

## COVID-19 Appendix K Exceptions Extended

December 23, 2020

The Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) announced the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) extended Louisiana's home and community-based waiver COVID-19 Appendix K exceptions until at least July 2021. The following exceptions have been extended:

- Conversion of vocational program hours in current plan of care to in-home supports
- Additional 20 hours per week of family support due to school closures
- Allowing participants and direct service workers (DSWs) to live in the same household
- Allowing legally responsible relatives, including parents and spouses, to serve as DSWs
- Allowing abbreviated DSW training prior to work
- Allowing suspension of background checks if DSW lives in home with participant
- Hazard pay for individuals working with participants exposed to or infected with COVID-19 per Hazard Pay policy
- Virtual initial, quarterly and annual meetings with Support Coordination
- Extension of current prior authorization beyond the plan of care year without penalty
- Waive 30 day Continuity of Care Provision

For more information, please refer to [OCDD's memorandum](#) issued on December 23, 2020.

### Contact Us

LaDDC News is the electronic newsletter for the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information above, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

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