



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

February 23, 2026

Ryan Moran, Director
Trinity Wilson, Medicaid Director
Health Care Authority
PO Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

RE: Washington Flooding Appendix K
Amendments

Dear Director Moran and Director Wilson:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approves Washington's request to amend the following 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K amendments to respond to the emergency related to flooding in Washington state. Please use these control numbers in future correspondence relevant to these waiver actions:

Developmental Disabilities Community Services (DDCS) Waivers	Control Number
Basic Plus Waiver	WA.0409.R04.06
Core Waiver	WA.0410.R04.07
Community Protection Waiver	WA.0411.R04.06
Individual and Family Services	WA.1186.R02.02
Children's Intensive In-Home Behavioral Supports Waiver	WA.40669.R03.05
Home and Community Services (HCS) Waivers	Control Number
COPEs Waiver	WA.0049.R09.02
New Freedom Waiver	WA.0443.R04.02
Residential Supports Waiver	WA.1086.R02.02

Effective December 9, 2025, through November 30, 2026, these amendments add an Appendix K to the waivers to permit the state to allow the following flexibilities for individuals living in counties impacted by the flooding:

For the DDCS waivers, temporarily:

- Extend aggregate budgets limits; funding expansion would not impact cost neutrality;
- Expand settings where direct care services may be provided;
- Allow currently contracted respite providers to provide respite more than 30 days out of state;
- Allow payment for residential habilitation service providers to accompany client(s) to acute care hospitals; and

- Temporarily include retainer payments for residential habilitation.

For the HCS waivers, temporarily

- Modify additional targeting criteria;
- Modify service or scope of coverage for Environmental Modifications, Community Support: Goods and Services, and Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies;
- Replace covered goods or services lost in the flood;
- Expand settings where services may be provided;
- Modify provider qualifications;
- Modify processes for level of care evaluations or re-evaluations; and
- Temporarily include retainer payments to address emergency related issues.

Please find attached the approved Appendix K pages for these waivers 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 Nick Sukachevin at Nickom.Sukachevin@cms.hhs.gov or (206) 615-2416.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Jason McGill, HCA
Rebecca Carrell, HCA
Ann Myers, HCA
Dr. Tonik Joseph, DSHS
Kris Pederson, DSHS
Jamie Bond, DSHS
Ann Vasilev, DSHS
Lonnie Keesee, DSHS
Bob Beckman, DSHS
Bea Rector, DSHS
Jamie Tong, DSHS
Maren Turner, DSHS
Annie Moua, DSHS