



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

MEMORANDUM

OCDD-R-20-011

DATE: September 29, 2020

TO: OCDD Stakeholders

FROM: Julie Foster Hagan, OCDD Assistant Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Foster Hagan".

SUBJECT: Informational and Listening Session to Discuss the Ending of COVID-19 Exceptions

In response to COVID-19, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) granted the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) specific exceptions to some waiver rules to ensure health and safety, while continuing to offer services to our most vulnerable participants. The exceptions allowed changes to service delivery that included options such as allowing recipients to temporarily live with a worker if necessary, or allowing payment to legally responsible relatives for IFS in-home services on a temporary basis. These exceptions were granted for one year (retroactive to January 2020) and will end January 1, 2021.

OCDD will be holding a virtual meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM for self-advocates and families of waiver recipients to discuss the end of Appendix K waiver exceptions (possible alternative options and opportunities), to answer questions, and solicit feedback. You can submit questions during the meeting via the Zoom chat feature, or email them in advance to OCDDInfo@la.gov. All emailed questions must be received by October 7, 2020. If you email questions in advance please put "October 8th Meeting" in the subject line. We will try to answer as many questions as possible.

You may join the meeting via zoom link at: <https://zoom.us/j/92975274979>.

You may join the meeting via telephone at: 602-333-0032, conference code: 728680.

OCDD remains committed to ensuring health and safety during this difficult time while continuing to engage stakeholders.

CC: Local Governing Entities