selected. The transfer will be as fast as can be arranged depending on the circumstances: if the participant's staff can be employed by an agency to continue the service, this will be done within two weeks. If all new staff needs to be recruited, vetted, hired, and trained prior to employment, the process may take a month or more. During that time the original backup plan will need to be implemented, and other providers within the county may also be asked to help staff the participant's needs.

The circumstances under which a participant chooses to voluntarily terminate his/her use of the self-direction model will always be assessed, first by the support coordinator, then as needed, by the regional office or advocacy section, as a routine component of trying to improve the service delivery system.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (12 of 13)

m. Involuntary Termination of Participant Direction. Specify the circumstances when the state will involuntarily terminate the use of participant direction and require the participant to receive provider-managed services instead, including how continuity of services and participant health and welfare is assured during the transition.
Participants may be discharged involuntarily from participant direction because of:

1. Health or Welfare issues: the participant's and/or family's desire to continue self-directing will always be considered primary, but the support coordinator, liaison, or regional office will report adverse information to the Operating Agency, and if in the considered judgment of the Operating Agency the participant's health or welfare is in jeopardy, for any reason from abuse to change of condition, that individual will be returned to a traditional form of services.

2. Consistent participant failure to correctly utilize the FMSA services to pay his or her staff, after efforts have been made to provide support and training and have repeatedly failed, will result in termination of self-direction and return to a traditional form of services. Likewise, a participant who consistently discharges staff and ultimately is unable to hire anyone will also be returned to traditional services.

3. Anyone who engages in false approval and reporting of time cards, or in any other way acts to deceive or defraud, will be terminated from self-direction. If the person engaging in the fraud was not the waiver participant, referral will be made to the Medicaid Fraud Unit. If that person was the waiver participant, he or she will simply be returned to traditional services.

4. The method of returning a person to traditional services when they are involuntarily terminated from self-direction is the same as the method used when a person is voluntarily terminated. The support coordinator will provide the participant with free choice of providers who will take over delivering the services, unless it happens that a new service configuration is needed. For example, it may be necessary for the individual to move to a group home, either for care of an accelerated health condition or because the previous setting was exploitive. If appropriate and desired by the participant, the staff which has been providing the services may be employed by the new provider agency, but that will depend on the conditions that led to the termination. The transfer will be as fast as can be arranged depending on the circumstances: if the transition is prolonged, respite will be used as a bridge.

5. Participants who are terminated from self-direction are not provided the opportunity for a Medicaid fair hearing, because self-direction is only one method of receiving the services as long as the participant can be and is transitioned to the same essential set of services and his or her needs are met, no adverse action has occurred.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-1: Overview (13 of 13)

n. Goals for Participant Direction. In the following table, provide the state's goals for each year that the waiver is in effect for the unduplicated number of waiver participants who are expected to elect each applicable participant direction opportunity. Annually, the state will report to CMS the number of participants who elect to direct their waiver services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Year</th>
<th>Employer Authority Only</th>
<th>Budget Authority Only or Budget Authority in Combination with Employer Authority</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of Participants</td>
<td>Number of Participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
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<td>75</td>
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<td>Year 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-2: Opportunities for Participant Direction (1 of 6)

a. Participant - Employer Authority Complete when the waiver offers the employer authority opportunity as indicated in Item E-1-b:

i. Participant Employer Status. Specify the participant's employer status under the waiver. Select one or both:
☐ **Participant/Co-Employer.** The participant (or the participant's representative) functions as the co-employer (managing employer) of workers who provide waiver services. An agency is the common law employer of participant-selected/recruited staff and performs necessary payroll and human resources functions. Supports are available to assist the participant in conducting employer-related functions.

Specify the types of agencies (a.k.a., agencies with choice) that serve as co-employers of participant-selected staff:

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☒ **Participant/Common Law Employer.** The participant (or the participant's representative) is the common law employer of workers who provide waiver services. An IRS-approved Fiscal/Employer Agent functions as the participant's agent in performing payroll and other employer responsibilities that are required by federal and state law. Supports are available to assist the participant in conducting employer-related functions.

**ii. Participant Decision Making Authority.** The participant (or the participant's representative) has decision making authority over workers who provide waiver services. Select one or more decision making authorities that participants exercise:

☒ Recruit staff
☒ Refer staff to agency for hiring (co-employer)
☐ Select staff from worker registry
☒ Hire staff common law employer
☒ Verify staff qualifications
☒ Obtain criminal history and/or background investigation of staff

Specify how the costs of such investigations are compensated:

The FMSA will provide a background check to the participant and/or representative as a component of the administrative service for which it is paid.

☒ Specify additional staff qualifications based on participant needs and preferences so long as such qualifications are consistent with the qualifications specified in Appendix C-1/C-3.

Specify the state's method to conduct background checks if it varies from Appendix C-2-a:

Does not vary.

☒ Determine staff duties consistent with the service specifications in Appendix C-1/C-3.
☒ Determine staff wages and benefits subject to state limits
☒ Schedule staff
☒ Orient and instruct staff in duties
☒ Supervise staff
☒ Evaluate staff performance
☒ Verify time worked by staff and approve time sheets
☒ Discharge staff (common law employer)
☐ Discharge staff from providing services (co-employer)
☐ Other

Specify:
Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-2: Opportunities for Participant-Direction (2 of 6)

b. Participant - Budget Authority Complete when the waiver offers the budget authority opportunity as indicated in Item E-1-b:

i. Participant Decision Making Authority. When the participant has budget authority, indicate the decision-making authority that the participant may exercise over the budget. Select one or more:

- [x] Reallocate funds among services included in the budget
- [x] Determine the amount paid for services within the state's established limits
- [ ] Substitute service providers
- [x] Schedule the provision of services
- [ ] Specify additional service provider qualifications consistent with the qualifications specified in Appendix C-1/C-3
- [x] Specify how services are provided, consistent with the service specifications contained in Appendix C-1/C-3
- [x] Identify service providers and refer for provider enrollment
- [ ] Authorize payment for waiver goods and services
- [x] Review and approve provider invoices for services rendered
- [ ] Other

Specify:

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Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-2: Opportunities for Participant-Direction (3 of 6)

b. Participant - Budget Authority

ii. Participant-Directed Budget Describe in detail the method(s) that are used to establish the amount of the participant-directed budget for waiver goods and services over which the participant has authority, including how the method makes use of reliable cost estimating information and is applied consistently to each participant. Information about these method(s) must be made publicly available.
The self-directed budget will be developed based on authorized units from the individual's plan of care which is based on the PCP. The process for developing the service plan will not be different from that of traditional waiver services. The individual's support team will meet and develop the person-centered plan based on expressed desires and needs. Based on specified goals and needs for support utilizing the person centered plan, a service plan will be developed with units of service assigned to each waiver service. The service plan can include both traditional waiver services and self-directed services. The authorized units for self-directed services will be converted to a dollar amount that represents the individual's budget for the year. If the individual chooses to self-direct all services then the person-centered planning process would be slightly different. If possible the person and his/her parent/guardian/representative of choice and the support coordinator would develop a person centered plan. The SDL can assist as needed.

The individual will have the ability to hire staff (approved by the FMSA), establish the rate to be paid, use budgeted dollars to pay for additional hours of service if necessary, and utilize the Individual Directed Goods and Services service for items needed to help promote inclusion in the community, decrease reliance on Medicaid services, or increase safety in the home so long as the service or good is not otherwise reimbursable through the waiver or Medicaid. Any dollars saved through wage negotiations or tax changes can be applied to the Goods and Services service up to the cap and a spending plan is developed for each participant.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-2: Opportunities for Participant-Direction (4 of 6)

b. Participant - Budget Authority

iii. Informing Participant of Budget Amount. Describe how the state informs each participant of the amount of the participant-directed budget and the procedures by which the participant may request an adjustment in the budget amount.

The individual will be notified of self-directed services during the service plan development process. The plan development process requires signatures of all members of the support team, including the individual if able, indicating the services have been reviewed and all involved are in agreement. The self-directed services budget amount will be determined and the participant will be informed during the enrollment meeting with the liaison. Requests for adjustments to the self-directed services budget will go through the support coordinator. Request will be made to and approved by the regional office. The Operating Agency will not approve changes to the budget based on financial misuse of dollars such as excessive employee pay rate or to pay employee overtime payment, employee bonuses etc. The self-directed budget does not serve as a limit on the amount of waiver services that an individual may receive. The support team will determine the appropriate level of service and the self-directed services budget will be built based the participant's assessed need and units authorized. Budget changes will not be approved for purchase of goods and services not authorized.

Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-2: Opportunities for Participant-Direction (5 of 6)

b. Participant - Budget Authority

iv. Participant Exercise of Budget Flexibility. Select one:

- Modifications to the participant directed budget must be preceded by a change in the service plan.
- The participant has the authority to modify the services included in the participant directed budget without prior approval.

Specify how changes in the participant-directed budget are documented, including updating the service plan. When prior review of changes is required in certain circumstances, describe the circumstances and specify the entity that reviews the proposed change:
Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services

E-2: Opportunities for Participant-Direction (6 of 6)

b. Participant - Budget Authority

t. Expenditure Safeguards. Describe the safeguards that have been established for the timely prevention of the premature depletion of the participant-directed budget or to address potential service delivery problems that may be associated with budget underutilization and the entity (or entities) responsible for implementing these safeguards:

Safeguards for preventing premature depletion of the individual's budget are multi-layered. Individual Goods and Services will only be authorized if there is enough savings in the individual's budget and there is not a concern of premature depletion. The FMSA will maintain the individual's budget and savings account and will monitor it monthly to ensure utilization remains steady. Individual balance reports will be generated monthly and submitted to the liaison/support coordinator for review. If there appears to be either overutilization or underutilization, the participant will be contacted to outline concerns. If either over utilization or underutilization is an on-going problem, the individual and representative will be consulted and informed of the possibility of involuntary discharge of self-directed services, and a transfer to traditional waiver services will be made.

Appendix F: Participant Rights

Appendix F-1: Opportunity to Request a Fair Hearing

The state provides an opportunity to request a Fair Hearing under 42 CFR Part 431, Subpart E to individuals: (a) who are not given the choice of home and community-based services as an alternative to the institutional care specified in Item 1-F of the request; (b) are denied the service(s) of their choice or the provider(s) of their choice; or, (c) whose services are denied, suspended, reduced or terminated. The state provides notice of action as required in 42 CFR §431.210.

Procedures for Offering Opportunity to Request a Fair Hearing. Describe how the individual (or his/her legal representative) is informed of the opportunity to request a fair hearing under 42 CFR Part 431, Subpart E. Specify the notice(s) that are used to offer individuals the opportunity to request a Fair Hearing. State laws, regulations, policies and notices referenced in the description are available to CMS upon request through the operating or Medicaid agency.
Following is a description of how the individual (or legal representative) is offered the opportunity to request a fair hearing under 42 CFR Part 431, subpart E.

Any waiver applicant or recipient has the right to request a fair hearing if denied home and community-based services or if a decision by the operating agency adversely affects his/her eligibility status or receipt of service. If an applicant is determined not eligible by the operating agency, he or she is provided with notification of the determination, the reason and authority for the determination, and an explanation of the appeal rights and procedures available to the applicant. The formal process of notification and appeal is in accordance with 42 C.F.R. Section 431, Subpart E and Chapter 3 (560-X-3) of the Alabama Medicaid Administrative Code. There is an appeal process conducted by the operating agency at the applicant's choice, with the right to further appeal to the Medicaid Agency being explained to the applicant. If an appeal is made to the Medicaid Agency, a hearing officer appointed by the Commissioner of the Medicaid Agency conducts fair hearings. Medicaid legal counsel will be responsible for taking a lead role in the fair hearing process. If the individual/guardian is still dissatisfied after the Fair Hearing, he/she may appeal to the Circuit Court. The OA will be responsible for defending any appeal of the administrative decision.

Waiver recipients are provided with the necessary information regarding their opportunities to request a fair hearing as part of the planning process, by receiving and signing the Dissatisfaction of Services form. This form contains the information regarding his/her right to a hearing and acknowledges receipt of it.

When a change in the individual's needs suggests a change in the waiver services and plan of care, the person's treatment team discusses proposed change(s) with the person and his family/representative prior to implementation. This discussion will include an explanation of the reason for the change, further assessment of the impact of the change, and an effort to elicit agreement on the part of the person and/or his family/representative.

Whenever there is a decision by the operating agency to reduce, suspend, or terminate waiver services to coincide with the person's current need or the person's loss of eligibility for the service, the Department of Mental Health (DMH) will issue a written notice at least 10 days prior to the action to the client and or family/caregiver indicating the client's right to a fair hearing and instructions for initiating an appeal. A copy of the notice will be forwarded to the Medicaid Agency, and it will contain all the due process information required by 42 C.F.R. Section 431, Subpart E. This notification and the Dissatisfaction of Services form referenced above can be obtained from the operating agency.

The organization has a mechanism that provides people supported and their legally authorized representatives with information regarding filing complaints and grievances. At a minimum, the complaints/grievance procedures include the name and telephone number of a designated local contact within the organization.

The designated local contact has the knowledge to inform persons, families and legally authorized representatives of the means of filing complaints and grievances and of accessing advocates, ombudsmen or rights protection within or outside the organization.

Grievance procedure information is available in frequently used areas, particularly where people receive services. Such notices include the 800 numbers of the DMH Advocacy Office, federal protection and advocacy system (ADAP) and local Department of Human Resources.

The organization provides access to persons and advocates, including a DMH internal advocate and the grievance process without reprisal.

Responses to grievances/complaints are provided within a timely manner as specified in the agency’s procedures and in a manner that the person can understand.

The organization implements a system to periodically, but at least annually, review all grievances and complaints for quality assurance purposes.

Within ninety (90) days of employment, all employees who directly provide supports to people receive training in the following areas: Rights of people served, to include the recipient complaint/grievance procedure.

Appendix F: Participant-Rights

Appendix F-2: Additional Dispute Resolution Process

a. Availability of Additional Dispute Resolution Process. Indicate whether the state operates another dispute resolution
process that offers participants the opportunity to appeal decisions that adversely affect their services while preserving their right to a Fair Hearing. Select one:

- No. This Appendix does not apply
- Yes. The state operates an additional dispute resolution process

b. **Description of Additional Dispute Resolution Process.** Describe the additional dispute resolution process, including: (a) the state agency that operates the process; (b) the nature of the process (i.e., procedures and timeframes), including the types of disputes addressed through the process; and, (c) how the right to a Medicaid Fair Hearing is preserved when a participant elects to make use of the process: State laws, regulations, and policies referenced in the description are available to CMS upon request through the operating or Medicaid agency.

The Alabama Division of Developmental Disabilities, which is one division of the Alabama Department of Mental Health, is the Operating Agency for this waiver program. The notice of adverse action mentioned in Appendix F-1 includes an optional appeal to the Associate Commissioner of the Division of Developmental Disabilities. The individual/family has the option to appeal in writing to the Associate Commissioner, who will arrange an appeal review, after which she or he will issue a decision within 21 calendar days. The notice also states that if the individual/family disagrees with the Associate Commissioner's decision, they may appeal to the Medicaid Agency, and the notice indicates how and by when to do that.

The process will include a thorough review of all documents submitted with the initial application and may also include requests for additional information.

The types of disputes which can be addressed through this process include any adverse actions which have required the notice of due process to be sent to the individual/family. Participation in this process is at the option of the individual/family. If they choose not to participate, they may send their request for appeal directly to the Medicaid Agency.

In the rare instance that the adverse action includes terminating a service or dis-enrolling a person from the waiver who does not want to be dis-enrolled, the service will be continued until a review can be held, if the person appeals within the ten days prior of the effective date of the notice.

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**Appendix F: Participant-Rights**

**Appendix F-3: State Grievance/Complaint System**

a. **Operation of Grievance/Complaint System.** Select one:

- No. This Appendix does not apply
- Yes. The state operates a grievance/complaint system that affords participants the opportunity to register grievances or complaints concerning the provision of services under this waiver

b. **Operational Responsibility.** Specify the state agency that is responsible for the operation of the grievance/complaint system:

The Alabama Department of Mental Health, Office of Advocacy Services

c. **Description of System.** Describe the grievance/complaint system, including: (a) the types of grievances/complaints that participants may register; (b) the process and timelines for addressing grievances/complaints; and, (c) the mechanisms that are used to resolve grievances/complaints. State laws, regulations, and policies referenced in the description are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).
The Department maintains an independent office of advocacy services, reporting directly to the Commissioner's office, which monitors programs, receives complaints through a toll-free advocacy access line during normal State of AL business hours (the number is required to be posted in every certified site and given to each individual), and investigates or causes to be investigated any rights issue complaints received. A voicemail response is left on the phone line, encouraging after-hour callers to leave a message, which will be retrieved and responded to on the next regular business day. The recorded message also offers options for the caller to follow if more immediate assistance is required.

The types of rights issue complaints that may be reported and will be investigated fall into the following rights categories:

a) Due process; b) Education; c) Complaints; d) Safe and humane environment; e) Protection from harm; f) Privacy/confidentiality; g) Personal possessions; h) Communication and social contacts; i) Religion; j) Confidentiality of records; k) Labor; l) Disclosure of services available; m) Quality treatment; n) Individualized treatment or habilitation; o) Participation in treatment or habilitation; p) Least restrictive conditions; q) Research and experimentation; r) Informed consent.

Complaints of abuse, neglect or mistreatment are immediately referred to the responsible program and an investigation is also initiated by Advocacy staff or the program within 24 hours. Any other complaint that, in the opinion of the advocate, involves threat to health or safety is treated the same way. Other complaints are opened, responsible parties notified, and investigations are initiated as soon as possible but no later than 7 working days of the report, with the expectation that the investigation will be completed within 30 working days.

Resolution is required of the provider agency, which must submit a written report. If resolution requires ongoing monitoring, the responsible division's staff will provide this. If resolution requires court intervention, the federal protection and advocacy agency known as the Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program or the Alabama State Bar Referral Service may be contacted to arrange legal representation for the individual. If the individual is receiving services under the waiver and his complaint involves waiver related issues, and he cannot achieve satisfaction through the required resolution, he and his representative are referred to the Medicaid Hearing Process. This rarely occurs, because the authority of the DMH Office of Advocacy Services can resolve most problems.

Reports are generated quarterly, listing the complainant, the nature of the complaint, and the finding of the investigation, and if warranted, a notation of the resolution. These reports are provided to the staff of the Alabama Medicaid Agency.

Appendix G: Participant Safeguards

Appendix G-1: Response to Critical Events or Incidents

a. Critical Event or Incident Reporting and Management Process. Indicate whether the state operates Critical Event or Incident Reporting and Management Process that enables the state to collect information on sentinel events occurring in the waiver program. Select one:

- Yes. The state operates a Critical Event or Incident Reporting and Management Process (complete Items b through e)
- No. This Appendix does not apply (do not complete Items b through e)

If the state does not operate a Critical Event or Incident Reporting and Management Process, describe the process that the state uses to elicit information on the health and welfare of individuals served through the program.

b. State Critical Event or Incident Reporting Requirements. Specify the types of critical events or incidents (including alleged abuse, neglect and exploitation) that the state requires to be reported for review and follow-up action by an appropriate authority, the individuals and/or entities that are required to report such events and incidents and the timelines for reporting. State laws, regulations, and policies that are referenced are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).
### State Critical Event or Incident Reporting Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Types</th>
<th>Timeframes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Abuse</td>
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<td>Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal Abuse</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Self-Neglect</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exploitation</td>
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<td>Unnatural Death</td>
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<td>Seizure</td>
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<td>Medication Documentation Error</td>
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<td>24-hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unscheduled Hospital Visit</td>
<td>24-hours</td>
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</table>

All DMH certified community providers shall report incidents involving individuals that occur in operated or contracted community residential and day programs, either on the provider's premises and or while involved in an event supervised by the provider for all recipients of services. Incidents are reported electronically through the Therap™ Incident Reporting and Management Solution. Reporting of incidents is also required when they occur in settings other than those specified above (e.g., overnight visits or outings with families).

Administrative Code Regulations:

580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, 580-5-30, Community Incident Prevention and Management System (IPMS), and DD Operational Policies and Procedures: Protection from Abuse, Neglect, Mistreatment, and Exploitation

Each entity shall have a written plan that addresses the process of prevention and management of incidents.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) preserves the safety, protection, and well being of all individuals receiving services through its certified community agencies, and will take appropriate action on any mistreatment, neglect, abuse or exploitation of those individuals.

The DDD prohibits abuse, neglect, mistreatment and exploitation of individuals served, and has procedures for investigating and reporting such incidents, and for taking disciplinary and corrective actions.

The DDD has promulgated a Community Incident Prevention and Management Plan that provides guidance for community agencies/providers in the implementation of incident prevention and management systems to protect individuals from potential harm, and those agencies are required to implement this Plan as part of their DMH certification requirements.
c. **Participant Training and Education.** Describe how training and/or information is provided to participants (and/or families or legal representatives, as appropriate) concerning protections from abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including how participants (and/or families or legal representatives, as appropriate) can notify appropriate authorities or entities when the participant may have experienced abuse, neglect or exploitation.

**Participant Training and Education**

Each person served by a provider agency is required by regulation to be informed of his rights and responsibilities annually. Rights include being free from abuse, neglect and exploitation. Each person is also informed of the Office of Advocacy toll-free hotline, its purpose and its number. Each person is also informed by the provider of his due process rights. Support Coordinators maintain relationships with individuals to encourage them to talk about what is important to them, including what may be happening that they don’t like. The Office of Advocacy Services of the Department of Mental Health conducts routine random monitoring, and Regional Offices of the Division of Developmental Disabilities conduct routine monitoring, both of which monitoring processes include talking with individuals.

**Administrative Code Regulations:**

580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, 580-5-30, and DD Operational Policies and Procedures: Promotion and Protection of Individual Rights

The DDD will ensure the organization effectively and consistently implements a policy and procedure that clearly defines its commitment to and addresses the promotion and protection of individual rights afforded all citizens by the constitution and laws of the Country and State of Alabama.

580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, 580-5-30, and DD Operational Policies and Procedures: Dignity and Respect

The DDD will ensure the organization’s policies and procedures, and implementation of these, reflect and reinforce the use of courteous practices towards individuals.

d. **Responsibility for Review of and Response to Critical Events or Incidents.** Specify the entity (or entities) that receives reports of critical events or incidents specified in item G-1-a, the methods that are employed to evaluate such reports, and the processes and time-frames for responding to critical events or incidents, including conducting investigations.
The Incident Manager housed in the regional office will review each incident report for each reportable incident described in G-1 a. and determine if the report requires no action follow-up, action follow-up, or an investigation. All allegations of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, or exploitation are incidents that, by regulation, require an investigation. Other incidents may or may not require an investigation, based on the nature of the incident and action already taken by the provider. Nonetheless, all defined incidents must be reported, by the regulations governing certification of providers.

Investigations of Level 3 incidents (injury or harm requiring medical attention beyond first aid) are investigated by qualified ADMH Regional Office staff. Investigations of Level 4 incidents (injury or harm resulting in death) are investigated by qualified ADMH Regional Office staff and ADMH Central Office staff. ADMH Advocacy may also participate in investigations.

Investigations include:
1. a review of the person-centered service plan of the service recipient and other reported incidents in the past year;
2. a review of the circumstances leading up to and following the incident;
3. interviews with all witnesses to the incident (employees, service recipients, and community citizens);
4. interviews with family members or guardians of the service recipient;
5. interviews with other relevant parties, including provider agency supervisory, management, and health care personnel and the assigned support coordinator for the service recipient;
6. reports of ADAP related to investigations of incidences that have occurred in group home settings;
7. reviews of relevant documents and medical records maintained by the service provider, support coordinator, or external health care entities, including hospitals and outpatient medical providers; and,
8. reviews of law enforcement reports, death certificates, and autopsy reports (as appropriate).

INVESTIGATION TIMEFRAMES

Comprehensive Mortality Review Report is due within 15 working days of death. Within 5 working days after receiving the Comprehensive Mortality Review, the RCS Director, or designee, will review and take additional action, if needed, and/or close the review. Based on circumstances, this 5-day period may be extended with written notice to the RCS Director, for example, an autopsy is completed but is not available, or further action is needed but has not yet occurred.

Critical incident General Event Reports (GERs) must be submitted within 24 hours of occurrence. As soon as possible, but not later than 15 working days from occurrence of the incident, the provider shall create a GER Resolution in THERAP, including a summary of the completed investigation. The Regional Incident Manager will attach the completed GER Resolution to the original GER in THERAP. Within 5 working days after receiving the investigation report, the RCS Director or designee will review, approve and close the GER Resolution. Based on circumstances, this 5-day period may be extended with written notice to the RCS Director, for example, an autopsy is completed but is not available, or further action is needed but has not yet occurred.

NOTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATION FINDINGS

Summaries of investigation findings, conclusions, and recommendations for corrective action should be distributed to: (Note: summaries should be informative but protect the confidentiality of individuals involved in the course of the investigation). Summaries of investigation findings may be provided in voicemail, email, in person or in writing.

a. relevant service provider personnel including employees directly associated with the incident,
b. the service recipient’s support coordinator and support coordination agency, and
c. the service recipient and his or her family. Legal representative or friends (with consent of the individual service recipient or their legal guardian or legal representative if the service recipient is unable to provide consent).

Administrative Code :580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, 580-5-30-.10 (5), IPMS, and DD Operational Policies and Procedures: Protection from Abuse, Neglect, Mistreatment, and Exploitation
Alabama Department of Mental Health
--Division of Developmental Disabilities Central and Regional Offices
--Office of Advocacy Services

Alabama Department of Human Resources (certain incidents of abuse, neglect and exploitation must be reported to ADHR by law).

Alabama Medicaid Agency: annual review of DDDs investigations, certification files containing quality enhancement plans and technical assistance reports, and mortality reviews. Quarterly review of Advocacy's reports.

DDD providers submit reportable incidents to RCS offices, and other appropriate entities through Therap. These incidents are tracked by regional staff to completion and closure. In addition to the above, Regional QE Staff (1 in each of 5 regions) compile and analyze data on a quarterly basis for their region to identify any problematic trends or patterns. Individual provider and recipient issues identified are managed administratively by the regional office staff. Systemic educational development and training needs are managed by the QE staff. Also, on a quarterly basis, the Director of Quality and Planning compiles and analyzes data on a statewide basis and presents to the Developmental Disabilities Sub-coordinating Committee, a statewide stakeholder group, that makes remedial recommendations as needed to the Associate Commissioner for DD Services.

Appendix G: Participant Safeguards

Appendix G-2: Safeguards Concerning Restraints and Restrictive Interventions (1 of 3)

a. Use of Restraints. (Select one): (For waiver actions submitted before March 2014, responses in Appendix G-2-a will display information for both restraints and seclusion. For most waiver actions submitted after March 2014, responses regarding seclusion appear in Appendix G-2-c.)

- The state does not permit or prohibits the use of restraints
  Specify the state agency (or agencies) responsible for detecting the unauthorized use of restraints and how this oversight is conducted and its frequency:

- The use of restraints is permitted during the course of the delivery of waiver services. Complete Items G-2-a-i and G-2-a-ii.
  
  i. Safeguards Concerning the Use of Restraints. Specify the safeguards that the state has established concerning the use of each type of restraint (i.e., personal restraints, drugs used as restraints, mechanical restraints). State laws, regulations, and policies that are referenced are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).
The Behavioral Services Procedural Guidelines describe the procedures referenced as restraint, along with the requirements for monitoring and documenting those procedures. Providers are required to train all staff who must implement restraints in the appropriate application of the procedures. If a person is found to be implementing the restraint incorrectly or outside the boundaries of an individual’s Behavior Support Plan (BSP), whoever witnesses the event is obligated to report it and the provider is required to submit an incident report and conduct an investigation regarding the inappropriate use, misuse, or unauthorized use of restraint. The Regional Community Services offices review any instances of this and follows up on the investigation, adding recommendations when necessary to those implemented by the provider to remedy the situation and prevent further occurrence. Any Emergency use of Restraint must be reported via the Incident Prevention and Management System (IPMS) procedures. If 3 of these occur within a 6 month period, the team is required to meet to determine the factors leading to the need for those restraints in order to determine what alternatives could have been tried more effectively and evaluate whether restraints should be added to the person’s Behavior Support Plan (BSP). Additionally, at any time that Regional Office staff are conducting their usual monitoring of providers and they witness or become aware that any restraint has been used without authorization, it is reported and investigated. Finally, certification staff routinely reviews the use of any restrictive procedure during surveys to ensure appropriateness and adequate due process.

Every staff person who works with an individual for whom restraints are a part of their BSP must receive specific training regarding how to implement the restraint and under what circumstances the restraint can and cannot be used before they can work with the person. All provider direct support professionals, QIDPs, and others must receive training in the Management of Aggressive and severe challenging behavior as part of their orientation training as well as annual refreshers. Professional staff must also have that kind of training. Direct Support Professionals are required to have a high school education, the QIDP must have a minimum of a bachelor’s degree as well as training on the Behavioral Guidelines. Most of the providers who contract with the division do not use restraints. Most of the agencies that serve individuals who require restraints, either employ or contract with a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. Emergency use of restraints requires authorization from a QIDP, Program Director, or Physician. Direct Support Professionals cannot just decide to implement a restraint without that authorization.

