

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-14-26  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



**Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group**

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March 23, 2022

Dawn Stehle, Director  
Arkansas Department of Human Services  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S201  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437

Dear Ms. Stehle:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving Arkansas' request to amend the following 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic:

WAIVER TITLE	CMS AMENDMENT CONTROL NUMBER
AR Choices in Home Care Waiver	AR.0195.R06.01
AR Living Choices in Assisted Living Waiver	AR.0400.R04.01

The amendments that the state has requested in the Appendix K are additive to those previously approved and are effective from March 12, 2020 through six months after the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE). While the state is extending the end date from July 16, 2022 to six months after the end of the PHE, the state is not extending the Appendix K flexibilities that end on July 16, 2022. CMS notes the state is implementing workforce stabilization bonus payments to direct support providers effective October 1, 2021 through the end of the approved Appendix K. The amendments apply in all locations served by the individual waivers for anyone impacted by COVID-19.

The state has identified its intent to use money realized from section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP). Approval of this action does not constitute approval of the state's spending plan. The state must have an approved spending plan in order to use the money realized from section 9817 of the ARP.

We have included the approved Appendix K pages with this correspondence. Please utilize the waiver management system for HCBS waivers for any further amendments to these waiver programs other than the Appendix K.

If you need assistance, feel free to contact Bernice Denbow of my staff at 410-786-6777 or by e-mail at [Bernice.Denbow@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Bernice.Denbow@cms.hhs.gov) or Margherita Sciulli at 410-786-0691 or by e-mail at [Margherita.Sciulli@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Margherita.Sciulli@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Alissa Mooney DeBoy  
Director, DEHPG

Enclosure