



Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor  
David R. Scrase, M.D., Secretary  
Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H, Director

## **Revised February 17, 2021**

The Human Services Department (the Department), Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is renewing the Developmental Disabilities 1915 (c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver.

A public hearing to receive public comments on this application was **held via conference call at 10:00 a.m., Mountain Time (MT) on Monday, February 15, 2021**. The State of New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD), through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), **is extending the time to receive written and recorded comments regarding the Developmental Disabilities HCBS waiver renewal application to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) Friday, February, 26, 2021**. The purpose of this waiver renewal is to allow the State to continue administering the Developmental Disabilities Waiver (DDW) program beginning July 1, 2021. The current waiver expires June 30, 2021.

The State intends to submit its renewal application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in March 2021.

The proposed changes to the DDW under this renewal are described below:

1. Language and acronyms throughout the DDW application will be updated for consistency and to align with other 1915 (c) HCBS waivers in New Mexico, as appropriate.

*HSD does not anticipate a service or financial impact to recipients and their healthcare providers.*

2. References to the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) have been removed throughout the applications. The SIS was phased out after Waiver Year 1 of the prior waiver cycle.

*HSD does not anticipate a service or financial impact to recipients and their healthcare providers.*

3. Language throughout the DDW application has been updated to remove distinction between adult and children's budgets and children's budget limits. Children are individuals under the age of 21. Children's budgets will be transitioned to the clinical review process through the Outside Reviewer (OR).

*HSD anticipates a positive impact to recipients and their healthcare providers.*

4. The Community Integrated Employment service definition has been revised and the monthly Employment Maintenance rate has been unbundled into three unit-based rates: Job Development, Job Coaching, and Job Maintenance.

*HSD anticipates a positive impact to recipients and their healthcare providers.*

5. The Living Supports service definition has been revised to: expand support provided to individuals; include the requirement for living support agencies to have registered or Licensed Dietician or Licensed Nutritionist, on staff or under contract; include the allowance of remote personal support technology in supported living environments; and, move the definition of intensive medical living supports to the Living Supports service.

*HSD anticipates a positive impact to recipients and their healthcare providers.*

6. Language has been revised to allow Nutritional Counseling services, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech Language Pathology to be provided remotely.

*HSD anticipates a positive impact to recipients and their healthcare providers.*

7. Supplemental Dental Care has been removed as a service.

*HSD anticipates limited impact of this change. There was no utilization of the supplemental dental service in calendar year 2019. DDW recipients will continue to access dental services through the State Plan benefit.*

8. The limit on Assistive Technology has been increased to \$500.

*HSD anticipates a positive impact to recipients and their healthcare providers.*

The proposed 1915 (c) HCBS DDW renewal application is available on the HSD website at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/public-information-and-communications/opportunity-for-public-comment/public-notice-proposed-waiver-changes-and-opportunities-to-comment/comment-period-open/>.

**Please use the Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome internet browser to access and navigate the website. Internet Explorer may not display the full HSD website.**

If you do not have Internet access, a copy of the proposed changes may be requested by contacting MAD in Santa Fe at 505-827-1337.

Interested parties may submit written comments directly to: Human Services Department, Office of the Secretary, ATT: 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](mailto:madrules@state.nm.us). Written mail, electronic mail and recorded comments must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) Friday, February 26, 2021**. Written and recorded comments will be given the same consideration as oral testimony made at the public hearing.

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 MAD in Santa Fe at 505-827-1337. The Department requests at least ten (10) days advance notice to provide requested alternative formats and special accommodations.

Copies of all comments will be made available by the 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.