Level One and Level Two interventions:

Level One Intervention Requirements
- In general, doesn’t require BSP, IDT approval
- Inform Individual of procedure
- Parents/Guardians to receive copy if put in BSP
- Staff to be trained in procedures
- New Plan Annually

Level One Intervention Procedures
- Anger Management
- Apology
- Behavior Contracting/Momentum
- Chaining (Forward or Backward)
- Cognitive Rehearsal
- Comfort Statements
- Compliance Training
- Contingent/Continuous Reinforcement
- Desensitization
- Differential Reinforcement (DR)
  - DR High Rates of Behavior (DRH)
  - DR of Alternative Behaviors (DRA)
  - DR of Incompatible Behavior (DRI)
  - DR of Low Rates of Behavior (DRL)
  - DR of Other Behaviors (DRO)
- Discrete Trial Teaching
- Environmental Adaptation
• Escorting
• Extinction
• Fading
• Functional Communication Training
• Hand-Over-Hand
• Incidental Teaching
• Intermittent Reinforcement
• Planned Ignoring
• Positive Reinforcement
• Problem Solving
• Prompts
• Redirection
• Response Blocking/Interruption
• Restoring the Environment
• Role Playing
• Self-Monitoring
• Stimulus Control Training
• Talk Times
• Task Analysis
• Token Reinforcement
• Verbal Prompt to Stop

Level Two Intervention Requirements
• BSP
• Staff to be trained in procedures.
• Approval/consent from Individual and his/her IDT, BPRC chair, HRC, Parent/Guardian.
  ■ New Plan Annually

Level Two Intervention Procedures
• Contingent Observation
• Escape Extinction
• Extraordinary Blocking
• Negative Reinforcement
• Positive Practice
• Removal
• Reparation of Property/Restitution
• Response Cost
• Restriction of Environmental Access
• Restriction of Mobility
• Satiation
• Search
• Suspension
• Timeout
  - Exclusionary
  - Non-exclusionary
• Timeout Ribbon
• Transporting

NOTE:
Use of ANY restrictive procedure requires a plan for restoration of whatever is restricted – Due Process right
This is typically referred to as a Fading Plan – a plan for “fading” the restriction.
Manual Restraints are listed in the behavioral guidelines as a Level 3 procedure in a BSP, which requires approval by the individual and his/her team, the Behavior Program Review Committee (BPRC), the Human Rights Committee (HRC). Mechanical Restraints are listed in the guidelines as a Level 4 (most restrictive) procedure in a BSP, which requires all of the previously listed reviews/approvals and must also be submitted for approval by the Director of Psychological and Behavioral Services (DPBS) in the Division of Developmental Disabilities. The DPBS determines the frequency of additional reviews that will be required on a case by case basis for these Level 4 BSPs. Reviews by both the BPRC and HRC committees include that they ascertain whether less restrictive procedures have been tried and documented to have been ineffective prior to approving restrictive procedures, including restraints.

Per the Behavioral Services Procedural Guidelines, Level 3 Procedures are restrictive and may only be used by direct care professionals when they are included in a Behavior Support Plan (BSP). Some of the procedures may be used in emergency situations and are so designated. Emergency use of these procedures requires an order from a QIDP. The use of an Emergency Procedure three times in a six month period requires the individuals planning team to meet, within five working days of the third use, to determine if a BSP is needed. The team's determination must be documented. Staff must be trained in the use of these procedures prior to using. Each BSP containing Level 3 Procedures requires prior approval by the Behavior Program Review Committee (BPRC), review by the Human Rights Committee (HRC), and approval/consent by the individual or the parent/guardian, and must be reviewed and updated at least annually.

Level 4 Procedures are considered the most restrictive and must be in a BSP (exception is Emergency Mechanical Restraint, which has an IPMS documentation requirement and a limit regarding the number of times it can be used). Each BSP containing Level 4 Procedures must be reviewed by the Director of Psychological and Behavioral Services (DPBS) in the Division of Developmental Disabilities, the BPRC, the HRC, and approval/consent by the individual or the parent/guardian. Requests for the use of these procedures should be sent to the DPBS at the same time that consent requests are sent to the parent/guardian. The DPBS or designee will review and respond within two (2) working days of receipt of the BSP with the Level 4 Procedure. Staff must be trained in the used of approved procedures prior to using. The frequency for review and updating of the BSP with Level 4 Procedures will be indicated in the response sent by the DPBS or designee, however a review is required at least annually.

Manual, Mechanical and Chemical Restraints are permitted in emergency situations and as procedures in properly designed and professionally monitored behavior support plans and implemented by trained staff, as follows.

There are three types of emergency restraints recognized in community programs:
1. Manual: the use of physical holding which is not a part of an approved behavior support plan to involuntarily restrain the movement of the whole or portion of an individual's body as a means of controlling his/her physical activities in order to protect him/her or others from injury.
2. Chemical (psychotropic medication): the use of medication(s) that is not a standard treatment for the individual's medical or psychiatric conditions and is used to control behavior or restrict the individual's freedom of movement.
3. Mechanical: The use of commercial devices which is not part of an approved behavior support plan to involuntarily restrain the movement of the whole or a portion of an individual's body as a means of controlling him/her physical activities in order to protect him/her or others from injury.

Al. Administrative Code Chapters 580-3-23, 580-3-25, 580-3-26, 580-5-30-.10 (10), Nurse
Delegation Program, Behavioral Services Procedural Guidelines (BSPG), Psychological and Behavioral Service (PBS), IPMS, and DD Operational Policies and Procedures: Positive Services and Supports

The DDD will ensure organizations have policies and procedures, and effective practices implementing such policies and procedures, that address the positive implementation of services and supports for the individuals they support, focused on the expectation that every individual is capable of learning and growing and every individual has strengths that can be built upon to facilitate the individual's ability to achieve, not solely pursue, their desired goals and outcomes.

The PCP, which is monitored by the Regional Case Management Liaisons, requires that for the individual served, the persons supporting them will:

- Identify any formal plans (special level staffing, fading plan, crisis protocol, restraints, restrictions, stipulations, etc.)
- Summarize the current state, including review of any incident reports
- Honoring preferences, note the desired future state and what is being done to increase independence & reduce any restrictions, d is monitored by the regional case management liaisons.

Unauthorized use of restraints are primarily detected through provider report. Additional knowledge of unauthorized restraints would be documented in the IPMS system through incident reporting, onsite monitoring or observation, interview of persons served, and through IDT, HRC, and BPRC meeting discussion and supporting documentation. Unauthorized use of restraints may also be documented in the support coordination quarterly report.

ii. State Oversight Responsibility. Specify the state agency (or agencies) responsible for overseeing the use of restraints and ensuring that state safeguards concerning their use are followed and how such oversight is conducted and its frequency:
Alabama Department of Mental Health
--Division of Developmental Disabilities Central and Regional Offices
-Office of Advocacy Services

Incident Managers conduct daily reviews of General Event Reports (GERS) in the DD Incident Management System, Therap. The Regional Community Services Incident Review Committee conducts weekly meetings to review reportable incidents and make recommendations to community providers regarding quality of services provided.

Moreover, restraint data and other reportable incident data is collected and analyzed on a quarterly basis by Regional QES. Multi-Event Summary Reports are generated which outline all reportable incidents that occurred within each quarter. Therap enables QES to aggregate and export restraint data into an excel spreadsheet. QES filter restraint data by name to identify individuals that were subjected to an unauthorized/inappropriate use of a restraint.

Individuals meeting the threshold of 3 restraints are identified and the GERs are reviewed to determine if the community provider and/or case management agency convened a special team meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss changes in behavior that warrant excessive restraints and discuss a plan to develop a BSP to develop procedures for addressing such behaviors. Agencies that have not held special meetings to discuss are prompted to do so by the Regional Incident Manager.

The Director of Quality Enhancement collects aggregate incident data, including excessive use of restraints from the Regional Incident Manager and QES and compiles data for waiver reporting.

The HRC (Human Rights Committee) reviews the frequencies and reasons surrounding the use of restraints. The HRC reviews any restrictions of rights initially and periodically thereafter, but at least annually during the period of restriction.

All restrictions are included in the person-centered plan. The continued need for the restriction is reviewed at least quarterly by the Qualified Developmental Disabilities Professional (QDDP) or more often upon request of the individual whose rights are restricted.

The regional Quality Enhancement Specialist compiles quarterly reports of all reportable incidents for distribution to the Associate Commissioner for DDD, Director of Community Services, Director of Internal Advocacy, Director of Quality and Planning, Director of Quality Enhancement, RCS Director, Regional Advocate, and Regional Certification Team member. Data is reviewed and presented in aggregate. The Quality Enhancement Office compiles and report all incidents to the DD Sub-Committee Quality Council quarterly. The DD Sub-Committee is responsible for reviewing reportable incident data across the DDD service system to identify trends and patterns and recommend strategies for improving safety of the environment of care in certified community programs.

Appendix G: Participant Safeguards

Appendix G-2: Safeguards Concerning Restraints and Restrictive Interventions (2 of 3)

b. Use of Restrictive Interventions. (Select one):

☐ The state does not permit or prohibits the use of restrictive interventions

Specify the state agency (or agencies) responsible for detecting the unauthorized use of restrictive interventions and how this oversight is conducted and its frequency:

☐ The use of restrictive interventions is permitted during the course of the delivery of waiver services Complete
Items G-2-b-i and G-2-b-ii.

i. Safeguards Concerning the Use of Restrictive Interventions. Specify the safeguards that the state has in effect concerning the use of interventions that restrict participant movement, participant access to other individuals, locations or activities, restrict participant rights or employ aversive methods (not including restraints or seclusion) to modify behavior. State laws, regulations, and policies referenced in the specification are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency.
Safeguards Concerning the Use of Restrictive Interventions

The behavioral guidelines describe all of the behavioral training and intervention strategies that are approved for use in Alabama. There are four (4) levels of procedures with each successive level indicative of greater restrictiveness, such that Level 1 procedures are not restrictive at all and Level 4 is highly restrictive. Level 2 procedures that are considered to be somewhat restrictive and require reviews by the BPRC chairperson and the HRC include procedures such as: Escape Extinction, Negative Reinforcement, Positive Practice, Reparation of Property or Restitution, Response Cost Restriction of Environmental Access, Restriction of Movement inside or outside facility, Search, and Exclusionary Timeout procedures. Level 3 procedures require review by the entire BPRC and HRC prior to implementation and include: Modification of Clothing to Limit Access to Self, One to One Staffing due to behaviors, Overcorrection, Manual Restraint, Restriction of Personal Property/visitors/phone calls, Use of Psychotropic Medications, and Closed –Door Timeout. Level 4 procedures must be approved by the BPRC, HRC, and submitted to the DPBS for additional approval and more frequent review to ensure effectiveness of the procedure. There are only four procedures listed at this level of intervention: Mechanical Restraint – Programmatic Use, Mechanical Restraint – Emergency Use, Sensory Screening, and Manual Restraints not otherwise specified in Level 3 (these would be modifications of the usual manual holds that may need to occur with a person). ALL of the restrictive procedures must be directly related to a behavioral challenge and the function being served by that behavior. There must also be training and reinforcement to assist the person in developing more appropriate behaviors to replace the one(s) that led to the restriction. Furthermore, there must be a plan for lifting the restriction that is reasonable in terms of the individual being able to achieve the criteria set. Procedures that are prohibited include: Use of aversive stimuli, such as spray mists or bitter tasting liquids contingent upon behaviors occurring and Corporal Punishment of any kind. While there is not a section in the behavior guidelines that lists the procedures as specifically prohibited, they are not allowed by virtue of not being in the procedures listed. Some of the definitions of procedure do refer to the fact that these are not allowed when the acceptable procedures are defined.

Prior to being assigned to a person who has a BSP, each staff person who works with an individual for whom restrictive procedures are a part of their BSP must receive specific training regarding how to implement the procedure and under what circumstances they can and cannot be used. All provider direct support professionals, QIDPs, and others must receive training in the Management of Aggressive and severe Challenging Behavior as part of their orientation training as well as via annual refreshers. Professional staff must also have that kind of training. All individuals must have Person Centered Plan in which the procedures of a BSP must be included and approved by the team and the person and then approved by the BPRC and HRC and, for the most restrictive procedures, by the DPBS. The Division of Developmental Disabilities offers training opportunities to assist service providers develop the skills related to determining the functions of behaviors being exhibited by individuals served and to connect the prevention and intervention strategies to the behavioral functions in order to increase the likelihood of successful outcomes. BSPs require renewal on an annual basis and all of the review/approval groups mentioned above must assess the new plan and determine whether to approve the revised or new plan based upon the data presented from the previous program. Finally, certification staff routinely review personnel files for all necessary and required training.

Due process is defined as providing people supported, and their legally authorized representatives, with a fair process requiring, at least, an opportunity to present objections to the proposed action being contemplated. Due process, including review by a Human Rights Committee, is implemented when it is proposed that a person's rights be restricted for any reason.

Staff are trained in due process procedures including any procedures for placing a limitation or restriction on a person's rights.

A Human Rights Committee (HRC) reviews any restriction of a person's right(s) initially and periodically thereafter, but at least annually, during the period which the restriction is imposed and will document such.

When any restrictions are being proposed for a person, the person is supported to attend and provide input at the HRC meeting in which the proposed restriction is being reviewed.

People supported are provided adequate training in due process procedures including any procedures for
placing a limitation or restriction on a person's rights and training that supports the removal of rights restrictions.

The continued need for the restriction is reviewed at least quarterly by the Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional (QIDP) or more often upon request of the person whose rights are restricted.

The organization utilizes a working and effective HRC that complies with the provisions of Chapter 580-3-26.

The HRC reviews policies, procedures and practices that have the potential for rights restrictions without an individualized assessment.

The HRC reviews the frequencies and reasons surrounding the use of restraint for behavioral or medical purposes.

The PCP, which is monitored by the Regional Case Management Liaisons, requires that for the individual served, the persons supporting them will:

- Identify any formal plans (special level staffing, fading plan, crisis protocol, restraints, restrictions, stipulations, etc.)
- Summarize the current state, including review of any incident reports
- Honoring preferences, note the desired future state and what is being done to increase independence & reduce any restrictions, d is monitored by the regional case management liaisons.

Unauthorized use of restraints are primarily detected through provider report. Additional knowledge of unauthorized restraints would be documented in the IPMS system through incident reporting, onsite monitoring or observation, interview of persons served, and through IDT, HRC, and BPRC meeting discussion and supporting documentation. Unauthorized use of restraints may also be documented in the support coordination quarterly report.

