

Date: 5/14/2020

DDSD COVID-19 Response Memo #16

From: Jason Cornwell, Acting DOH Deputy Secretary
To: All DDSD Waiver Providers and Stakeholders:



As we grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, I would like to continue to communicate the most recent response plans that impact recipients of the DD Waiver, Mi Via Waiver, and Medically Fragile Waiver and Stakeholders:

1. DDSD COVID-19 testing for individuals receiving DD Waiver, Mi Via Waiver, and SGF services through May 13th, 2020:

	Total Tests	Positive Tests	COVID 19 Related Deaths
DD Waiver	162	9	3
Mi Via Waiver	1	1	0
State General Fund	1	0	0
Totals	164	10	3

2. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and Department of Health Secretary Kathy Kunkel, announced that New Mexico's Emergency Public Health Order, set to expire May 15th, 2020 has been extended through May 31st, 2020. This means that all guidance and directives issued by DDSD related to the COVID-19 pandemic remain unchanged and must be followed.
3. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have approved the second version of Appendix K, which was submitted jointly by the Human Services Department and the Department of Health. The approval of Appendix K includes rate increases for the following services:
 - Supported Living Category 1, \$210.35
 - Supported Living Category 2, \$258.69
 - Supported Living Category 3, \$339.09
 - Supported Living Category 4, \$435.81
 - Intensive Medical Living Services, \$468.00
 - Family Living, \$140.99
 - Family Living Jackson, \$152.77

The rate increases are effective March 16, 2020 through June 30, 2020. The Living Supports rates were increased to enable the provider agency to maintain the Direct Support Professional (DSP) and Nursing workforce due to the increased risk of providing direct services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The increased rates should be used to cover DSPs and Nurses who must work higher than normal hours (overtime) that is not already factored into the current service

rate and to cover additional expenditures for cleaning and personal protective equipment. The rate increases will not require budget revisions. HSD is working to complete a mass adjustment within the payment system and will be issuing additional guidance for payment.

4. Directly related to the approval of Appendix K (Version 2), DDSD is issuing revised guidance on the use of the 80% retainer payment for all Customized Community Supports and Community Integrated Employment DD Waiver Providers. Attached is a memo providing detailed instructions. If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Casey Stone-Romero, Community Inclusion Manager at casey.stone-romero@state.nm.us
5. Attached is a memo from the American Heart Association related to CPR and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. The memo provides interim guidance on extensions for AHA Instructor and Provider Cards during the COVID-19 pandemic.
6. Resource Website: <https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/diro/ddcv/>
7. Should I be Tested? <https://cv.nmhealth.org/should-i-get-tested/>
8. Test Portal: <https://cvresults.nmhealth.org/>
9. HSD Portal Page: <https://nmmedicaid.portal.conduent.com/static/covid.htm>
10. New Mexico Healthcare Worker and First Responder Support Line **1-855-507-5509**



Lastly, should stakeholders have specific questions, concerns, and/or scenarios, please contact your Regional Director. The COVID 19 situation is fluid and will evolve; additional guidance will be provided accordingly.