

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

February 27, 2023

Jacey Cooper, State Medicaid Director
Director's Office, MS 0000
P.O. Box 997413
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Dear Director Cooper:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving California's 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
Home and Community-Based Alternatives (HCBA) waiver	CA.0139.R05.14

The state's approved Appendix K is effective February 4, 2020 through six months after the end of the federal public health emergency (PHE) for COVID-19. The amendment that the state has requested in the Appendix K is additive to those previously approved; it applies in all locations served by the individual waiver for anyone impacted by COVID-19. The purpose of the amendment is to add COVID-19 supplemental sick leave for HCBS Waiver Personal Care Service (WPCS) providers beginning March 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

CMS reminds the state that the state must have an approved spending plan in order to use the 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.

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

If you need assistance, feel free to contact Daphne Hicks of my staff at 214-767-6471 or by e-mail at Daphne.Hicks@cms.hhs.gov or Marge Sciulli at 410-786-0691 or by e-mail at Margherita.Sciulli@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Harris, Deputy Director
DEHPG

Enclosure