In addition to the requirements in Chapter 580-3-26 (2)(a)-(3), the HRC makes recommendations to the organization for promoting people's rights, proactively promotes and protects people's rights and reviews reports of substantiated allegations of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, exploitation and other data that reveal the organization's practices with respect to human, civil and legal rights and reviews research projects involving human participation to ensure the protection of people who are involved.

ii. State Oversight Responsibility. Specify the state agency (or agencies) responsible for monitoring and overseeing the use of restrictive interventions and how this oversight is conducted and its frequency:
Alabama Department of Mental Health  
--Division of Developmental Disabilities Central and Regional Offices  
--Office of Advocacy Services

Incident Managers conduct daily reviews of General Event Reports (GERS) in the DD Incident Management System, Therap. The Regional Community Services Incident Review Committee conducts weekly meetings to review reportable incidents and make recommendations to community providers regarding quality of services provided.

Moreover, restraint data and other reportable incident data is collected and analyzed on a quarterly basis by Regional QES. Multi-Event Summary Reports are generated which outline all reportable incidents that occurred within each quarter. Therap enables QES to aggregate and export restraint data into an excel spreadsheet. QES filter restraint data by name to identify individuals that were subjected to an unauthorized/inappropriate use of a restraint.

Individuals meeting the threshold of 3 restraints are identified and the GERs are reviewed to determine if the community provider and/or case management agency convened a special team meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss changes in behavior that warrant excessive restraints and discuss a plan to develop a BSP to develop procedures for addressing such behaviors. Agencies that have not held special meetings to discuss are prompted to do so by the Regional Incident Manager.

The Director of Quality Enhancement collects aggregate incident data, including excessive use of restraints from the Regional Incident Manager and QES and compiles data for waiver reporting.

The HRC (Human Rights Committee) reviews the frequencies and reasons surrounding the use of restraints. The HRC reviews any restrictions of rights initially and periodically thereafter, but at least annually during the period of restriction.

All restrictions are included in the person-centered plan. The continued need for the restriction is reviewed at least quarterly by the Qualified Developmental Disabilities Professional (QDDP) or more often upon request of the individual whose rights are restricted.

The regional Quality Enhancement Specialist compiles quarterly reports of all reportable incidents for distribution to the Associate Commissioner for DDD, Director of Community Services, Director of Internal Advocacy, Director of Quality and Planning, Director of Quality Enhancement, RCS Director, Regional Advocate, and Regional Certification Team member. Data is reviewed and presented in aggregate. The Quality Enhancement Office compiles and report all incidents to the DD Sub-Committee Quality Council quarterly. The DD Sub-Committee is responsible for reviewing reportable incident data across the DDD service system to identify trends and patterns and recommend strategies for improving safety of the environment of care in certified community programs.

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Appendix G: Participant Safeguards

Appendix G-2: Safeguards Concerning Restraints and Restrictive Interventions (3 of 3)

c. Use of Seclusion. *(Select one): (This section will be blank for waivers submitted before Appendix G-2-c was added to WMS in March 2014, and responses for seclusion will display in Appendix G-2-a combined with information on restraints.)*

- The state does not permit or prohibits the use of seclusion

Specify the state agency (or agencies) responsible for detecting the unauthorized use of seclusion and how this oversight is conducted and its frequency:
The Operating Agency, in its function of certifying providers, and in its monitoring of direct service provision and service plan implementation, will detect any unauthorized use of restrictive interventions either through records (for instance, notes in a participant's file communicating the restriction), staff comments and discussion, or participant or family feedback during direct interviews or through communication with the advocacy hotline.

○ **The use of seclusion is permitted during the course of the delivery of waiver services.** Complete Items G-2-c-i and G-2-c-ii.


  i. **Safeguards Concerning the Use of Seclusion.** Specify the safeguards that the state has established concerning the use of each type of seclusion. State laws, regulations, and policies that are referenced are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).


  ii. **State Oversight Responsibility.** Specify the state agency (or agencies) responsible for overseeing the use of seclusion and ensuring that state safeguards concerning their use are followed and how such oversight is conducted and its frequency:


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### Appendix G: Participant Safeguards

#### Appendix G-3: Medication Management and Administration (1 of 2)

This Appendix must be completed when waiver services are furnished to participants who are served in licensed or unlicensed living arrangements where a provider has round-the-clock responsibility for the health and welfare of residents. The Appendix does not need to be completed when waiver participants are served exclusively in their own personal residences or in the home of a family member.

a. **Applicability.** Select one:

  ○ No. This Appendix is not applicable (do not complete the remaining items)
  ○ Yes. This Appendix applies (complete the remaining items)

b. **Medication Management and Follow-Up**

  i. **Responsibility.** Specify the entity (or entities) that have ongoing responsibility for monitoring participant medication regimens, the methods for conducting monitoring, and the frequency of monitoring.
The Behavioral Services Procedural Guidelines require that, for any person prescribed psychotropic or other medications for purposes of addressing/treating behavioral challenges and/or Psychiatric Symptoms, a Psychotropic Medication Plan be developed for the purpose of ensuring that reductions are considered and implemented whenever possible, based upon presentation of data to the treating Psychiatrist/Doctor. The person’s habilitation team provides documentation of behavioral data and reports of psychiatric symptoms (if applicable) at every session with the treating doctor for review. If the criteria set by the team have been met, this information is presented to the doctor and consideration is given to a reduction in medication unless contra-indicated for medical or other extenuating circumstances that should be documented. The medication plan can be a section within the person’s BSP. If a person is having “spikes” in their behaviors or in psychiatric symptoms, the provider is required to attempt to determine what factors might account for those peaks and make their findings known to the doctor. They are also required to modify the person’s plan if necessary to address the factors leading to the ineffectiveness of the medications. Finally, certification staff routinely review records of individuals receiving Psychotropic Medication for all necessary monitoring and documentation including necessary lab work.

Sometimes individuals have behavioral episodes that result in visits to an ER or an admission to a hospital. This requires that notification be provided to the Regional Community Services office and the IPMS procedures are followed in those cases. If it becomes evident that there are problems with medication administration, follow-up monitoring and, sometimes, investigations are conducted as outlined in the IPMS. Finally, certification staff routinely review information related to Best Possible Health, Protection for Abuse, Neglect, Mistreatment, and Exploitation, and Safe Environments.

Medication errors are reported electronically through the Therap™ Incident Reporting and Management Solution. Medications are reviewed through the IPMS system, quarter regional and statewide QE reports, agency participation in the Nurse Delegation Program, and routine and “for-cause” certification reviews.

Provider employed or contracted nurses directly administer certain medications and delegate others to trained direct care staff. The nurse is responsible to provide periodic and regular evaluation and monitoring of the staff performing the delegated task, and to conduct quality monitoring of the tasks performed by the staff. This evaluation and monitoring must occur at least quarterly. Direct care staff must be medication assistant certified (MAC) workers in order to assist with medication administration. The delegating RN or LPN may withdraw delegation authority (of direct care staff) at any time.

ii. Methods of State Oversight and Follow-Up. Describe: (a) the method(s) that the state uses to ensure that participant medications are managed appropriately, including: (a) the identification of potentially harmful practices (e.g., the concurrent use of contraindicated medications); (b) the method(s) for following up on potentially harmful practices; and, (c) the state agency (or agencies) that is responsible for follow-up and oversight.
Alabama Department of Mental Health:
--Division of Developmental Disabilities

Three teams of professionals, including a medical doctor, a psychiatrist and a behavior analyst are available through the Regional Offices to advise and assist with programs for reducing medications. These teams also provide education to local doctors who sometimes do not know the risk factors and alternatives to combinations of certain medications.

Regional nurses are required to monitor the administration of medication at each site annually. During the monitoring visit, a sample size of 5% of medication administration records are reviewed by the regional nurses to assess provider performance and identify areas of improvement. Data is collected and recommendations are made on the Regional Nursing Monitoring form. Regional nurses schedule follow-up visits to validate implementation of recommended changes. A final copy is forwarded to the Community Services Director and the provider. Incident reports that include medication errors in three categories are required by IPMS and entered into an electronic database where they are tracked at the individual and provider level and trended at the systems level. Intervention will occur from the Regional Offices and/or from Certification as needed.

Certification surveys include reviews of nursing notes and incident reports, every year or every other year, depending on the overall score achieved by the provider on the previous survey. Certification surveys also include for cause surveys and provisional status re-surveys as needed.

--Office of Advocacy Services

Advocates review individual's living situations, including issues regarding health and welfare as well as rights, and check on medication administration on a sample basis.

Alabama Medicaid Agency:

Annual review of DDD's investigations, certification files containing quality enhancement plans and technical assistance reports, and mortality reviews.

Annual survey of providers, including a complete record review on a sample basis.

Appendix G: Participant Safeguards

Appendix G-3: Medication Management and Administration (2 of 2)

**c. Medication Administration by Waiver Providers**

**i. Provider Administration of Medications. Select one:**

- **Not applicable.** *(do not complete the remaining items)*
- **Waiver providers are responsible for the administration of medications to waiver participants who cannot self-administer and/or have responsibility to oversee participant self-administration of medications.** *(complete the remaining items)*

**ii. State Policy.** Summarize the state policies that apply to the administration of medications by waiver providers or waiver provider responsibilities when participants self-administer medications, including (if applicable) policies concerning medication administration by non-medical waiver provider personnel. State laws, regulations, and policies referenced in the specification are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

State policy follows the nursing practice act of the State. Certain types of medication administration must be performed by a nurse, but other types, such as assisting with the delivery of prescribed oral, topical, inhalant, eye or ear medications may be delegated to a trained direct care staff under a protocol approved by the Board of Nursing.

**iii. Medication Error Reporting. Select one of the following:**

- **Providers that are responsible for medication administration are required to both record and report medication errors to a state agency (or agencies).**

  Complete the following three items:
(a) Specify state agency (or agencies) to which errors are reported:

Alabama Department of Mental Health:
Alabama Department of Mental Health:
--Division of Developmental Disabilities

The Division of Developmental Disabilities provides ongoing reports to the Alabama Board of Nursing. Agency reports to the DDD are included in the DDD reports to the Board of Nursing annually.

(b) Specify the types of medication errors that providers are required to record:

A. Medication Error a medication error occurs when a recipient receives an incorrect drug, drug dose, dose form, quantity, route, concentration, or rate of administration. A medication error is also defined as some form of variance of the administration of a drug on a schedule other than intended. Therefore, a missed dose or a dose administered one hour before or after the scheduled time constitutes a medication error.

Severities of medication errors are defined as follows:

Level 1 includes incidents in which the individual experienced no or minimal adverse consequences and no treatment or intervention other than monitoring or observation was required.
Level 2 includes incidents in which the individual experienced short term, reversible adverse consequences and treatment(s), and/or intervention(s) was/were needed in addition to monitoring and observation.
Level 3 includes incidents in which the individual experienced life-threatening and/or permanent adverse consequences.

The agency must record level 1, 2 and 3 medication errors.

(c) Specify the types of medication errors that providers must report to the state:

The agency must report all levels of medication errors to RCS. Level 3 errors must be reported verbally within 24 hours and must be submitted and approved in Therap within 48 hours. No action follow-up is required by RCS or the provider for Level 1 medication errors, but such errors are tracked and trended to determine patterns and need for possible intervention.

Providers responsible for medication administration are required to record medication errors but make information about medication errors available only when requested by the state.

Specify the types of medication errors that providers are required to record:

iv. State Oversight Responsibility. Specify the state agency (or agencies) responsible for monitoring the performance of waiver providers in the administration of medications to waiver participants and how monitoring is performed and its frequency.
Alabama Department of Mental Health:
--Division of Developmental Disabilities

Regional nurses are required to monitor the administration of medication at each site annually. During the monitoring visit, a sample size of 5% of medication administration records are reviewed by the regional nurses to assess provider performance and identify areas of improvement. Data is collected and recommendations are made on the Regional Nursing Monitoring form. Regional nurses schedule follow-up visits to validate implementation of recommended changes. A final copy is forwarded to the Community Services Director and the provider.

Appendix G: Participant Safeguards

Quality Improvement: Health and Welfare

As a distinct component of the States quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the States methods for discovery and remediation.


The state demonstrates it has designed and implemented an effective system for assuring waiver participant health and welfare. (For waiver actions submitted before June 1, 2014, this assurance read "The State, on an ongoing basis, identifies, addresses, and seeks to prevent the occurrence of abuse, neglect and exploitation.")

i. Sub-Assurances:

a. Sub-assurance: The state demonstrates on an ongoing basis that it identifies, addresses and seeks to prevent instances of abuse, neglect, exploitation and unexplained death. (Performance measures in this sub-assurance include all Appendix G performance measures for waiver actions submitted before June 1, 2014.)

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of satisfaction survey respondents who report their health and safety needs are being met. N = Number of satisfaction survey respondents who report their health and safety needs are being met. D = Number of satisfaction surveys reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If ’Other’ is selected, specify:
NCI Survey

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### Performance Measure:
Number and % of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation incidents referred to DHR/Law Enforcement. N = Number of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation incidents referred to DHR/Law Enforcement. D = Number of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation incidents.

### Data Source (Select one): Critical events and incident reports
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

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Application for 1915(c) HCBS Waiver: Draft AL.008.04.01 - Feb 01, 2021
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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or unexplained death incidents reviewed/investigated within the required timeframes. N = Number of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or unexplained death incidents reviewed/investigated within the required timeframes. D = Number of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or unexplained death incidents reviewed/investigated.

Data Source (Select one):
Record reviews, on-site
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

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**Critical events and incident reports**  
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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of participant records reviewed that do not identify previously unreported incidents of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, exploitation and unexplained deaths. Percentage = NUMERATOR Total number of participant records reviewed that do not identify unreported incidents of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, exploitation and unexplained deaths / DENOMINATOR Total number participant records reviewed

Data Source (Select one):
Record reviews, off-site
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b. Sub-assurance: The state demonstrates that an incident management system is in place that effectively resolves those incidents and prevents further similar incidents to the extent possible.

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of critical incident investigations that have been resolved by the OA within 30 days of the critical event report date. N = Number of critical incident investigations that have been resolved by the OA within 30 days of the critical event report date. D = Number of reported critical incidents.

Data Source (Select one):
Critical events and incident reports
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

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### Performance Measure:
Number and percent of critical incident trends where systemic intervention was implemented. N = Number of critical incident trends where systemic intervention was implemented. D = Number of incident trends.

