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Feb. 7, 2022

To: All ODDS Partners & Providers

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

Subject: Federal Public Health Emergency Extended

The federal government has extended the public health emergency, or PHE, for an additional three months – until mid-April 2022. The PHE was originally scheduled to end mid-January 2022.

This means that Oregon will extend its “emergency authorization” for some of the following services connected to the federal PHE:

- Allows some parents/guardians of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to be paid Personal Support Workers (PSWs) and Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) for their minor children. This emergency authorization was granted to Oregon due to the federal PHE and COVID-19 pandemic. ODDS held a [webinar on Dec. 12](#) and answered questions about Oregon’s funding structure and why our rules do not allow us to make this a permanent option. La presentación del seminario web también estará [en español](#).
- Allows for remote Individual Support Plan (ISP) meetings and telehealth.
- Allows the use of electronic or verbal signatures to protect health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ODDS will provide as much notice as possible when we have formal notice of the PHE ending.

Sincerely,



Lilia Teninty  
Director  
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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