

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

October 8, 2026

Tyler Sadwith, State Medicaid Director and Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs
California Department of Health Care Services
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

RE: California's HCBS Waiver for Individuals with I/DD (CA 0336.R05.28) amendment

Dear Director Sadwith:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving your request to amend the HCBS Waiver for Individuals with I/DD. The CMS Control Number for the amendment is CA 0336.R05.28. Please use this number in future correspondence relevant to this waiver action.

With this amendment, the state is making final adjustments to rates based on rate reform legislation, adding a new provider type for Communication Aides, adding supplemental payments for excess mileage, and adding a new service called Remote Support Services. The effective date of the amendment is October 8, 2026.

The waiver continues to be cost-neutral. The average per capita cost of waiver services estimates (Appendix J.1) have been approved.

This approval is subject to your agreement to serve no more individuals than the total number of unduplicated participants indicated in Appendix J.2 of the waiver. If the state wishes to serve more individuals or make any other alterations to this waiver, an amendment must be submitted for approval.

Pursuant to section 1902(a)(30)(A) and 1902(a)(64) of the Act, states are responsible for following all applicable federal law and regulations when they claim and use federal Medicaid funds and must fully comply with all applicable Medicaid statutes and regulations. States must maintain effective systems and safeguards to prevent, detect, and address any fraud, waste, or abuse in the delivery of and payment for Medicaid services, including referrals to law enforcement when appropriate. States should have heightened monitoring and oversight mechanisms in place featuring robust internal controls to identify and remediate all vulnerabilities.

It is important to note that CMS' approval of this waiver amendment solely addresses the state's compliance with the applicable Medicaid authorities. CMS' approval does not address the state's independent and separate obligations under federal laws including, but not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, or the Supreme Court's Olmstead decision.

Approval of this waiver action does not constitute confirmation by CMS that the state has fully expended federal funds attributable to the increased FMAP available under section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Thank you for your cooperation during the review process. If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact me at (410) 786-7561. You may also contact Alice Hogan at Alice.Hogan@cms.hhs.gov or (404) 562-7432.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

George P. Failla, Jr., Director
Division of HCBS Operations and Oversight

cc: Nikki Lemon, CMS
Deanna Clark, CMS