### Data Source (Select one):
Critical events and incident reports
If 'Other' is selected, specify:

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Application for 1915(c) HCBS Waiver: Draft AL.008.04.01 - Feb 01, 2021
c. **Sub-assurance: The state policies and procedures for the use or prohibition of restrictive interventions (including restraints and seclusion) are followed.**

**Performance Measures**

*For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.*

*For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.*

**Performance Measure:**

Number and percent of restraints applied three (3) times in a six month (6) period that resulted in a team meeting. 

\[ N = \text{Number of times a restraint has been applied 3 times within a six month period resulting in a team meeting.} \]

\[ D = \text{Number of times a restraint has been applied 3 times within a six month period.} \]

**Data Source** (Select one):

**Critical events and incident reports**

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Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):

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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of reviewed participants with restrictive interventions where proper procedures were followed. N = Number of reviewed participants with restrictive interventions where proper procedures were followed. D = Number of participants with a restrictive intervention.

Data Source (Select one):
Participant/family observation/opinion
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

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Performance Measures

For each performance measure, the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:

Number and percent of service providers who successfully completed the annual refresher training which includes a session on abuse, neglect, mistreatment and exploitation. 

\[ N = \text{Number of service providers who successfully completed the annual refresher training which includes a session on abuse, neglect, mistreatment and exploitation.} \]
\[ D = \text{Number of service providers.} \]

Data Source (Select one):
### Training verification records
If 'Other' is selected, specify:

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Specify:

### Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):

**Performance Measure:**

Number and percent of support coordinators who successfully completed the annual refresher training including a session on abuse, neglect, mistreatment and exploitation. 

\[ N = \text{Number of support coordinators who successfully completed the annual refresher training that includes a session on abuse, neglect, mistreatment and exploitation.} \]

\[ D = \text{Number of support coordinators' training files.} \]

**Data Source (Select one):**

Training verification records

If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:

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**Performance Measure:**
The number and percent of satisfaction survey respondents who report their health and safety needs are being met. Numerator: Number of satisfaction survey respondents who report their health and safety needs are being met. Denominator: Number of satisfaction survey respondents reviewed.

**Data Source** (Select one):

- **Other**
  - If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
  - NCI Survey data

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- **State Medicaid Agency**
  - Weekly
  - [x] 100% Review

- **Operating Agency**
  - [x] Less than 100% Review

- **Sub-State Entity**
  - [x] Representative Sample
  - Confidence Interval =
    - NCI random sample
    - 95% Confidence Level
    - +/- 5% margin of error

- **Other Specify:**
  - Annually
  - Stratified
  - Describe Group:

- **Other Specify:**
  - [ ] Continuously and Ongoing
  - [ ] Other

12/22/2020
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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of satisfaction survey respondents who responded that their overall health is good, very good or excellent on the survey. N = Number of satisfaction survey respondents responding that their overall health is good, very good or excellent. D = Number of individuals responding to the survey reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
NCI Survey Data

| Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies): |
| Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies): |
| Sampling Approach (check each that applies): |
| State Medicaid Agency | □ Weekly | □ 100% Review |
| Operating Agency | □ Monthly | □ Less than 100% Review |
| Sub-State Entity | □ Quarterly | □ Representative Sample |
| □ Other | □ Annually | □ Stratified |

Specify:
Confidence Interval = NCI random sample. 95% confidence level with +/- 5% margin of error.

Describe Group:
Data Aggregation and Analysis:

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If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.

Data from the OA will be collected on a monthly basis and reported to AMA. Trends in data will be addressed as appropriate depending on the results. Remediation by the QE staff in the regional office will identify needs based on trends and act accordingly to minimize variances from the expected goal.

b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems
   i. Describe the States method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information regarding responsible parties and GENERAL methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on
the methods used by the state to document these items.

Reports will be sent monthly to the AMA and data will be reviewed. Data reports will be discussed at quarterly meetings to discuss data and trends noticed by AMA. AMA will work with the OA to ensure correction in an efficient manner. Regional nurses are required to monitor 5% of the administration of medication at each site annually. During the monitoring visit, a sample size of 5% of medication administration records are reviewed by the regional nurses to assess provider performance and identify areas of improvement. Data is collected and reviewed recommendations are made on the Regional Nursing Monitoring on ways to prevent medication errors on the appropriate form. Regional nurses follow-up to validate implementation of recommended changes. A final copy is forwarded to the Community Services Director and the provider.

ii. Remediation Data Aggregation

Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

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<td>5% of Medication Administration records are reviewed annually.</td>
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c. Timelines

When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Health and Welfare that are currently non-operational.

☐ No

☐ Yes

Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Health and Welfare, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

Appendix H: Quality Improvement Strategy (1 of 3)

Under §1915(c) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR §441.302, the approval of an HCBS waiver requires that CMS determine that the state has made satisfactory assurances concerning the protection of participant health and welfare, financial accountability and other elements of waiver operations. Renewal of an existing waiver is contingent upon review by CMS and a finding by CMS that the assurances have been met. By completing the HCBS waiver application, the state specifies how it has designed the waiver’s critical processes, structures and operational features in order to meet these assurances.
Quality Improvement is a critical operational feature that an organization employs to continually determine whether it operates in accordance with the approved design of its program, meets statutory and regulatory assurances and requirements, achieves desired outcomes, and identifies opportunities for improvement.

CMS recognizes that a state’s waiver Quality Improvement Strategy may vary depending on the nature of the waiver target population, the services offered, and the waiver’s relationship to other public programs, and will extend beyond regulatory requirements. However, for the purpose of this application, the state is expected to have, at the minimum, systems in place to measure and improve its own performance in meeting six specific waiver assurances and requirements.

It may be more efficient and effective for a Quality Improvement Strategy to span multiple waivers and other long-term care services. CMS recognizes the value of this approach and will ask the state to identify other waiver programs and long-term care services that are addressed in the Quality Improvement Strategy.

Quality Improvement Strategy: Minimum Components

The Quality Improvement Strategy that will be in effect during the period of the approved waiver is described throughout the waiver in the appendices corresponding to the statutory assurances and sub-assurances. Other documents cited must be available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if appropriate).

In the QIS discovery and remediation sections throughout the application (located in Appendices A, B, C, D, G, and I), a state spells out:

- The evidence based discovery activities that will be conducted for each of the six major waiver assurances; and
- The remediation activities followed to correct individual problems identified in the implementation of each of the assurances.

In Appendix H of the application, a state describes (1) the system improvement activities followed in response to aggregated, analyzed discovery and remediation information collected on each of the assurances; (2) the correspondent roles/responsibilities of those conducting assessing and prioritizing improving system corrections and improvements; and (3) the processes the state will follow to continuously assess the effectiveness of the OIS and revise it as necessary and appropriate.

If the state’s Quality Improvement Strategy is not fully developed at the time the waiver application is submitted, the state may provide a work plan to fully develop its Quality Improvement Strategy, including the specific tasks the state plans to undertake during the period the waiver is in effect, the major milestones associated with these tasks, and the entity (or entities) responsible for the completion of these tasks.

When the Quality Improvement Strategy spans more than one waiver and/or other types of long-term care services under the Medicaid state plan, specify the control numbers for the other waiver programs and/or identify the other long-term services that are addressed in the Quality Improvement Strategy. In instances when the QIS spans more than one waiver, the state must be able to stratify information that is related to each approved waiver program. Unless the state has requested and received approval from CMS for the consolidation of multiple waivers for the purpose of reporting, then the state must stratify information that is related to each approved waiver program, i.e., employ a representative sample for each waiver.

Appendix H: Quality Improvement Strategy (2 of 3)

H-1: Systems Improvement

a. System Improvements

   i. Describe the process(es) for trending, prioritizing, and implementing system improvements (i.e., design changes) prompted as a result of an analysis of discovery and remediation information.
Appendix A Medicaid Oversight: Medicaid Agency will trend and analyze and share findings with the Administration of the Operating Agency. The quality assurance and improvement methodology employed by Medicaid staff gathers information from on-site and off-site record reviews and direct observation, as well as, from data forwarded from the operating agency. Weighting and trending of the multiple data elements is achieved with an algorithm designed by the University of Alabama at Birmingham to be used for all the State's HCBS Waiver Programs.

Appendix B Level of Care Evaluations: the Administration of the Operating Agency will jointly consider the findings from the performance measures and determine the necessary actions. Specifically, the Director of System Management will trend and analyze quarterly and annually; the Associate Commissioner will prioritize; and the Director of Waiver and Case Management Services and/or the Director of Quality and Planning will implement the prioritized recommendations with the support of the Directors of the Regional Community Service Offices. All system changes are shared with the Alabama Medicaid Agency prior to implementation.

Appendix C Qualified Providers and Certification: The Administration of the Operating Agency will jointly consider the findings from certification surveys and the related performance measures, and determine the necessary actions. Specifically, the Director of Quality and Planning and the Director of Certification will analyze and trend the information quarterly and annually and share this information with the Quality Council/Developmental Disabilities Sub-Coordinating Committee. This council is comprised of various provider stakeholder groups, Protection and Advocacy, DD Council representative, families, and individuals with disabilities receiving supports and services. Prioritized recommendations from the council will be reviewed by the Associate Commissioner and Divisional Executive Staff. Implementation which require changes to the ADMH Administrative Code rules and regulations must be approved by the Administration of the Department of Mental Health. All system changes related to the waiver are shared with the Alabama Medicaid Agency prior to implementation.

Appendix D Service Planning: The Regional Offices of the Operating Agency will review the information from the monitoring of case management agencies and provide quarterly summaries of findings and recommendations. This information from the performance measures can be reviewed agency by agency, aggregated by region, and aggregated statewide. It can also be trended from quarter to quarter and year to year, within the same aggregation parameters. The Director of Waiver and Case Management Services will analyze and trend statewide data and also consider and prioritize the recommendations of the Regional Offices. The Associate Commissioner will approve recommendations for implementation. All system changes related to the waiver are shared with the Alabama Medicaid Agency prior to implementation.

Appendix G Health and Welfare: The Regional Offices review all incident and investigation reports quarterly and provide summaries and analysis to the Director of Quality and Planning, who shares this information, as well as statewide trends, with the Quality Council. Prioritized recommendations from this council will be reviewed by the Associate Commissioner and Divisional Executive Staff. Implementation which require changes in the rule must be approved by the Administration of the Department of Mental Health. All system changes related to the waiver are shared with the Alabama Medicaid Agency prior to implementation.

Appendix I Fiscal Accountability: The Alabama Medicaid Agency will, through its monitoring process, discover problems and resolve them. The Medicaid Agency will also see, through trending of these monitoring reports, any areas of concern which may need to be addressed through efforts ranging from training to policy and regulation to changes in the MMIS edits and audits.

In conjunction with the Director of Quality and Planning, the Director of Systems Management will provide quarterly summaries and analysis of waiver discovery and remediation indicators. Quality Improvement Strategy data for Health and Welfare, as well as Level of Care, Qualified Providers, Service Planning, and Self-Directed Services will be presented during the same Quality Council/Developmental Disabilities Sub-Coordinating Committee meeting. This Quality Council is comprised of various provider stakeholder groups, Protection and Advocacy, DD Council representative, families, and individuals with disabilities receiving supports and services. If recommendations are made they will be prioritized and reviewed by the Associate Commissioner and Divisional Executive Staff. Implementation which require changes to the ADMH Administrative Code rules and regulations must be approved by the Administration of the Department of Mental Health. Evaluation of the QIS plan is on-going as data is presented quarterly. The QIS will be updated to track discovery and remediation data.
as program requirements change. At a minimum, the QIS plan will be reviewed upon CMS three year assurances review and updated upon renewal. All system changes related to the waiver are shared with the Alabama Medicaid Agency prior to implementation.

## ii. System Improvement Activities

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### b. System Design Changes

#### i. Describe the process for monitoring and analyzing the effectiveness of system design changes. Include a description of the various roles and responsibilities involved in the processes for monitoring & assessing system design changes. If applicable, include the state's targeted standards for systems improvement.

All system design changes have a component of evaluation built into the plan before the design change is implemented. For example, the Division implemented a new set of regulatory standards October 1, 2012. The Division contracted with the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL) to align our requirements with their Basic Assurances(c). The change required extensive and ongoing training of community services providers. It included ongoing reports and evaluations by the Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities Certification Staff with community providers. Finally, training was provided by CQL to certification staff and has been validated annually.

The current direction of system design change is multifaceted. Provider organizations are required to develop and implement an ongoing Quality Improvement System. Providers will complete an organizational assessment of their compliance with the Basic Assurances. Based on the assessment, they will identify priority areas to target for improvement for each factor and/or develop monitoring systems to ensure maintenance of compliance. Divisional QE staff and other certified trainers are required to provide three (3) 4-day workshops in Personal Outcome Measures Training(c) as developed by CQL. The vision is for all waiver participants to participate in an outcome interview to determine preference, the presence or absence of outcomes and supports, and the priorities for attainment, which will become the foundation of the individuals’ person-centered plans. This is how the Division envisions more effective person-centered planning in order to meet the new CMS Regulations regarding Home and Community Based Services.

#### ii. Describe the process to periodically evaluate, as appropriate, the Quality Improvement Strategy.
ADMH-DD’s Quality Council Committee meets during the DD Coordinating Subcommittee (also referred to as DD Sub) on a quarterly basis to receive reports from DD staff on regarding waiver services, provider certification, individual health and welfare (incident management), case management and budgeting. Recurrent trends and other issues are often identified by the committee and the responsible office is tasked with researching the area of concern, consulting with appropriate staff, and providing a resolution to the larger group in a timely manner. The committee is then afforded the opportunity to make inquiries, request follow-up information and make recommendations to further implement system improvements.

Appendix H: Quality Improvement Strategy (3 of 3)

H-2: Use of a Patient Experience of Care/Quality of Life Survey

a. Specify whether the state has deployed a patient experience of care or quality of life survey for its HCBS population in the last 12 months (Select one):

- No
- Yes (Complete item H.2b)

b. Specify the type of survey tool the state uses:

- HCBS CAHPS Survey :
- NCI Survey :
- NCI AD Survey :
- Other (Please provide a description of the survey tool used):

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-1: Financial Integrity and Accountability

Financial Integrity. Describe the methods that are employed to ensure the integrity of payments that have been made for waiver services, including: (a) requirements concerning the independent audit of provider agencies; (b) the financial audit program that the state conducts to ensure the integrity of provider billings for Medicaid payment of waiver services, including the methods, scope and frequency of audits; and, (c) the agency (or agencies) responsible for conducting the financial audit program. State laws, regulations, and policies referenced in the description are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).
The State of Alabama assures the financial accountability and integrity of waiver payments through the following activities:

The Alabama Medicaid Agency serves as the administering agency for this Waiver Program. The operating agency is the Alabama Department of Mental Health. The Medicaid Agency and the Department of Mental Health are both audited externally by the Alabama Department of Examiners of Public Accounts on an annual basis.

All providers are required to secure an independent audit of their financial statements.

