



July 6, 2020

To: ODDS Staff, Stakeholders and Providers

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

The Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) remains committed to supporting providers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Last week we learned that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has agreed to consider funding up to three periods of 30-day retainer payments for employment and Day Support Activity providers. Since ODDS has already issued one 30-day period of funds, ODDS is asking CMS for approval for additional two 30-day periods of retainer payments at 75 percent of average billing by individual.

If approved by CMS, ODDS will provide funding up to 75 percent of average billing (as originally outlined in [AR 20-057](#)). It is anticipated these retainer payments will begin July 15, 2020.

Per CMS guidance, in order to receive this funding, the provider must attest to:

- Not lay off any staff during the time period the funds are received, and maintain staff at or above their current wage;
- Continue to deliver services as outlined in the [Employment and DSA Worker Guide](#) and bill for services rendered;
- Notify ODDS of any federal funding received (Paycheck Protection Program loans, CARES act, etc.) including how much and what the funding is for the months of July and August. ODDS must ensure no duplicative federal funding occurs.

In addition, ODDS requires information on staff available to work in in-home or residential settings be shared using the staffing support document, during the contingency funding period.

ODDS is re-submitting a request for CMS approval for these retainer payments and wanted to give providers advance notice so the requirements for this funding can be considered in your planning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a trailing flourish.

Lilia Teninty  
Director  
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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