

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

P.O. Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570 Phone: 573-751-6400 FAX: 573-751-6010 RELAY MISSOURI for Hearing and Speech Impaired: 1-800-735-2466 VOICE: 1-866-735-2460



Michael L. Parson Governor

Don Kauerauf Director

INFO 01-22-01

January 3, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES PROVIDERS

Melanie Highland

FROM: Melanie Highland, Division Director

Division of Senior and Disability Services

SUBJECT: COVID-19 State of Emergency Termination

Per Governor Parson's <u>announcement</u>, the COVID-19 State of Emergency ended December 31, 2021 terminating all statutory and regulatory state flexibilities. A full list of terminated flexibilities have been outlined in the <u>COVID Flexibility Authority Chart</u>. Additional updated guidance can also be found on the <u>COVID-19 HCBS Provider Information page</u>.

Effective today, all DSDS assessors and provider reassessors shall resume (re)assessments in person. Providers should closely evaluate their current assessment list and return them as soon as they are aware they cannot meet the required completion date to ensure continuity of care plan authorization.

All training and orientation flexibilities have also expired. DSDS is working closely with Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance (MMAC) and the Office of General Counsel to explore transition options. Further information is forthcoming regarding this transition.

DSDS will be seeking further clarification from the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) regarding the termination of the state family member caregiver flexibility for Agency Model participants. At this time, family members may continue as the caregiver under the federal flexibility until further information is provided.

As a reminder the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) is set to expire January 16, 2022. The Appendix K waiver flexibilities shall expire no later than 6 months post the termination of the PHE. The COVID Flexibility Authority Chart outlines all flexibilities still in place under these authorities.

More information will be released as we are made aware. We appreciate your patience. Questions regarding this memo and COVID flexibilities should be sent the Bureau of Long Term Services and Supports at LTSS@health.mo.gov. Please do not contact the Intake and Person Centered Care Planning lines with questions. Reminder these lines are reserved for participants and families requesting referrals and care planning.

MH

www.health.mo.gov