I. DEPARTMENT
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

II. SUBJECT
8.314.7 NMAC, LONG TERM CARE SERVICES - WAIVERS, SUPPORTS WAIVER

III. PROGRAM AFFECTED
(TITLE XIX) MEDICAID

IV. ACTION
PROPOSED RULE

V. BACKGROUND SUMMARY

The Human Services Department (the Department), through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is proposing to promulgate the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) rule 8.314.7, Long Term Care Services - Waivers, Supports Waiver. 8.314.7 NMAC serves to implement, support, and clarify the statute for the Supports Waiver. The Supports Waiver will be the State’s fourth Medicaid 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver program currently operated to serve individuals with special needs. The Supports Waiver will provide services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities on the Department of Health (DOH) Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Wait List.

Section 9-8-6 NMSA 1978, authorizes the Department Secretary to promulgate rules and regulations that may be necessary to carry out the duties of the Department and its divisions.

Notice Date: August 25, 2020
Hearing Date: September 28, 2020
Adoption Date: Proposed as January 1, 2021.
Technical Citations: 42 CFR Chapter IV Subchapter C

The Department is proposing to promulgate the rule as follows:

Section 7: Definitions
This section provides definitions for terms found within 8.314.7 NMAC.
Section 8: Mission Statement
This section provides the Department’s mission statement.

Section 9: Supports Waiver Home and Community-Based Services
This section provides a description of the Supports Waiver program and its intent to provide support services to eligible recipients to enable work toward self-determination, independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion in all facets of community life across the lifespan.

Section 10: Eligibility Requirements for Recipient Enrollment
This section outlines that eligibility for the Supports Waiver program is contingent upon the applicant meeting the eligibility requirements, the availability of funding as appropriated by the New Mexico legislature, and the number of federally authorized unduplicated eligible recipients.

Section 11: Eligible Recipient Responsibilities
This section outlines the responsibilities that Supports Waiver eligible recipients must comply with. The section also details the eligible recipient’s voluntary and involuntary program disenrollment.

Section 12: Supports Waiver Contracted Entities and Providers
This section outlines the Supports Waiver program contracted entities and their responsibilities including requirements to avoid conflict of interest.

Section 13: Qualifications for Eligible Individual Employees, Independent Providers, Provider Agencies, and Vendors
This section lists general and specific qualifications for agency-based and participant-directed service delivery model providers. This section also outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Employer of Record (EOR) who helps assist Supports Waiver participants accessing services in the participant-directed service delivery model with employer functions.

Section 14: Service Descriptions and Coverage Criteria
This section provides description of the services offered through the Supports Waiver. This section also outlines that service delivery must be in compliance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services HCBS Settings Final Rule.

Section 15: Non-Covered Services
This section lists non-covered services and specifies that the Supports Waiver program does not pay for the purchase of goods or services that a household without a person with a disability would be expected to pay for as a routine household or personal expense.

Section 16: Individual Service Plan and Authorized Annual Budget
This section outlines the components, requirements, and development of a Supports Waiver participant’s Individual Service Plan (ISP) and review and approval of their Authorized Annual Budget (AAB). The section also outlines the process for modification of the ISP.

Section 17: Prior Authorization and Utilization Review
The section clarifies that services covered under the Supports Waiver program are subject to utilization review for medical necessity and program requirements.

**Section 18: Recordkeeping and Documentation Responsibilities**
This section outlines the recordkeeping and documentation responsibilities of Supports Waiver program providers and participants.

**Section 19: Reimbursement**
This section outlines reimbursement requirements for agency-based and participant-directed service delivery model providers.

**Section 20: Right to an HSD Administrative Hearing**
This section outlines that Supports Waiver participants have an opportunity for an administrative hearing and the circumstances under which to request a fair hearing.

**Section 21: Continuation of Benefits Pursuant to Timely Appeal**
This section outlines that Supports Waiver participants have an opportunity to request a continuation of benefits.

**Section 22: Grievance/Complaint System**
This section outlines that Supports Waiver participants have an opportunity to register grievances or complaints concerning the provision of services under the Supports Waiver program and describes the process for filing a grievance.

**VI. RULE**

This register and the proposed rule are available on the HSD website at: [http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/registers.aspx](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/registers.aspx) and [http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/2017-comment-period-open.aspx](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/2017-comment-period-open.aspx). If you do not have internet access, a copy of the proposed register and rule may be requested by contacting MAD at (505) 827-1337.

**VII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

The Department proposes to implement this rule effective January 1, 2021.

**VIII. PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing to receive testimony on this proposed rule will be held via conference call on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 10 a.m., Mountain Time (MT). **Conference Number: 1-800-747-5150. Access Code: 2284263.**

If you are a person with a disability and you require this information in an alternative format or require a special accommodation to participate in the public hearing, please contact the MAD in Santa Fe at (505) 827-1337. The Department requests at least 10 working days advance notice to provide requested alternative formats and special accommodations.
Copies of all comments will be made available by MAD upon request by providing copies directly to a requestor or by making them available on the MAD website or at a location within the county of the requestor.

IX. ADDRESS

Interested persons may address written comments to:

Human Services Department
Office of the Secretary
ATTN: Medical Assistance Division Public Comments
P.O. Box 2348
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2348

Recorded comments may be left at (505) 827-1337. Interested persons may also address comments via electronic mail to: madrules@state.nm.us. Written mail, electronic mail and recorded comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. MT on September 28, 2020. Written and recorded comments will be given the same consideration as oral testimony made at the public hearing. All written comments received will be posted as they are received on the HSD website at http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/2017-comment-period-open.aspx along with the applicable register and rule. The public posting will include the name and any contact information provided by the commenter.

X. PUBLICATION

Publication of this rule approved by:

DAVID R. SCRASE, M.D., SECRETARY
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT