Policy Transmittal
Developmental Disabilities Services

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Number: APD-PT-20-023
Issue date: 3/18/2020

Topic: Developmental Disabilities
Due date: 3/18/2020

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):
☐ New policy ☑ Policy change ☐ Policy clarification ☐ Executive letter
☐ Administrative Rule ☐ Manual update ☐ Other:

Applies to (check all that apply):
☐ All DHS employees ☐ County Mental Health Directors
☐ Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type} ☑ Health Services
☐ Aging and People with Disabilities ☑ Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)
☐ Self Sufficiency Programs ☑ ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services
☑ County DD program managers ☑ Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)
☑ Support Service Brokerage Directors ☑ Other (please specify):
☐ ODDS Children’s Residential Services
☐ Child Welfare Programs

Policy/rule title: Policy change in response to statewide school closures
Policy/rule number(s): Governor Brown’s Executive Order 20-03 and 20-05
Release number:
Effective date: Immediately
Expiration date: 3/31/20 or until further guidance is issued
References: Governor Brown’s Executive Orders 20-03 and 20-05
Web address:
Discussion/interpretation:

To slow the spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), Gov. Kate Brown has announced that all K-12 public schools in the state of Oregon will be closed effective Monday, 3/16/20 until at least 4/28/20 3/31/20. In response, the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) will not consider school as a prior resource for the purposes of allocating and utilizing in-home attendant care hours through the end of August 2020. This means that all children under 18 receiving in-home supports who would otherwise be attending school can access, if the need arises, the summer hours identified in their current Child Needs Assessment (CNA) for the duration of the statewide school closure. For all school aged individuals, during the closure, attendant care hours may be utilized at any time of day, based on individual need. There are no other changes to policy related to children at this time. These changes will continue to apply for the duration of the statewide school closure, should it be extended beyond 3/31/20. Additional guidance will be provided as needed should the situation change.

Implementation/transition instructions:

ISP change forms will not be required to increase current authorizations due to this temporary policy change. PSW service agreements also do not need to be updated, but case management entities (CMEs) are expected to document that PSWs and employers have been made aware of changes via email, phone call, letter, or other secure means, and that these changes are limited to the duration of the current statewide school closure. It is not adequate that employers be tasked with notifying PSWs, the CME must inform the PSWs.

Plans of Care in eXPRS will need to be updated individually at the CME. March service levels do not need to be pro-rated. It is not mandatory to make these updates for all children, but rather only for those whose needs exceed the currently authorized service level.

Training/communication plan: Weekly (Wednesday, 11am) webinars with ODDS and CMEs

Local/branch action required: Review with Services Coordinators, providers, and ISP teams as appropriate for individual situations.

Central office action required:

Field/stakeholder review: ☐ Yes ☑ No
If yes, reviewed by:

Filing instructions:

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

Contact(s): ODDS COVID-19 Team

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Fax: 

Email: ODDS.Fieldliaison@dhsoha.state.or.us