The Operating Agency is responsible for initial certification and annual audits of providers. Medicaid’s Networks and Quality Assurance Division will take a sample of each type of provider over a rolling three-year period to audit from all Waivers. Data is collected from providers by any of the following sources: reviewing a sample of the waiver case management records, direct service providers records, consumer satisfaction surveys, and tracking complaints and grievances. Additionally, the plan of care and data sheets are reviewed and compared against the plan of care to ensure that services were provided according to the plan of care.

The audits completed by the OA have a confidence level of 95% with a +/- 5% margin of error. Medicaid will choose one provider from each type (roughly about 15 types of providers across all Waivers) each quarter to audit (desk review). Audits do not differ by service or provider.

The results of the audit are provided to the Operating Agency. We do not have a contract with the provider; therefore, it is the responsibility of the OA to credential and provide audit feedback to the provider.

If AMA finds 15 or more discrepancies (total from the administrative, personnel, training, and client tool components) between its audit findings and the OA’s audit findings for a given provider, AMA will issue a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) indicating the steps the OA must implement within a designated timeframe to remedy the issues.

Reimbursement made for services not provided in accordance with the plan of care, or not sufficiently documented, is recouped. Medicaid implemented the following system to ensure services are billed according to the plan of care to produce more accuracy in billing.

On October 1, 2017, the Alabama Medicaid Agency implemented an Electronic Visit Verification and Monitoring (EVVM) system to monitor visits to Home and Community Based Waiver Services clients. The EVVM system will enable more accuracy in service tracking, reporting, and billing for in-home care providers. The Electronic Visit and Verification system performs automated scheduling, time/attendance tracking and claim submission that:

* Maintains a repository of authorized services
* Allows web based scheduling of service visits
* Verifies a workers’ location and length of service visit
* Automatically creates a claim record for review
* Identifies late or undelivered services
* Issues alerts for late and missed visits
* Automatically submits claim records for payment
* Provides flexible reporting in real-time
* Check in/out immediately reflected on the web

Waiver services which require EVVM include: Personal Care, Companion Care, and Skilled Nursing.

The Electronic Visit Verification and Monitoring system requires the worker to check-in and check-out using the worker’s mobile devices to log the visit on the EVVM app or by using the recipient’s phone to dial into an Interactive Voice Response system. The system provides GPS location authentication and real-time communication to view and monitor by the provider, Operating Agency, and the Alabama Medicaid Agency. This system ensures the integrity of providers billing for Medicaid payment of waiver services. The EVVM system reduces fraud and errors and is a proactive monitoring tool.
Providers can monitor and review claims in real time and confirm claims for payment upon review. Additionally, the system will alert the case managers/providers when critical services are missed or late, thus preventing an overpayment for services not performed.

Service authorizations are loaded into the system from the Operating Agencies, thus preventing the provider from adding or editing the authorization for services. A claim cannot be confirmed and submitted for payment without a valid authorization. A visit can be scheduled only if there is an authorization for that service and client. A warning message pops up if the visit conflicts with another or not enough remaining units in the authorization, thus preventing fraudulent billing or an overpayment.

Every service captured by the Mobile app or IVR, or entered via the Web creates a claim. The provider has to confirm the claim before they are submitted for payment. Behind the scenes editing occurs continuously based on AL business rules and billing requirements. The provider can edit claims; however, a report can be produced to monitor if a provide has a systemic issue with editing claims which can raise a flag of fraud.

For those services not subject to EVV, the post-payment process is no different from those subject to EVV.

Another method that ensures the integrity of providers billing for Medicaid payment of waiver services is through the ADIDIS system for the Alabama Department of Mental Health. The provider billings are entered into a web-based claims processing system hosted by a vendor (Harmony Information Systems) for the Department of Mental Health. The ADIDIS system checks claims prior authorizations to ensure the services billed are approved by the operating agency's review of the plan of care. From the ADIDIS system, approved claims flow directly to the Medicaid Management Information System through DXC, the Fiscal Intermediary. The Medicaid Management Information Systems (MMIS) performs validation edits and audits to ensure program compliance. Audits check for duplicate services, and service limitations and related services are compared to Medicaid policy and guidelines.

Medicaid's Networks and Quality Assurance Unit reviews a sample of waiver case management records and additionally the plan of care and data sheets are reviewed and compared against the plan of care to ensure that services were provided according to the plan of care. Reimbursement made for services not provided in accordance with the plan of care, or not sufficiently documented, is recouped.

The AMA QA Unit conducts quarterly case management audits, reviewing case management records for the quarter prior to the one during which the audit is conducted.

The QA Unit samples records using the 95% confidence interval with a 5% margin of error.

The Fiscal Agent Liaison Division/Contract Monitoring Unit (DXC) of the Alabama Medicaid Agency monitors the processing and payment of Medicaid claims through the Claims Processing Assessment System (CPAS). Errors are identified real-time and corrections initiated. For electronically submitted claims, the edit process is performed several times per day; for paper claims, it is performed five times per week. If a claim fails any of these edits, it is returned to the provider. The claim is processed using both clerical and automated procedures. Once the claim pass through edits, the system reviews each claim to make sure it complies with Alabama Medicaid policy and performs cost avoidance. Cost avoidance is a method that ensures Medicaid is responsible for paying for all services listed on the claim. The system then performs audits by validating claims history information against information on the current claim. Audits check for duplicate services, limited services, and related services and compares them to Alabama Medicaid policy. The claim is then assigned a status (approved to pay, denied, or suspended). Suspended claims must be worked by DXC personnel or reviewed by Alabama Medicaid Agency personnel, as required. Claims paid in error will be submitted for recoupment. Once the reviewer initiates the recoupment, the claims goes back through the system and the FFP is removed.

Monthly reports of expenditures are received by the designated Long Term Care staff in order to monitor irregular expenses. The CMS 372 report is generated annually which records cost effectiveness and cost comparisons. Provider records are audited annually or more frequently at the discretion of the Medicaid Agency.

The entity responsible for conducting the periodic independent audit of the waiver program as required by the Single State Audit Act is the Alabama Department of Examiners of Public Accounts.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

Quality Improvement: Financial Accountability

As a distinct component of the States quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the States
methods for discovery and remediation.

a. Methods for Discovery: Financial Accountability Assurance:

The State must demonstrate that it has designed and implemented an adequate system for ensuring financial accountability of the waiver program. (For waiver actions submitted before June 1, 2014, this assurance read "State financial oversight exists to assure that claims are coded and paid for in accordance with the reimbursement methodology specified in the approved waiver.")

i. Sub-Assurances:

a. Sub-assurance: The State provides evidence that claims are coded and paid for in accordance with the reimbursement methodology specified in the approved waiver and only for services rendered.

(Performance measures in this sub-assurance include all Appendix I performance measures for waiver actions submitted before June 1, 2014.)

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:

Number and percent of claims that are supported by documentation that services were delivered. Numerator: the number of claims supported by documentation that services were delivered. Denominator: the number of claims reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):

Other

If 'Other' is selected, specify:

Claims and participant record reviews

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<th>Sampling Approach (check each that applies):</th>
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#### Performance Measure:
Number and percent of claims paid for individuals who were eligible on the date the service was provided. Numerator: The number of claims paid for individuals who were eligible on date the service was delivered. Denominator: The number of claims paid.

#### Data Source (Select one):
Financial records (including expenditures)
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
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Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):

- Continuously and Ongoing

Frequency of data aggregation and analysis (check each that applies):

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of records where sampled claims paid for a service that was specified in the participant’s plan of care. \( N \) = Number of records where sampled claims paid for a service that was specified in the participant’s plan of care. \( D \) = Number of participant records in the sample.

Data Source (Select one):
- Financial records (including expenditures)
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
- Claims Data

Responsible Party for data collection/generation (check each that applies):

- State Medicaid Agency
- Operating Agency
- Sub-State Entity
- Other

Frequency of data collection/generation (check each that applies):

- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Other

Sampling Approach (check each that applies):

- 100% Review
- Less than 100% Review
- Representative Sample

Confidence Interval = +/- 5%
Confidence Level 95%

Describe Group:

Application for 1915(c) HCBS Waiver: Draft AL.008.04.01 - Feb 01, 2021

12/22/2020
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Performance Measure:
Number and percent of claims coded and paid for in accordance with the specified reimbursement methodology in the approved waiver. Numerator: Number of claims coded and paid for in accordance with the specified methodology in the approved waiver. Denominator: Number of claims paid.

Data Source (Select one):
Financial records (including expenditures)
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b. Sub-assurance: The state provides evidence that rates remain consistent with the approved rate methodology throughout the five year waiver cycle.

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
Number and percent of reviewed rates that remain consistent with the approved rate methodology throughout the five-year waiver cycle. $N =$ Number of reviewed rates that remain consistent with the approved rate methodology throughout the five-year waiver cycle. $D =$ Number of rates reviewed.

Data Source (Select one):
Financial audits
If ‘Other’ is selected, specify:
Claims Data

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Confidence Interval =

Random Sample $\pm 5\%$
Confidence Interval 95%
Confidence Level
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**ii. If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.**

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### b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems:

1. Describe the States method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information
Regarding responsible parties and general methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on the methods used by the state to document these items.

Reports are shared with the Operating Agency and the Performing Provider. Reimbursement made for services not provided in accordance with the plan of care, or not sufficiently documented, is recouped. The phrase "not provided in accordance..." is defined as exceeding an average expected rate of utilization by more than 10% and having no documentation for the exception. All waiver services are prior authorized, so that the annual limits on units of service cannot be exceeded, but average utilization, month to month, can vary.

ii. Remediation Data Aggregation
Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

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C. Timelines
When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Financial Accountability that are currently non-operational.

- ☐ No
- ☑ Yes

Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Financial Accountability, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-2: Rates, Billing and Claims (1 of 3)

a. Rate Determination Methods. In two pages or less, describe the methods that are employed to establish provider payment rates for waiver services and the entity or entities that are responsible for rate determination. Indicate any opportunity for public comment in the process. If different methods are employed for various types of services, the description may group services for which the same method is employed. State laws, regulations, and policies referenced in the description are available upon request to CMS through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).
Proposed service rates are determined by the AL Department of Mental Health/Division of Developmental Disabilities
(Operating Agency-OA) and are reviewed and approved by the Alabama Medicaid Agency (AMA), which oversees
the rate determination process. Payment made by Medicaid to the LAH waiver providers are on a fee-for-service basis and
are based upon a number of factors and all rates, were formulated using the following:

Current pricing for similar services
State-to-State comparisons
Geographical comparisons within the state
Comparisons of different payers for similar services

Current pricing for similar services and stakeholder feedback on this pricing; State-to-State comparisons for similar
services; and Geographical comparisons within the state.

Current pricing for similar services and stakeholder feedback on this pricing; State-to-State comparisons for similar
services; and Geographical comparisons within the state.

Rates do not vary geographically. The rates are posted on ADMH website https://mh.alabama.gov/wp-

Stakeholders provide input into development & sufficiency of rates through posting of waiver applications, renewals &
amendments for public comment, ADMH DD Sub-Committee, & other stakeholder meetings & forums.

AMA solicits public comments on rate determination methods through the public input process for this waiver described
in Main Section 6-I of the application.

Rate reviews resulted in rate increases effective 10/1/2019 for the following, effective 10/1/2019: Community
Experience, Personal Care, Personal Care on Worksite; Individual Job Coach. Rate reviews resulted in rate increases
effective 10/1/2019 for the following, effective 9/1/2020: Personal Care, Respite.

The OA will continue to measure rate sufficiency & compliance with §1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act, specifically ensuring
that rates are “consistent with efficiency, economy, & quality of care & are sufficient to enlist enough providers”
through implementation of provider cost reporting at least once every 5 years (timed with waiver renewal cycle). The OA
will compare reported data to rate models used to establish reimbursement rates for each service, making adjustments as
needed & as appropriations permit, to ensure alignment between provider reported costs & reimbursement rates.

For each waiver service, a HCPC code is determined with a rate assigned to each code. The Medicaid Management
Information system (MMIS) pays the claim based upon the State's determined pricing methodology applied to each
service by provider type, claim type, recipient benefits and policy limitations. All claims submitted for adjudication must
pass certain edits in MMIS. Once a claim passes through edits, the system reviews each claim to make sure it complies
with AMA policies. The MMIS then performs audits by validating claims history information against information on the
current claim. Audits check for duplicate services, limited services, and related services and compare them to Alabama
Medicaid policy to ensure that recipient benefits are paid according to current policies.

Rates established are reasonable and customary to ensure continuity of care, quality of care, and continued access to
care. All rates are posted on ADMH’s website. Re-evaluation of pricing and rate increases are considered as warranted
based upon provider inquiries, problems with service access, and budgetary considerations. In cases where allocations
from the state Legislature are received, rates increases are determined by the OA based on provider inquiries, problems
with service access or where services have not been adequately adjusted due to budget constraints.

b. Flow of Billings. Describe the flow of billings for waiver services, specifying whether provider billings flow directly from
providers to the state’s claims payment system or whether billings are routed through other intermediary entities. If
billings flow through other intermediary entities, specify the entities:
Each waiver participant, once approved, is added to the Alabama Medicaid's Recipient Level of Care Panel. This file holds approved dates of eligibility for waiver services.

No provider billings for LAH Waiver services are submitted directly to Medicaid. Provider billings are entered into a web-based claims processing system hosted by a vendor (Harmony Information Systems) for the Department of Mental Health. This system, known as ADIDIS, checks claims against prior authorizations to ensure the services billed are approved by the operating agency’s review of the plan of care. From the ADIDIS system, approved claims flow directly to the Medicaid Management Information System through DXC, the Fiscal Intermediary as follows:

Payments made by Medicaid to providers are on a fee-for-service basis. Each covered service is identified on a claim by a procedure code.

For each recipient, the claim allows span billing for a period up to one month. There may be multiple claims in a month; however no single claim can cover services performed in different months.

If the submitted claim covers dates of service where part, or all of which were covered in a previously paid claim is rejected. The provider is required to make the corrections on the claim and resubmit for processing.

Payment is based on the number of units of service reported on the claim for each procedure code.

Accounting for actual costs and units of services provided during the waiver year, are captured on the CMS 372 Report.

All claims must be filed within twelve months from the date of service.

Payment is based on the number of units of service reported on the claim for each procedure code. There is a clear differentiation between waiver services and non-waiver services and a clear audit trail exists from the point of service through billing and reimbursement. Discrepancies are initially handled at the local level.

The LAH Waiver administrator monitors expenditures on a bi-annual basis or as often as needed and monitors problems with particular service providers. If costs appear to be out of line or unusual, the provider is contacted and follow-up action is implemented as needed.

No provider billings for LAH Waiver services are submitted directly to Medicaid.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-2: Rates, Billing and Claims (2 of 3)

c. Certifying Public Expenditures (select one):

☐ No. state or local government agencies do not certify expenditures for waiver services.

