

April 15, 2020

ND Medicaid: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions – Medically Fragile Waiver, Children’s Hospice Waiver and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Waiver Appendix K Questions & Answers

Purpose of Appendix K:

Appendix K is a standalone appendix that may be utilized by states during emergency situations to request amendment to approved 1915(c) waivers. It includes actions that states can take under the existing Section 1915(c) home and community-based waiver authority in order to respond to an emergency.

Time Frame:

The effective date of the Appendix K for Medically Fragile Waiver, Children’s Hospice Waiver and Autism Spectrum Disorder Waiver is March 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020.

Frequently asked questions:

The following questions are responses to questions for the following waivers. Further questions can be directed to Katherine Barchenger at kbarchenger@nd.gov or by calling 701-328-4630.

- Autism Spectrum disorder (ASD) birth through thirteen waiver
- Children’s Hospice waiver
- Children with Medically Fragile Needs waiver

Services:

Can services be provided outside of the home?

If child and family need to reside outside of their designated home, services of In-Home Support, Respite, and Hospice Cares may occur where child is temporarily residing.

If we must leave the state temporarily due to COVID-19, can waiver services continue?

The identified service on the child’s plan will follow the child if the case manager/ service manager is made aware of the temporary relocation due to the COVID-19 emergency and the need for continued waiver service.

All out of state providers for Hospice Cares must enroll with ND Medicaid under the exceptions provided by the ND Covid-19 1135 waiver. Providers that are providing In Home Support or respite would be required to enroll with the Fiscal Agent – Veridian.

Can my services be changed or increased?

During the planning meeting, if changes are determined to be needed, the Case Manager/Service Manager will make changes to the plan with parent/legal guardians providing electronic signature of approval. The Case Manager/Service Manager would

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be responsible to obtain an email from the program Administrator agreeing to the change.

Participant Care Plan:

Can a provider or family request that the case manager/service manager not be in person for their service plan meetings?

Yes. The Case Manager/ Service Manager providing support to the family may conduct meetings with family by phone or by [telehealth](#).

Can a family request a change to services plans? (i.e. increase of hours for Respite/ In-Home Support)

During the planning meeting, if changes are determined to be needed, the Case Manager/ Service Manager will make changes to the plan with parent/legal guardians providing electronic signature of approval. The case manager/service manager would be responsible to obtain an email from the program Administrator agreeing to the change.

Will Case Manager/Service Manager be required to obtain signatures for meetings or for plans that occur virtually or via telephone?

Yes. Parents will need to provide electronic signature of approval. In addition, the Case Manager/ Service Manager will need to obtain an email from the program Administrator agreeing to the change.

Will providers be expected to continue with programming, data collection, and service implementation?

Yes, to the best of their ability and using the resources available. If the provider is unable to perform these tasks, documentation should reflect that.