

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

January 17, 2025

Tyler Sadwith, State Medicaid Director
California Department of Health Care Services
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

RE: CA 0431.R04.03 Appendix K Amendments

Dear Director Sadwith:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving California's request to amend the Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver to add an Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in response to the Palisades Fire. The CMS Control Number for the amendment is CA.0431.R04.03. Please use this number in future correspondence relevant to this waiver action.

Effective January 7, 2025 through January 7, 2026, this amendment adds an Appendix K to the waiver to allow the state to temporarily allow Assisted Living Services and Residential Habilitation services to be provided in alternate settings and designated evacuation centers, such as hotels, shelters, schools, churches, campgrounds, convention centers, etc. Retainer payments are authorized for the following services: Residential Habilitation and Assisted Living Services (Homemaker, Home Health Aide & Personal Care). Additionally, the amendment authorizes a temporary extension of the 31–60-day re-enrollment period for participants who are unable to return to their assisted living facility because of the Southern California Fires State of Emergency, ensuring they are not dis-enrolled because of the emergency. The flexibilities authorized under this amendment apply to waiver participants impacted by the Palisades Fire in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

We have included the approved Appendix K pages for this waiver with this correspondence. Please utilize the waiver management system for HCBS waivers for any further amendments to these waiver programs other than Appendix K. Thank you for your cooperation during the review process. If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact me at (410) 786-7561. You may also contact Lisa Amaro-Rife at Lisa.Amaro-Rife@cms.hhs.gov or (214) 767-2506.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of George P. Failla, Jr.

George P. Failla, Jr., Director
Division of HCBS Operations and Oversight

Enclosure

cc: Courtney Miller, MCOG
Barbara Richards, MCOG
Curtis Cunningham, MBHPG/DLTSS