☐ Yes. state or local government agencies directly expend funds for part or all of the cost of waiver services and certify their state government expenditures (CPE) in lieu of billing that amount to Medicaid.

Select at least one:

☐ Certified Public Expenditures (CPE) of State Public Agencies.

Specify: (a) the state government agency or agencies that certify public expenditures for waiver services; (b) how it is assured that the CPE is based on the total computable costs for waiver services; and, (c) how the state verifies that the certified public expenditures are eligible for Federal financial participation in accordance with 42 CFR §433.51(b).(Indicate source of revenue for CPEs in Item I-4-a.)

☐ Certified Public Expenditures (CPE) of Local Government Agencies.

Specify: (a) the local government agencies that incur certified public expenditures for waiver services; (b) how it is assured that the CPE is based on total computable costs for waiver services; and, (c) how the state verifies that the certified public expenditures are eligible for Federal financial participation in accordance with 42 CFR §433.51(b). (Indicate source of revenue for CPEs in Item I-4-b.)
Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-2: Rates, Billing and Claims (3 of 3)

d. Billing Validation Process. Describe the process for validating provider billings to produce the claim for federal financial participation, including the mechanism(s) to assure that all claims for payment are made only: (a) when the individual was eligible for Medicaid waiver payment on the date of service; (b) when the service was included in the participant’s approved service plan; and, (c) the services were provided:

The system performs validation edits to ensure the claim is filled out correctly and contains appropriate information for processing. Edits ensure the recipient’s name matches the recipient identification number (RID); the procedure code is valid for the diagnosis; the recipient is eligible and the provider is active for the dates of service; and other similar criteria are met. Only claims for authorized services are eligible for payment. Services are authorized in the system from each Plan of Care, ensuring that only services from the Service Plan are processed for payment. For electronically submitted claims, the edit process is performed several times per day. For paper claims, it is performed five (5) times per week. If a claim fails any of these edits, it is returned to the provider.

Once claims pass through edits, the system reviews the claim history information against information on the current claim. Audits check for duplicate services, service limitation, and related services and compare them to Alabama Medicaid policy. The system then prices the claim using the State determined pricing methodology applied to each service by provider type, claim type, recipient benefits, or policy limitations.

Once the system completes claim processing, it assigns each claim a status: approved to pay, denied, or suspended. Approved to pay and denied claims are processed through the financial cycle twice a month, at which time an Explanation of Payment (EOP) report is produced and checks are written, if applicable. Suspended claims must be worked by DXC Technology or reviewed by Alabama Medicaid Agency personnel, as required.

Claims paid in error will be submitted for recoupment. Once the reviewer initiates the recoupment, the claims goes back through the system and the FFP is removed.

Claims approved for payment are paid with a single check or electronic funds transfer (EFT) transaction according to the check write schedule published by the Alabama Medicaid Agency. The check is sent to the provider’s payee address with an EOP, which also identifies all denied claims, pending claims, and adjustments. If the provider is enrolled in the electronic funds (EFT) transfer process, the payment is deposited directly into the provider’s bank account and the EOP is mailed separately to the provider.

e. Billing and Claims Record Maintenance Requirement. Records documenting the audit trail of adjudicated claims (including supporting documentation) are maintained by the Medicaid agency, the operating agency (if applicable), and providers of waiver services for a minimum period of 3 years as required in 45 CFR §92.42.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-3: Payment (1 of 7)

a. Method of payments -- MMIS (select one):

- Payments for all waiver services are made through an approved Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS).
- Payments for some, but not all, waiver services are made through an approved MMIS.

Specify: (a) the waiver services that are not paid through an approved MMIS; (b) the process for making such payments and the entity that processes payments; (c) and how an audit trail is maintained for all state and federal funds expended outside the MMIS; and, (d) the basis for the draw of federal funds and claiming of these expenditures.
Payments for waiver services are not made through an approved MMIS.

Specify: (a) the process by which payments are made and the entity that processes payments; (b) how and through which system(s) the payments are processed; (c) how an audit trail is maintained for all state and federal funds expended outside the MMIS; and, (d) the basis for the draw of federal funds and claiming of these expenditures on the CMS-64:

Payments for waiver services are made by a managed care entity or entities. The managed care entity is paid a monthly capitated payment per eligible enrollee through an approved MMIS.

Describe how payments are made to the managed care entity or entities:

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-3: Payment (2 of 7)

b. Direct payment. In addition to providing that the Medicaid agency makes payments directly to providers of waiver services, payments for waiver services are made utilizing one or more of the following arrangements (select at least one):

☐ The Medicaid agency makes payments directly and does not use a fiscal agent (comprehensive or limited) or a managed care entity or entities.

☒ The Medicaid agency pays providers through the same fiscal agent used for the rest of the Medicaid program.

☐ The Medicaid agency pays providers of some or all waiver services through the use of a limited fiscal agent.

Specify the limited fiscal agent, the waiver services for which the limited fiscal agent makes payment, the functions that the limited fiscal agent performs in paying waiver claims, and the methods by which the Medicaid agency oversees the operations of the limited fiscal agent:

☐ Providers are paid by a managed care entity or entities for services that are included in the state's contract with the entity.

Specify how providers are paid for the services (if any) not included in the state's contract with managed care entities.
c. Supplemental or Enhanced Payments. Section 1902(a)(30) requires that payments for services be consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care. Section 1903(a)(1) provides for Federal financial participation to states for expenditures for services under an approved state plan/waiver. Specify whether supplemental or enhanced payments are made. Select one:

- ☑ No. The state does not make supplemental or enhanced payments for waiver services.
- ☐ Yes. The state makes supplemental or enhanced payments for waiver services.

Describe: (a) the nature of the supplemental or enhanced payments that are made and the waiver services for which these payments are made; (b) the types of providers to which such payments are made; (c) the source of the non-Federal share of the supplemental or enhanced payment; and, (d) whether providers eligible to receive the supplemental or enhanced payment retain 100% of the total computable expenditure claimed by the state to CMS. Upon request, the state will furnish CMS with detailed information about the total amount of supplemental or enhanced payments to each provider type in the waiver.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-3: Payment (4 of 7)

d. Payments to state or Local Government Providers. Specify whether state or local government providers receive payment for the provision of waiver services.

- ☑ No. State or local government providers do not receive payment for waiver services. Do not complete Item I-3-e.
- ☐ Yes. State or local government providers receive payment for waiver services. Complete Item I-3-e.

Specify the types of state or local government providers that receive payment for waiver services and the services that the state or local government providers furnish:

State DMH (Alabama Department of Mental Health) is the operating agency for the LAH waiver. The State agency provide LAH waiver services such as: Day Habilitation, Employment Support, Personal Care, Prevocational Services, Respite Services, Assistance in Community Integration, Adult Companion Services, Assistive Technology Services, Benefits and Career Counseling, Community Experience, Crisis Intervention, Environmental Accessibility Adaptations, Individual Directed Goods and Services, Occupational Therapy, Personal Emergency Response System, Physical Therapy, Positive Behavior Support, Skilled Nursing, Specialized Medical Supplies, Speech and Language Therapy, and Supported Employment Transportation.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-3: Payment (5 of 7)

e. Amount of Payment to State or Local Government Providers.

Specify whether any state or local government provider receives payments (including regular and any supplemental payments) that in the aggregate exceed its reasonable costs of providing waiver services and, if so, whether and how the state recoups the excess and returns the Federal share of the excess to CMS on the quarterly expenditure report. Select one:

- ☑ The amount paid to state or local government providers is the same as the amount paid to private providers of the same service.
The amount paid to state or local government providers differs from the amount paid to private providers of the same service. No public provider receives payments that in the aggregate exceed its reasonable costs of providing waiver services.

Describe the recoupment process:

Appendix I: Financial Accountability
I-3: Payment (6 of 7)

f. Provider Retention of Payments. Section 1903(a)(1) provides that Federal matching funds are only available for expenditures made by states for services under the approved waiver. Select one:

- Providers receive and retain 100 percent of the amount claimed to CMS for waiver services.
- Providers are paid by a managed care entity (or entities) that is paid a monthly capitated payment.

Specify whether the monthly capitated payment to managed care entities is reduced or returned in part to the state.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability
I-3: Payment (7 of 7)
g. Additional Payment Arrangements

i. Voluntary Reassignment of Payments to a Governmental Agency. Select one:

- No. The state does not provide that providers may voluntarily reassign their right to direct payments to a governmental agency.
- Yes. Providers may voluntarily reassign their right to direct payments to a governmental agency as provided in 42 CFR §447.10(e).

Specify the governmental agency (or agencies) to which reassignment may be made.

Providers may reassign payments only to DMH, the operating agency for the LAH waiver.

ii. Organized Health Care Delivery System. Select one:

- No. The state does not employ Organized Health Care Delivery System (OHCDS) arrangements under the provisions of 42 CFR §447.10.
- Yes. The waiver provides for the use of Organized Health Care Delivery System arrangements under the provisions of 42 CFR §447.10.
Specify the following: (a) the entities that are designated as an OHCDS and how these entities qualify for designation as an OHCDS; (b) the procedures for direct provider enrollment when a provider does not voluntarily agree to contract with a designated OHCDS; (c) the method(s) for assuring that participants have free choice of qualified providers when an OHCDS arrangement is employed, including the selection of providers not affiliated with the OHCDS; (d) the method(s) for assuring that providers that furnish services under contract with an OHCDS meet applicable provider qualifications under the waiver; (e) how it is assured that OHCDS contracts with providers meet applicable requirements; and, (f) how financial accountability is assured when an OHCDS arrangement is used:

The DMH, the various Local Authorities established under Act 310, and other providers of waiver services all provide one or more Medicaid service and are eligible to be OHCDS. Providers may enroll directly with the Medicaid Agency if they wish but in this case they must also contract with the DMH in order for the DMH to pay the state match for them. Free choice of providers is assured by the policies and procedures in effect and practices carried out by case managers. All providers are certified and monitored between certification surveys. All subcontractors are submitted to the state for review of applicable provisions. Payments are fee-for-service through an approved MMIS system.

iii. Contracts with MCOs, PIHPs or PAHPs.

- The state does not contract with MCOs, PIHPs or PAHPs for the provision of waiver services.
- The state contracts with a Managed Care Organization(s) (MCOs) and/or prepaid inpatient health plan(s) (PIHP) or prepaid ambulatory health plan(s) (PAHP) under the provisions of §1915(a)(1) of the Act for the delivery of waiver and other services. Participants may voluntarily elect to receive waiver and other services through such MCOs or prepaid health plans. Contracts with these health plans are on file at the state Medicaid agency.

Describe: (a) the MCOs and/or health plans that furnish services under the provisions of §1915(a)(1); (b) the geographic areas served by these plans; (c) the waiver and other services furnished by these plans; and, (d) how payments are made to the health plans.

This waiver is a part of a concurrent §1915(b)/§1915(c) waiver. Participants are required to obtain waiver and other services through a MCO and/or prepaid inpatient health plan (PIHP) or a prepaid ambulatory health plan (PAHP). The §1915(b) waiver specifies the types of health plans that are used and how payments to these plans are made.

This waiver is a part of a concurrent ?1115/?1915(c) waiver. Participants are required to obtain waiver and other services through a MCO and/or prepaid inpatient health plan (PIHP) or a prepaid ambulatory health plan (PAHP). The ?1115 waiver specifies the types of health plans that are used and how payments to these plans are made.

If the state uses more than one of the above contract authorities for the delivery of waiver services, please select this option.

In the textbox below, indicate the contract authorities. In addition, if the state contracts with MCOs, PIHPs, or PAHPs under the provisions of §1915(a)(1) of the Act to furnish waiver services: Participants may voluntarily elect to receive waiver and other services through such MCOs or prepaid health plans. Contracts with these health plans are on file at the state Medicaid agency. Describe: (a) the MCOs and/or health plans that furnish services under the provisions of §1915(a)(1); (b) the geographic areas served by these plans; (c) the waiver and other services furnished by these plans; and, (d) how payments are made to the health plans.
Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-4: Non-Federal Matching Funds (1 of 3)

a. State Level Source(s) of the Non-Federal Share of Computable Waiver Costs. Specify the state source or sources of the non-federal share of computable waiver costs. Select at least one:

☐ Appropriation of Tax Revenues to the State Medicaid agency
☒ Appropriation of Tax Revenues to a State Agency other than the Medicaid Agency.

If the source of the non-federal share is appropriations to another state agency (or agencies), specify: (a) the state entity or agency receiving appropriated funds and (b) the mechanism that is used to transfer the funds to the Medicaid Agency or Fiscal Agent, such as an Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT), including any matching arrangement, and/or, indicate if the funds are directly expended by state agencies as CPEs, as indicated in Item I-2-c:

The non-federal share of waiver payments is transferred to the Alabama Medicaid Agency by the Alabama Department of Mental Health (DMH). This is managed through an IGT process in which the Medicaid Agency determines, during each billing cycle, how much non-federal match is needed to reimburse adjudicated claims, and invoices DMH, whereupon DMH transfers these funds to the Medicaid Agency.

For Medicaid payments under this waiver, the source of non-federal match transferred to the Medicaid Agency by the Department of Mental Health, as 100% appropriated by the legislature to the DMH from three tax-based funds: The General Fund; the Education Trust Fund; and the Mental Health Trust Fund.

The Department of Mental Health is adding the use Local Match to the non-federal match payment in this renewal.

☐ Other State Level Source(s) of Funds.

Specify: (a) the source and nature of funds; (b) the entity or agency that receives the funds; and, (c) the mechanism that is used to transfer the funds to the Medicaid Agency or Fiscal Agent, such as an Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT), including any matching arrangement (indicate any intervening entities in the transfer process), and/or, indicate if funds are directly expended by state agencies as CPEs, as indicated in Item I-2-c:

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-4: Non-Federal Matching Funds (2 of 3)

b. Local Government or Other Source(s) of the Non-Federal Share of Computable Waiver Costs. Specify the source or sources of the non-federal share of computable waiver costs that are not from state sources. Select One:

☑ Not Applicable. There are no local government level sources of funds utilized as the non-federal share.
☐ Applicable

Check each that applies:

☐ Appropriation of Local Government Revenues.

Specify: (a) the local government entity or entities that have the authority to levy taxes or other revenues; (b) the source(s) of revenue; and, (c) the mechanism that is used to transfer the funds to the Medicaid Agency or Fiscal Agent, such as an Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT), including any matching arrangement (indicate any intervening entities in the transfer process), and/or, indicate if funds are directly expended by local government agencies as CPEs, as specified in Item I-2-c:
Other Local Government Level Source(s) of Funds.

