APPENDIX K: Emergency Preparedness and Response and COVID-19 Addendum

Background:

This standalone appendix may be utilized by the state during emergency situations to request amendments to its approved waiver, to multiple approved waivers in the state, and/or to all approved waivers in the state. It includes actions that states can take under the existing Section 1915(c) home and community-based waiver authority in order to respond to an emergency. Other activities may require the use of various other authorities such as the Section 1115 demonstrations or the Section 1135 authorities. This appendix may be applied retroactively as needed by the state. Public notice requirements normally applicable under 1915(c) do not apply to information contained in this Appendix.

Appendix K-1: General Information

General Information:

A. State: Mississippi

B. Waiver Title(s):
   - Traumatic Brain Injury/Spinal Cord Injury Waiver
   - Independent Living Waiver
   - Elderly & Disabled Waiver
   - Assisted Living Waiver
   - Intellectual Disabilities/Developmental Disabilities Waiver

C. Control Number(s):
   - MS.0366.R03.04
   - MS.0255.R05.05
   - MS.0272.R05.06
   - MS.0355.R04.03
   - MS.0282.R05.03

D. Type of Emergency (The state may check more than one box):

   - Pandemic or Epidemic [X]
   - Natural Disaster
   - National Security Emergency
   - Environmental
   - Other (specify):

E. Brief Description of Emergency. In no more than one paragraph each, briefly describe the: 1) nature of emergency; 2) number of individuals affected and the state’s mechanism to identify individuals at
risk; 3) roles of state, local and other entities involved in approved waiver operations; and 4) expected changes needed to service delivery methods, if applicable. The state should provide this information for each emergency checked if those emergencies affect different geographic areas and require different changes to the waiver.

This Appendix K is additive to the approved Appendix K. The change included is to extend the effective date of all flexibilities outlined in previously approved Appendix K’s to six (6) months following the expiration of the public health emergency.

COVID-19 pandemic. This amendment will apply waiver-wide for each waiver included in this Appendix, to all individuals impacted by the virus or the response to the virus (e.g. closure of day programs, etc.)

F. Proposed Effective Date: Start Date: March 1, 2020 Anticipated End Date: No later than six (6) months following the end of the public health emergency

G. Description of Transition Plan. All activities will take place in response to the impact of COVID-19 as efficiently and effectively as possible based upon the complexity of the change. The state will implement additional flexibilities requested as needed at DOM's discretion based on the severity of the pandemic.

H. Geographic Areas Affected: These actions will apply across the waiver to all individuals impacted by the COVID-19 virus.

I. Description of State Disaster Plan (if available) Reference to external documents is acceptable:

The state's pandemic disaster plan is available at https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/2944.pdf.

Contact Person(s)

A. The Medicaid agency representative with whom CMS should communicate regarding the request:
First Name: Margaret  
Last Name: Wilson  
Title: Nurse Office Director, Office of Policy  
Agency: Mississippi Division of Medicaid  
Address 1: Walter Sillers Building, Suite 1000  
Address 2: 550 High Street  
City: Jackson  
State: Mississippi  
Zip Code: 39201  
Telephone: (601)359-5248  
E-mail: Margaret.Wilson@medicaid.ms.gov  
Fax Number: (601)359-9521

B. If applicable, the State operating agency representative with whom CMS should communicate regarding the waiver is:

First Name: Margaret  
Last Name: Wilson  
Title: Nurse Office Director, Office of Policy  
Agency: Mississippi Division of Medicaid  
Address 1: Walter Sillers Building, Suite 1000  
Address 2: 550 High Street  
City: Jackson  
State: Mississippi  
Zip Code: 39201  
Telephone: (601)359-5248  
E-mail: Margaret.Wilson@medicaid.ms.gov  
Fax Number: (601)359-9521

8. Authorizing Signature

Signature: /S/  
Date: 1/15/2021  
State Medicaid Director or Designee
First Name: Margaret
Last Name: Wilson
Title: Nurse Office Director, Office of Policy
Agency: Mississippi Division of Medicaid
Address 1: Walter Sillers Building, Suite 1000
Address 2: 550 High Street
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