

Jan. 22, 2021

## MEDICAID ALERT

**TO: All Providers**

**SUBJECT: Approval of South Carolina's Appendix K Extension Request**

As part of the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' (SCDHHS) ongoing response to the state and federal states of emergency related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), SCDHHS submitted a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to extend the Appendix K flexibilities for home and community-based waivers that were approved on [April 21](#) and [Sept. 22](#), 2020. The request was approved by CMS on Jan. 15, 2021, and will extend the anticipated end date of the previously approved flexibilities to no later than six months after the expiration of the federal public health emergency, unless SCDHHS determines they should sunset at an earlier date.

The [extension request](#), CMS' [approval letter](#) and more information on the previously announced flexibilities that are being extended, are available for review on [SCDHHS' COVID-19 webpage](#). Affected waivers include:

- Intellectually Disabled and Related Disabilities (ID/RD);
- Community Supports (CS);
- Head and Spinal Cord Injury (HASCI);
- Community Choices (CC);
- HIV/AIDS;
- Mechanical Ventilator Dependent (VENT); and,
- Medically Complex Children (MCC).

The extension request applies in all locations served by the individual waivers for anyone impacted by COVID-19. The extension does not affect which providers are eligible to receive temporary retainer payments, however, it does extend the period of time in which providers may apply for temporary retainer payments. Providers that have already applied for temporary retainer payments do not need to reapply. SCDHHS is not initiating new payments for providers that have already received retainer payments. Updated guidance on temporary retainer payments, including updated attestation forms is available through the [guidance issued on Dec. 16, 2020](#). Providers should submit questions specific to these payments to [AppendixK@scdhhs.gov](mailto:AppendixK@scdhhs.gov).

Additional COVID-19-related provider resources, including updated responses to frequently asked questions, are available online at [www.scdhhs.gov/COVID19](http://www.scdhhs.gov/COVID19). Questions about the information contained in this alert or other matters relating to SCDHHS' response to the COVID-19 emergency can be directed to [COVID@scdhhs.gov](mailto:COVID@scdhhs.gov).

Thank you for your continued support of the South Carolina Healthy Connections Medicaid program.