Announcement

Availability of ODP Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support Waiver Amendments Effective July 1, 2012, Approved by CMS

ODP Communication Number: Announcement 051-13

The mission of the Office of Developmental Programs is to support Pennsylvanians with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence, choice and opportunity in their lives.

AUDIENCE: Individuals and Families, Administrative Entities (AEs), Supports Coordinators (SCs), SC Supervisors, Supports Coordination Organizations (SCOs), Providers, and other interested parties.

PURPOSE: To inform all interested parties of the approval of the Office of Developmental Programs’ (ODP) Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) Waiver Amendments, Effective July 1, 2012.

DISCUSSION:
As previously stated in Announcement 034-13 Availability of ODP Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support Waiver Amendments Submitted to CMS, ODP submitted amendments for the Consolidated and P/FDS Waivers to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on March 29, 2013, requesting that the amendments be effective retroactively as of July 1, 2012. CMS approved the Waiver amendments on June 12, 2013. The approved amendments are effective July 1, 2012.
The following changes have been made to the Waivers:

**Consolidated Waiver**

Appendix J-2-d-i was updated utilizing the most current data available to align with more current spending estimates. In FY 12/13 the Commonwealth moved many services to a fee schedule that had historically been paid through cost based reimbursement. Using recent actual Waiver paid claims data (through December 2012), ODP is able to now better reflect utilization and costs associated with the new fee schedule rates.

Appendix I-2-a was updated to include the following statement for Outcome-based payment for vendor goods and services, “Outcome-based services must be obtained at the lowest practicable cost using a system of competitive bidding or written estimates or the market price of comparable goods or services available in the provider's region.”

**P/FDS Waiver**

The same changes made in the Consolidated Waiver were made to the P/FDS Waiver with the following additions:

The unduplicated number of individuals was increased in Appendix B-3-a to reflect the number of individuals served in the Waiver through the waiting list initiative. Pennsylvania’s state budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013, was signed into law on Saturday, June 30, 2012. The budget granted ODP additional funding for a waiting list initiative. The waiting list initiative specified that the funding was to be utilized to enroll individuals who are recent high school graduates in the Waiver.

A new reserved capacity category was created in Appendix B-3-c for the waiting list initiative to serve approximately 700 students graduating from special education that are on the waiting list. In accordance with ODP policy as enumerated in Appendix A of the Waiver, any new individual identified for enrollment must be identified as having an emergency need. The students identified for the waiting list initiative would not necessarily meet this criterion which makes it necessary to reserve capacity for them to ensure that they have access to needed waiver capacity. This waiting list initiative was granted through the appropriations bill.

Appendix J-2-d-i was also updated to reflect those individuals served in the Waiver through the waiting list initiative and to align with more current spending estimates utilizing the most current data available.

**Information on the Consolidated and P/FDS Waiver Amendments** can be found on the DPW Website (www.dpw.state.pa.us); Learn about DPW > Waiver Information > Consolidated Waiver for Individuals with Intellectual Disability or Person/Family Directed Support Waiver. Direct links to the Consolidated and P/FDS Waiver Amendments are provided below:
Consolidated Waiver Amendment, Effective July 1, 2012:
http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/ucmprd/groups/webcontent/documents/document/p_011855.pdf

Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) Waiver Amendment, Effective July 1, 2012:
http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/ucmprd/groups/webcontent/documents/webcopy/p_011857.pdf

INQUIRIES:
For inquiries regarding this communication, please contact your ODP Regional Office assigned to your area.