

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

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) waiver with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic:

WAIVER TITLE	CMS AMENDMENT CONTROL NUMBER
Autism Waiver	AR 0936.01.05

The amendment that the state has requested in the Appendix K is additive to those previously approved and is 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 1, 2022 to six months after the end of the PHE, the state is not extending the Appendix K flexibilities that end on July 1, 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 amendment applies in all locations served by the individual waiver 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 or Margherita Sciulli at 410-786-0691 or by e-mail at Margherita.Sciulli@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Alissa Mooney DeBoy
Director, DEHPG

Enclosure