

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): 2020-2021 Waiver Cap Exception Guidance for the Person/Family Directed Support and Community Living Waivers ODP Announcement 20-069 UPDATE

AUDIENCE:

All Stakeholders

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this communication is to provide **updated guidance** to Individual Support Planning Teams on the criteria for requesting a cap exception for the Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) and Community Living Waivers. **Updates appear in red.**

DISCUSSION:

On May 11, 2020 the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) published [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2020-2021 Renewal Guidance](#). As individuals begin to participate in activities in the community following the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ODP recognizes that services may not be available at the same capacities and locations as they were prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For instance, Community Participation Support (CPS) facility providers will be expected to operate within new guidelines which may limit their capacity to serve individuals at levels prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. For an individual to receive the support they need, the Individual Support Plan (ISP) may need to be revised. For example, CPS 1:1 may need to be extended or other services may need to be identified to replace CPS 1:1 service.

ODP will **continue** allowing additional P/FDS and Community Living Waiver cap exceptions consistent with the following guidance:

1. CPS facility units may be re-allocated among CPS Facility, CPS Community, In-Home and Community Supports, Companion and/or Respite services

2. The cap exception is needed because of any other change in service as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. All cap exception changes must include documentation of why the impact of COVID-19 resulted in the need for the cap exception.
4. The federal approval to grant COVID-19 related cap exceptions currently expires on March 10, 2021, so absent a further extension, FY 2021-22 individual plans must be within established caps for the P/FDS and Community Living waivers. In preparation for the expiration of the COVID-19 related cap exceptions, teams should meet prior to March of 2021 to discuss plan changes that will be necessary to ensure that FY 2021-22 plans are within established caps for P/FDS and Community Living Waiver.

In order to request a FY 20-21 cap exception as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, please complete the attached template and submit to your **Regional Waiver Capacity Manager**.

Contact

Please direct any questions about this announcement to your respective regional Waiver Capacity Managers:

<p>Central Regional Office William Bruaw wbruaw@pa.gov</p> <p>Counties/Joinders Represented: Adams/York, Bedford/Somerset, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Columbia/Montour/Union/Snyder, Cumberland/Perry, Dauphin, Franklin/Fulton, Huntingdon/Mifflin/Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lycoming/Clinton, Northumberland</p>	<p>Northeast Regional Office Marie Craven mcraven@pa.gov</p> <p>Counties/Joinders Represented: Berks, Bradford/Sullivan, Carbon/Monroe/Pike, Lehigh, Luzerne/Wyoming, Northampton, Schuylkill, Susquehanna/Lackawanna, Tioga, Wayne</p>
<p>Southeast Regional Office Mary Citko mcitko@pa.gov</p> <p>Counties/Joinders Represented: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia</p>	<p>Western Regional Office Michelle Walters miwalters@pa.gov</p> <p>Counties/Joinders Represented: Allegheny, Armstrong/Indiana, Beaver, Butler, Cameron/Elk, Clarion, Clearfield/Jefferson, Crawford, Erie, Fayette, Forest/Warren, Greene, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Potter, Venango, Washington, Westmoreland</p>