

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**

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January 17, 2025

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

RE: CA 0431.R04.03 Appendix K Amendments

Dear Director Sadwith:

We are writing to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving California's request to amend the Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver to add an Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in response to the Palisades Fire. The CMS Control Number for the amendment is CA.0431.R04.03. Please use this number in future correspondence relevant to this waiver action.

Effective January 7, 2025 through January 7, 2026, this amendment adds an Appendix K to the waiver to allow the state to temporarily allow Assisted Living Services and Residential Habilitation services to be provided in alternate settings and designated evacuation centers, such as hotels, shelters, schools, churches, campgrounds, convention centers, etc. Retainer payments are authorized for the following services: Residential Habilitation and Assisted Living Services (Homemaker, Home Health Aide & Personal Care). Additionally, the amendment authorizes a temporary extension of the 31–60-day re-enrollment period for participants who are unable to return to their assisted living facility because of the Southern California Fires State of Emergency, ensuring they are not dis-enrolled because of the emergency. The flexibilities authorized under this amendment apply to waiver participants impacted by the Palisades Fire in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

We have included the approved Appendix K pages for this waiver with this correspondence. Please utilize the waiver management system for HCBS waivers for any further amendments to these waiver programs other than Appendix K. 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 Lisa Amaro-Rife at [Lisa.Amaro-Rife@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Lisa.Amaro-Rife@cms.hhs.gov) or (214) 767-2506.

Sincerely,

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

Digitally signed by George  
P. Failla Jr -S  
Date: 2025.01.17  
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Enclosure

cc: Courtney Miller, MCOG  
Barbara Richards, MCOG  
Curtis Cunningham, MBHPG/DLTSS