



This message is posted in English, Русский, Soomaali, Español, 简体中文, Tiếng Việt at <https://go.usa.gov/xtBQC>.

March 14, 2022

To: All ODDS Staff and Partners (CMEs please share with those in your services and their families.)
From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) and Dana Hittle, Interim State Medicaid Director, Oregon Health Authority
Subject: Parents as Paid Caregivers of Minor Children Update

In January 2021, ODDS [requested permission](#) from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to allow parents/guardians of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities with significant support needs to become Personal Support Workers (PSWs) or Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). This option only applies during the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on requests from parents who have benefited from the approval granted under the PHE, ODDS and OHA recently met with CMS administrator to discuss options. These options include a new Medicaid program operated outside of the K plan or nursing services covered in the state's Medicaid plan for parents who meet the qualifications. As with any change to Medicaid or new Medicaid program, these options need to be reviewed and assessed for their budget impact and viability.

While the end date for the federal PHE is now April 16, 2022, indications are that CMS may extend that timeframe again. As soon as we have formal notice one way or the other, ODDS will communicate that so families can plan accordingly.

Sincerely,



Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

*Previous ODDS Director's Messages are available
at [http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-
DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx)*

*Follow us on Facebook @oregonDHS.IDD or twitter @OregonODDS
and [explore our website](#).*

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Oregon Office of Developmental Disabilities Services at 503-945-5811. We accept calls from all forms of relay service for people who are Deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or have a speech disability. For more information about relay service providers visit www.oregonrelay.com or www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/trs-providers.