



# DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS BULLETIN

## COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

DATE OF ISSUE  
**July 9, 2009**

EFFECTIVE DATE  
**July 1, 2009**

NUMBER  
**00-09-04**

SUBJECT:

**Consolidated Waiver Service Definition  
Amendment Effective July 1, 2009**

BY:

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Deputy Secretary for Developmental Programs

### SCOPE:

Administrative Entity Administrators or Directors  
Supports Coordination Organization Directors  
Providers of Consolidated Waiver Services

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to transmit the Office of Developmental Programs' (ODP) approved Consolidated Waiver Service Definition Amendment, effective July 1, 2009. All Administrative Entities, Supports Coordination Organizations, and other providers of Consolidated Waiver services must comply with the requirements and procedures outlined in the approved Consolidated Waiver amendment.

### BACKGROUND:

Home and Community-Based Waiver services provided under Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, with the exception of new Waivers, are approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for a five-year period. New Waivers are approved for an initial three-year period. The CMS renewal of Waivers is based on the satisfactory performance of Waiver operations during the prior approval period, a written application that outlines the design of the Waiver in a manner consistent with federal regulations, and assurances by the state that federal Waiver requirements will be met.

### DISCUSSION:

The Consolidated Waiver was approved by CMS for a five-year period that began on December 23, 2006. In March of 2007, ODP submitted an amendment to CMS to align the renewal dates of the Consolidated Waiver to the State Fiscal Year. CMS approved ODP's application to amend the Consolidated Waiver, for a five-year period on April 16, 2006, with an effective date of July 1, 2007. Since that time ODP requested an additional amendment to the Consolidated Waiver which was approved by CMS on August 8, 2008, with an effective date of July 1, 2009 as per the attached letter from CMS to Estelle B. Richman, Secretary of Public Welfare. The attached approved amendment to the Consolidated Waiver establishes the design, policies, procedures,

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

**The Appropriate Developmental Programs Regional Office**

and requirements for the provision of the Consolidated Waiver and services during the renewal period effective July 1, 2009.

The primary purpose of the amendment was to revise the service definitions to more clearly outline the scope and when applicable, the limits of the service. The revised service definitions will also support the implementation of a consistent reimbursement methodology for waiver services.

The approved July 1, 2009, Consolidated Waiver amendment includes the role of the Administrative Entities that are responsible for many day-to-day Waiver operations. Please refer to Appendix A of the Consolidated Waiver for details on these responsibilities. Additional details are incorporated into the Administrative Entity Operating Agreement, which has been executed between ODP and each Administrative Entity.

Any future amendments to the Consolidated Waiver, that are approved by CMS, will be distributed under the ODP bulletin format. Administrative Entities, Supports Coordination Organizations, and other Consolidated Waiver providers are responsible for instituting changes necessitated by such amendments.

All Administrative Entities must retain a copy of the approved Consolidated Waiver, and any future amendments, for the duration of the renewal period. Supports Coordination Organizations and other Consolidated Waiver providers should also retain a copy of the Consolidated Waiver, and any future amendments, during the renewal period.

**OBSOLETE BULLETINS:**

Bulletin 00-08-09: *Approved Consolidated Waiver Fiscal Year Amendment*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

CMS approval letter to Secretary Richman  
Approved Consolidated Waiver Amendment