Specify: (a) the source of funds; (b) the local government entity or agency receiving funds; and, (c) the mechanism that is used to transfer the funds to the state Medicaid agency or fiscal agent, such as an Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT), including any matching arrangement, and/or, indicate if funds are directly expended by local government agencies as CPEs, as specified in Item I-2-c:

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-4: Non-Federal Matching Funds (3 of 3)

c. Information Concerning Certain Sources of Funds. Indicate whether any of the funds listed in Items I-4.a or I-4.b that make up the non-federal share of computable waiver costs come from the following sources: (a) health care-related taxes or fees; (b) provider-related donations; and/or, (c) federal funds. Select one:

- None of the specified sources of funds contribute to the non-federal share of computable waiver costs
- The following source(s) are used
  Check each that applies:
  - Health care-related taxes or fees
  - Provider-related donations
  - Federal funds

For each source of funds indicated above, describe the source of the funds in detail:

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-5: Exclusion of Medicaid Payment for Room and Board

a. Services Furnished in Residential Settings. Select one:

- No services under this waiver are furnished in residential settings other than the private residence of the individual.
- As specified in Appendix C, the state furnishes waiver services in residential settings other than the personal home of the individual.

b. Method for Excluding the Cost of Room and Board Furnished in Residential Settings. The following describes the methodology that the state uses to exclude Medicaid payment for room and board in residential settings: Do not complete this item.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-6: Payment for Rent and Food Expenses of an Unrelated Live-In Caregiver
Reimbursement for the Rent and Food Expenses of an Unrelated Live-In Personal Caregiver. Select one:

- No. The state does not reimburse for the rent and food expenses of an unrelated live-in personal caregiver who resides in the same household as the participant.

- Yes. Per 42 CFR §441.310(a)(2)(ii), the state will claim FFP for the additional costs of rent and food that can be reasonably attributed to an unrelated live-in personal caregiver who resides in the same household as the waiver participant. The state describes its coverage of live-in caregiver in Appendix C-3 and the costs attributable to rent and food for the live-in caregiver are reflected separately in the computation of factor D (cost of waiver services) in Appendix J. FFP for rent and food for a live-in caregiver will not be claimed when the participant lives in the caregiver’s home or in a residence that is owned or leased by the provider of Medicaid services.

The following is an explanation of: (a) the method used to apportion the additional costs of rent and food attributable to the unrelated live-in personal caregiver that are incurred by the individual served on the waiver and (b) the method used to reimburse these costs:

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-7: Participant Co-Payments for Waiver Services and Other Cost Sharing (1 of 5)

a. Co-Payment Requirements. Specify whether the state imposes a co-payment or similar charge upon waiver participants for waiver services. These charges are calculated per service and have the effect of reducing the total computable claim for federal financial participation. Select one:

- No. The state does not impose a co-payment or similar charge upon participants for waiver services.

- Yes. The state imposes a co-payment or similar charge upon participants for one or more waiver services.

  i. Co-Pay Arrangement.

  Specify the types of co-pay arrangements that are imposed on waiver participants (check each that applies):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charges Associated with the Provision of Waiver Services (if any are checked, complete Items I-7-a-ii through I-7-a-iv):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Nominal deductible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Coinsurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Co-Payment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Other charge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specify:

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-7: Participant Co-Payments for Waiver Services and Other Cost Sharing (2 of 5)

a. Co-Payment Requirements.

  ii. Participants Subject to Co-pay Charges for Waiver Services.
Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-7: Participant Co-Payments for Waiver Services and Other Cost Sharing (3 of 5)

a. Co-Payment Requirements.

iii. Amount of Co-Pay Charges for Waiver Services.

Answers provided in Appendix I-7-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-7: Participant Co-Payments for Waiver Services and Other Cost Sharing (4 of 5)

a. Co-Payment Requirements.

iv. Cumulative Maximum Charges.

Answers provided in Appendix I-7-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section.

Appendix I: Financial Accountability

I-7: Participant Co-Payments for Waiver Services and Other Cost Sharing (5 of 5)

b. Other State Requirement for Cost Sharing. Specify whether the state imposes a premium, enrollment fee or similar cost sharing on waiver participants. Select one:

☒ No. The state does not impose a premium, enrollment fee, or similar cost-sharing arrangement on waiver participants.

☐ Yes. The state imposes a premium, enrollment fee or similar cost-sharing arrangement.

Describe in detail the cost sharing arrangement, including: (a) the type of cost sharing (e.g., premium, enrollment fee); (b) the amount of charge and how the amount of the charge is related to total gross family income; (c) the groups of participants subject to cost-sharing and the groups who are excluded; and, (d) the mechanisms for the collection of cost-sharing and reporting the amount collected on the CMS 64:

Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

J-1: Composite Overview and Demonstration of Cost-Neutrality Formula

Composite Overview. Complete the fields in Cols. 3, 5 and 6 in the following table for each waiver year. The fields in Cols. 4, 7 and 8 are auto-calculated based on entries in Cols 3, 5, and 6. The fields in Col. 2 are auto-calculated using the Factor D data from the J-2-d Estimate of Factor D tables. Col. 2 fields will be populated ONLY when the Estimate of Factor D tables in J-2-d have been completed.

Level(s) of Care: ICF/IID

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Col. 1</th>
<th>Col. 2</th>
<th>Col. 3</th>
<th>Col. 4</th>
<th>Col. 5</th>
<th>Col. 6</th>
<th>Col. 7</th>
<th>Col. 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Factor D</td>
<td>Factor D'</td>
<td>Total: D+D'</td>
<td>Factor G</td>
<td>Factor G'</td>
<td>Total: G+G'</td>
<td>Difference (Col 7 less Column 4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4040.00</td>
<td>4040.00</td>
<td>81538.00</td>
<td>1551.00</td>
<td>83089.00</td>
<td>79049.00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>85581.00</td>
<td>81420.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4286.00</td>
<td>4286.00</td>
<td>86503.00</td>
<td>1645.00</td>
<td>88148.00</td>
<td>83862.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

J-2: Derivation of Estimates (1 of 9)

a. Number Of Unduplicated Participants Served. Enter the total number of unduplicated participants from Item B-3-a who will be served each year that the waiver is in operation. When the waiver serves individuals under more than one level of care, specify the number of unduplicated participants for each level of care:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Year</th>
<th>Total Unduplicated Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table: J-2-a: Unduplicated Participants

b. Average Length of Stay. Describe the basis of the estimate of the average length of stay on the waiver by participants in item J-2-a.

The average length of stay was derived from the most recently filed CMS 372 report for the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for the period 10/1/2017 through 9/30/2018 (350 days).

c. Derivation of Estimates for Each Factor. Provide a narrative description for the derivation of the estimates of the following factors.

i. Factor D Derivation. The estimates of Factor D for each waiver year are located in Item J-2-d. The basis and methodology for these estimates is as follows:

This information is based on data and utilization trends on the most recent 372 report for 2018. Actual changes are unknown due to other waiver program options moving forward.

ii. Factor D' Derivation. The estimates of Factor D' for each waiver year are included in Item J-1. The basis of these estimates is as follows:

This information is based on data and utilization trends on the most recent 372 report for 2018. This estimate is trended with a 3% increase per year. Actual changes are unknown due to other waiver program options moving forward.

iii. Factor G Derivation. The estimates of Factor G for each waiver year are included in Item J-1. The basis of these
estimates is as follows:

Factor G represents the per capita amount based on enrollment and expenditures from the states MMIS for beneficiaries who were residing in ICF/IID for 2018. The Factor G represents ICF institutional costs only. This estimate is trended with a 3% increase per year.

iv. Factor G’ Derivation. The estimates of Factor G’ for each waiver year are included in Item J-1. The basis of these estimates is as follows:

Factor G’ represents the per capita amount based on enrollment and expenditures from the states MMIS for state plan services used by beneficiaries residing in an ICF/IID for 2018. This estimate is trended with a 3% increase per year.

Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

J-2: Derivation of Estimates (4 of 9)

**Component management for waiver services.** If the service(s) below includes two or more discrete services that are reimbursed separately, or is a bundled service, each component of the service must be listed. Select “manage components” to add these components.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day Habilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevocational Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Companion Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance in Community Integration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistive Technology Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits and Career Counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Accessibility Adaptations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Stabilization Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Directed Goods and Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Emergency Response System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Behavior Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote Supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized Medical Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech and Language Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supported Employment Transportation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

J-2: Derivation of Estimates (5 of 9)

d. Estimate of Factor D.

i. Non-Concurrent Waiver. Complete the following table for each waiver year. Enter data into the Unit, # Users, Avg.
Units Per User, and Avg. Cost/Unit fields for all the Waiver Service/Component items. Select Save and Calculate to automatically calculate and populate the Component Costs and Total Costs fields. All fields in this table must be completed in order to populate the Factor D fields in the J-1 Composite Overview table.

### Waiver Year: Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Service/Component</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th># Users</th>
<th>Avg. Units Per User</th>
<th>Avg. Cost/Unit</th>
<th>Component Cost</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day Habilitation Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4092321.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Habilitation Level 3 w Transport</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3200.00</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>245760.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Habilitation Level 2</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>2672.00</td>
<td>2.74</td>
<td>388027.84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Day Habilitation Level 1</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3532.00</td>
<td>4.16</td>
<td>337941.76</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Day Habilitation Level 2 w Transport</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2786.00</td>
<td>5.40</td>
<td>376110.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Day Habilitation Level 4</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3003.00</td>
<td>9.06</td>
<td>54414.36</td>
<td></td>
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**Employment Support Total:**

| Supported Employment Small Group 1-4 | 15 minutes | 4 | 1244.00 | 4.52 | 22491.52 |

**Discovery/Assessment:**

| 15 minutes |  | | | | 1100.00 |

**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769

Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Waiver Service/Component</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th># Users</th>
<th>Avg. Units Per User</th>
<th>Avg. Cost/ Unit</th>
<th>Component Cost</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769

Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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**GRAND TOTAL:**
Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350

12/22/2020
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<th>Unit</th>
<th># Users</th>
<th>Avg. Units Per User</th>
<th>Avg. Cost/ Unit</th>
<th>Component Cost</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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**Physical Therapy Total:** 7722.00

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<td>14.30</td>
<td>3861.00</td>
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**Positive Behavior Support Total:** 128700.00

| Positive Behavior Support Level 1 Prof Certified | 15 minutes | 100 | 40.00 | 19.50 | 78000.00 |
| Positive Behavior Support Level 2 Professional | 15 minutes | 50  | 20.00 | 14.30 | 14300.00 |
| Positive Behavior Support Level 3 Technician | 15 minutes | 100 | 40.00 | 9.10  | 36400.00 |

**Remote Supports Total:** 57281.69

| Remote Supports Vendor | Per Vendor | 72  | 0.95  | 250.00 | 17100.00 |
| Remote Supports Provider | Per Provider | 72  | 0.95  | 150.00 | 10260.00 |
| Remote Supports Per Residence | Per Residence | 6   | 1.01  | 1000.00 | 6060.00 |
| Remote Supports Vendor Technology Support | 15 Minutes | 80  | 33.07 | 6.50  | 17196.40 |
| Remote Supports (paid back up) | 15 Minutes | 57  | 33.41 | 3.50  | 6665.30 |

**Skilled Nursing Total:** 400831.60

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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769

Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
## Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

### J-2: Derivation of Estimates (6 of 9)

#### d. Estimate of Factor D.

**i. Non-Concurrent Waiver.** Complete the following table for each waiver year. Enter data into the Unit, # Users, Avg. Units Per User, and Avg. Cost/Unit fields for all the Waiver Service/Component items. Select Save and Calculate to automatically calculate and populate the Component Costs and Total Costs fields. All fields in this table must be completed in order to populate the Factor D fields in the J-1 Composite Overview table.

**Waiver Year: Year 2**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Waiver Service/Component</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th># Users</th>
<th>Avg. Units Per User</th>
<th>Avg. Cost/Unit</th>
<th>Component Cost</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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**GRAND TOTAL:**

- Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 749
- Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350
- Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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<th>Avg. Units Per User</th>
<th>Avg. Cost/ Unit</th>
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GRAND TOTAL: 1029328.32

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 1.33
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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**GRAND TOTAL:**
Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350

12/22/2020
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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769

Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
### Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

#### J-2: Derivation of Estimates (7 of 9)

d. Estimate of Factor D.

i. Non-Concurrent Waiver. Complete the following table for each waiver year. Enter data into the Unit, # Users, Avg. Units Per User, and Avg. Cost/Unit fields for all the Waiver Service/Component items. Select Save and Calculate to automatically calculate and populate the Component Costs and Total Costs fields. All fields in this table must be completed in order to populate the Factor D fields in the J-1 Composite Overview table.

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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769

Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350

12/22/2020
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GRAND TOTAL:
Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
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Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver:

| 350 |

12/22/2020
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**GRAND TOTAL:**
Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350

12/22/2020
### Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

#### J-2: Derivation of Estimates (8 of 9)

d. **Estimate of Factor D.**

i. **Non-Concurrent Waiver.** Complete the following table for each waiver year. Enter data into the Unit, # Users, Avg. Units Per User, and Avg. Cost/Unit fields for all the Waiver Service/Component items. Select Save and Calculate to automatically calculate and populate the Component Costs and Total Costs fields. All fields in this table must be completed in order to populate the Factor D fields in the J-1 Composite Overview table.

#### Waiver Year: Year 4

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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769

Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350

12/22/2020
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**GRAND TOTAL:**
Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 740
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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**GRAND TOTAL:**

| Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: | 769 |
| Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): | |
| Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: | 350 |

12/22/2020
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Appendix J: Cost Neutrality Demonstration

**J-2: Derivation of Estimates (9 of 9)**

d. Estimate of Factor D.
### i. Non-Concurrent Waiver

Complete the following table for each waiver year. Enter data into the Unit, # Users, Avg. Units Per User, and Avg. Cost/Unit fields for all the Waiver Service/Component items. Select Save and Calculate to automatically calculate and populate the Component Costs and Total Costs fields. All fields in this table must be completed in order to populate the Factor D fields in the J-1 Composite Overview table.

#### Waiver Year: Year 5

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<th>Avg. Units Per User</th>
<th>Avg. Cost/Unit</th>
<th>Component Cost</th>
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**Grand Total:**

- Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
- Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350

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**Average Length of Stay on the Waiver:**

12/22/2020
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GRAND TOTAL:

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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<th>Avg. Units Per User</th>
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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350
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<th>Waiver Service/Component</th>
<th>Unit</th>
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**Remote Supports Total:**

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**Skilled Nursing Total:**

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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 769
Factor D (Divide total by number of participants): 350
Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350

12/22/2020
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**GRAND TOTAL:**

Total Estimated Unduplicated Participants: 749

Factor D (Divide total by number of participants):

Average Length of Stay on the Waiver: 350