

## **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): 2020-2021 Waivers Cap Exceptions Guidance for the Person/Family Directed Support and Community Living Waivers ODP Announcement 20-069**

### **AUDIENCE:**

All Stakeholders

### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this communication is to provide additional guidance to Individual Support Planning Teams on the criteria for requesting a cap exception for the Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) and Community Living Waivers.

### **DISCUSSION:**

On May 11, 2020 the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) published [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2020-2021 Renewal Guidance](#). As individuals begin to participate in activities in the community following the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ODP recognizes that services may not be available at the same capacities and locations as they were prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For instance, CPS facility providers will be expected to operate within new guidelines which may limit their capacity to serve individuals at levels prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. In order for an individual to receive the support the individual needs, the Individual Support Plan may need to be revised. For example, CPS 1:1 may need to be extended or other services may be identified to replace CPS 1:1 services.

In recognition of this, ODP will be allowing additional P/FDS and Community Living Waiver cap exceptions consistent with the following guidance:

1. CPS facility units may be re-allocated among CPS Facility, CPS Community, In-Home and Community Supports, Companion and/or Respite services as long as the total number of units does not exceed the number of units authorized before the COVID-

19 pandemic. If this change alone causes an individual to exceed the waiver cap, an exception will be granted.

2. The federal approval to grant COVID-related cap exceptions currently expires on March 10, 2021, so absent a further extension, it will be necessary to bring FY 21-22 ISP’s back within the approved waiver caps.
3. In order to request a FY 20-21 cap exception as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, please complete the attached template and submit to your Regional Program Manager.

**Contact**

Please direct any questions about this announcement to your respective regional offices:

<p><b>Central Regional Office</b>  <b>William Bruaw – <a href="mailto:wbruaw@pa.gov">wbruaw@pa.gov</a></b></p> <p><b>Counties/Joinders Represented:</b>          Adams/York, Bedford/Somerset, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Columbia/Montour/Union/Snyder, Cumberland/Perry, Dauphin, Franklin/Fulton, Huntingdon/Mifflin/Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lycoming/Clinton, Northumberland</p>	<p><b>Northeast Regional Office</b>  <b>Marie Craven - <a href="mailto:mcraven@pa.gov">mcraven@pa.gov</a></b></p> <p><b>Counties/Joinders Represented:</b>          Berks, Bradford/Sullivan, Carbon/Monroe/Pike, Lehigh, Luzerne/Wyoming, Northampton, Schuylkill, Susquehanna/Lackawanna, Tioga, Wayne</p>
<p><b>Southeast Regional Office</b>  <b>Mary Citko - <a href="mailto:mcitko@pa.gov">mcitko@pa.gov</a></b></p> <p><b>Counties/Joinders Represented:</b> Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia</p>	<p><b>Western Regional Office</b>  <b>Michelle Walters - <a href="mailto:miwalters@pa.gov">miwalters@pa.gov</a></b></p> <p><b>Counties/Joinders Represented:</b> Allegheny, Armstrong/Indiana, Beaver, Butler, Cameron/Elk, Clarion, Clearfield/Jefferson, Crawford, Erie, Fayette, Forest/Warren, Greene, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Potter, Venango, Washington, Westmoreland</p>

**Attachment:**

- Revised Cap Exception Request Template