

Aug. 12, 2022

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Mechanical Ventilator Dependent Waiver Renewal

South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) gives notice that it intends to file a waiver renewal with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Mechanical Ventilator Dependent (SC.40181) Home and Community-based Services (HCBS) waiver operated through the Bureau of Policy. The proposed effective date of this waiver is Dec. 1, 2022.

Following is a summary of changes included in the proposed waiver renewal:

1. Section Main 1-G: 1932(a) state plan benefit operating authority de-selected and replaced with §1915(a)(1)(a) option to align with operation of the Medicaid management plan.
2. Section B-6-h: added certified geriatric case managers and certified case managers to the list of qualified individuals capable of performing level of care re-evaluations.
3. Section C-1 (a): modified service definitions to align with internal scopes of service and waivers across the agency. Updated frequency of validating provider qualifications. Added taxonomy codes.
4. Section C-1 (a): itemized waiver services (remove grouping) so that services are easily identified, and federal reporting requirements are met.
5. Section C-1 (a): transfer shower bench (regular and bariatric), shower chair (regular and bariatric), and raised toilet seat (regular and bariatric) have been transitioned from the specialized medical equipment and supplies service to the mandatory home health state plan benefit and removed from the waiver, as they otherwise constitute a duplication of services.
6. Section C-2 (b): added Certified Nurse Aide Registry information to the “Abuse Registry Screening” section.
7. Section G-1 (b): added “infectious disease outbreak” and “elopements” to the list of critical incidents.
8. Section I-3-g-iii: added text aligning this response with selection of the 1915(a)(1)(a) option indicated in Main 1-G.

Current waiver participants will not be adversely impacted.

### **Communication:**

On July 27, 2022, these changes to the waivers were shared during the monthly Indian Health Services conference call. On Aug. 9, 2022, these changes to the waivers will be presented to SCDHHS’ Medical Care Advisory Committee at 1801 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

In addition, information regarding the proposed changes in the renewals will be shared with the public during the following webinars:

Webinars: **Mechanical Ventilator Dependent Waiver Renewal**

Monday, Aug. 15, 3 p.m.

Registration Link:

<https://scdhhs.webex.com/scdhhs/j.php?RGID=r79559a20b7852d16bbbc69c6908f3f46>

**Mechanical Ventilator Dependent Waiver Renewal**

Monday, Aug. 22, 10:00 a.m.

Registration Link:

<https://scdhhs.webex.com/scdhhs/j.php?RGID=r89af60385f7c48c7b8c155e35cb2a2fa>

Copies of this notice and the Mechanical Ventilator Dependent waiver application are available for review at the following locations:

1. Electronic Access: [www.scdhhs.gov](http://www.scdhhs.gov) (under “Public Notice” and “Waiver” sections)
2. Hard Copies:
  - a. SCDHHS Central Office Lobby: 1801 Main Street, Columbia, SC, 29201
  - b. SCDHHS CLTC Regional Offices:

Greenville CLTC

620 North Main Street, Suite 301  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601

Florence CLTC

2701 Alex Lee Boulevard, Suite 200  
Florence, South Carolina 29506

Spartanburg CLTC

101 North Pine Street, Suite 405  
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29302

Conway CLTC

1201 Creel Street  
Conway, South Carolina 29527

Greenwood CLTC

617 South Main Street  
Greenwood, South Carolina 29646

Charleston CLTC

4130 Faber Place Drive, Suite 303  
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

Rock Hill CLTC

454 South Anderson Road, Suite 11  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

Anderson CLTC

3215 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard,  
Suite H  
Anderson, South Carolina 29625

Columbia CLTC

300 Arbor Lake Drive, Suite 900  
Columbia, South Carolina 29223

Aiken CLTC

2361 S. Centennial Avenue  
Building 2, Suite B  
Aiken, South Carolina 29803

Orangeburg CLTC

191 Regional Parkway, Building A  
Orangeburg, South Carolina 29118

Sumter CLTC  
30 Wesmark Court  
Sumter, South Carolina 29150

Ridgeland CLTC  
10175 South Jacob Smart Boulevard  
Ridgeland, South Carolina 29936

**Public Comments and Responses:**

If you have a question or comment, please send it to the following mail or email address prior to Sept. 12, 2022:

Email: [comments@scdhhs.gov](mailto:comments@scdhhs.gov)

Mail: Attention: Mark Collins  
Office of Waiver and Facility Services  
South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Post Office Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Any written comments submitted may be reviewed by the public at SCDHHS, Division of Health Programs, 1801 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Robert M. Kerr  
Director

## Notice of Non-Discrimination

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. SCDHHS does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

SCDHHS provides free aids and services to people with disabilities, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats (large print, braille, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats). We provide free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. If you need these services, please contact the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)/Civil Rights Official by mail at: PO Box 8206, Columbia, SC 29202-8206, by phone at: 1-888-549-0820 (TTY: 1-888-842-3620), or by email at: [civilrights@scdhhs.gov](mailto:civilrights@scdhhs.gov).

If you believe SCDHHS has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with the Civil Rights Official using the contact information provided above. You can file a grievance in person, by mail, or via email. If you need help filing a grievance, we are available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf> or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201 or by phone at: 800-368- 1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.