



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION**

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In reply, please refer to:  
File:

Medicaid I/DD Waiver  
Memo No.: FY2022-01  
Date: July 2, 2021

**TO:** Medicaid I/DD Waiver Providers

**FROM:** Mary Brogan, Administrator  
Developmental Disabilities Division

**SUBJECT:** Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) Check-in on Resuming  
Services as Community Conditions Due to COVID-19 Improve

Although as of this date some COVID-19 restrictions are still in place for Hawaii, conditions in our communities have continued to improve, and businesses and allowable activities have become more accessible. Based on this trend, an increasing number of DDD participants may be interested in resuming services. We have received several questions from providers regarding the DDD Services Reopening Guidance that was issued on October 14, 2020. The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify the guidance on service delivery.

The DDD Services Reopening Guidance from October 2020, reflecting the community conditions and federal, state and county guidelines that were in place at that time, was issued to ensure safety for the population we serve. It created three requirements and provided guidance to ensure the readiness for each DDD agency and setting to provide services safely. There were three requirements:

- Requirement 1: Have a DDD-accepted Provider Self-Assessment
- Requirement 2: Assess Health and Risk Criteria for each setting and participant, in partnership with DDD Case Managers
- Requirement 3: Integrate safe practices into services and settings as reflected in CDC and State guidance

Since the time of the release of federally approved COVID-19 vaccines in mid-December 2020, Hawaii's communities have witnessed a consistent downward trajectory in new cases. We truly appreciate the work each of your agencies dedicated to reviewing and tracking the various information sources during this time. But most of

all, we are extremely grateful for all the work you and your staff have done to keep people safe and support their wellbeing. Thank you for the many hours you have spent in implementing your individual provider Self-Assessment Preparedness Tools and Emergency Preparedness Plans, and mahalo to those that worked with DDD's COVID-19 Rapid Response Team. Your efforts have undoubtedly contributed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of participants, staff and our communities during this time. There have been losses and deep impacts throughout the state. One positive outcome has been as a result of your collective efforts, we saw minimal numbers of our participants, their families and caregivers contracting or having serious effects from COVID-19 as compared to other states.

The core things to align with at this time are:

- As was stated in the guidance issued on October 14, 2020, please continue to monitor and assess community conditions and follow Federal, State and County advisories and guidelines as well as applicable procedures as reflected in your Self-Assessment Preparedness Tools and Emergency Preparedness Plans. Resources listed at the end of this memo have been provided for your reference.  
  
Please note that the October 2020 guidance was reflective of conditions of that time. Parts of the guidance provided in October may no longer be applicable as community conditions change. Check with CDC and other resources about what guidance may have been updated.
- If your agency's COVID-19 Provider Self-Assessment Preparedness Tool has not yet been accepted by the DDD, please continue to work on any necessary revisions and submit your completed tool. Note that a DDD-accepted self-assessment is needed before your agency resumes group day services.
- DDD supports all participants in their choices about when and how to engage in community activities and resume services. Please continue to work with each participant, their case manager, and circle of supports through person-centered discussions and their planning processes, as choices be made based on the individual's unique circumstance and preferences.
- As a reminder, the flexibilities allowed in the 1915(C) Appendix K will continue to be available until six (6) months after the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19. They continue to be available for participants who may choose to receive services under the allowed Appendix K flexibilities. All indications are that the federal government will extend the PHE though the end of December 2021.

Thank you again for all your efforts. If you have any questions, please email the Community Resources Branch at [doh.dddcrb@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:doh.dddcrb@doh.hawaii.gov) or call (808) 733-2135.

Resources:

- Governor's Emergency Proclamations:  
<https://governor.hawaii.gov/emergency-proclamations/>
  - Kaua'i County:  
<https://www.kauai.gov/Government/Departments-Agencies/Emergency-Management-Agency-formerly-Civil-Defense/Emergency-Proclamations>
  - Honolulu County:  
<http://www.honolulu.gov/mayor/proclamations-orders-and-rules.html>  
<https://www.oneoahu.org/reopening-strategy>
  - Maui County:  
<https://www.mauicounty.gov/2370/COVID-19-Coronavirus-Information>
  - Hawai'i County:  
<https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/departments/civil-defense/active-emergency-proclamations>
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-developmental-disabilities.html>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>
- c: Jon Fujii, DHS-MQD  
DDD Management Team