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Oct. 6, 2023

To: I/DD community members and Tribal partners

From: Anna S. Lansky, Interim Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)

Subject: Children's Extraordinary Needs Waiver public comment period open

The Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) seeks public comment regarding the new 1915 (c) Children's Extraordinary Needs Waiver.

This home and community-based waiver will allow [ODDS to implement Senate Bill 91](#). The bill directs ODDS to seek federal approval for a permanent program to pay parents as caregivers. This program is for minor children assessed to have very high medical or behavioral needs.

If you would like to provide feedback, please read the summary of the proposed waiver below. The full Children's Extraordinary Needs Waiver application is available to [read on the ODDS website](#). To submit comments, follow the directions below. The **deadline to submit comments is Dec. 5, 2023**. OODS hopes to submit the waiver application by Dec. 31.

Summary of proposed waiver

The permanent program will:

- Serve children from birth through age 17 who (1) have significant medical or behavior needs, or a combination of both, and (2) require extraordinary care that is best provided by a legally responsible individual.
 - Children must meet the Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IDD), hospital or nursing facility level of care.
- Preserve a family's capacity to care for their child by allowing for legally responsible individuals to provide paid attendant care to their child.
- Assure the health and safety of the child within the family.
- Help children at risk of entering an institution remain in their family home or, if in an institution, to return home.

The services offered include:

- Attendant care provided by a legally responsible individual

- Waiver case management
- Employment Path services
- Supported employment — individual employment support and small group employment support
- Discovery — career exploration services
- Environmental safety modifications
- Family training — conferences and workshops
- Specialized medical supplies
- Vehicle modifications

Service delivery methods include:

- Serving children in their family home.
- Paid care provided by the legally responsible individual hired as a direct support professional employed by an in-home agency.


Print versions of the waiver amendment are posted in local [community developmental disabilities programs](#) and [support services brokerages](#). To request a print version, contact the ODDS Medicaid waiver and State Plan analyst at 503-507-2083 or odds.info@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

How to submit comments

1. Send an email to odds.info@odhsoha.oregon.gov.
2. Send written comments addressed to ODDS Medicaid waiver/State Plan analyst, 500 Summer Street NE E-09, Salem, OR 97301.

The **deadline to submit is Dec. 5, 2023**. We must receive your mailed comments by this date.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna S. Lansky".

Anna S. Lansky

Interim Director

Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Previous ODDS Director's Messages are available at

<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/agency/Pages/odds.aspx#dm>.

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