OPWDD COVID-19 Program Flexibilities

Supervised Individualized Residential Alternative (IRA) Residential Habilitation, Day Habilitation, Community Habilitation, Site-Based Prevocational Services Providers and Community-Based Prevocational Services Providers

Temporary Modifications to the Service System for All Day Habilitation and Site- Based Prevocational Services	Sunsets on	Continues after
	10/14/20	10/14/20
Remote telehealth service delivery		✓
Modified service definition and limits to allow for services in the person's		
private home, family home, provider-owned or controlled, certified or		✓
uncertified residential setting, out-of-state, or any other emergency residential setting (e.g., hotel)		
Life Plan service and support changes prompted by the public health		
emergency, including changes to the amount, duration, and scope of any		✓
service, must be updated in the Life Plan as soon as possible, but no later than		
60 days after the approval of the service or change. Corresponding Staff Action		
Plans must also be updated, but timelines have been waived until 60 days		
following the cessation of the public health emergency		
Services may be provided in out-of-state locations, if necessary, for the safety		✓
of the individual and in accordance with the waiver service definition and the		
person's Life Plan		

Temporary Program Day Duration for All Day Habilitation and Site-Based Prevocational Services	Sunsets on 10/14/20	Continues after 10/14/20
 For all providers in all areas of the State, the program day duration includes: Face-to-face service time Time when staff are engaged with the person using remote telehealth service delivery 		✓
Mealtimes included		
 For all providers in all areas of the State: A full unit of service may be billed when program day duration is at least 2 hours A half unit of service may be billed when program day duration is at least 1 hour 	✓	
For programs subject to mandated closures or non-mandated COVID-related closures: • A full unit of service may be billed when program day duration is at least 2 hours • A half unit of service may be billed when program day duration is at least 1 hour		√
For mandated closures (in areas of the State with mandated program closures or for program closures under the orders of the local public health agency), there is no limit on the use of reduced program day duration. For non-mandated closures, the use of reduced program day duration cannot exceed 14 days. Longer durations of flexibilities (beyond 14 days) would occur only if there is a subsequent designation of the region as being subject to closure or another period of quarantine is deemed necessary		

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Group Community Habilitation – Residential (Group CH-R)	Sunsets on 10/14/20	Continues after 10/14/20
 Supervised IRA providers may continue to deliver and bill eMedNY for Group CH-R for IRA residents who, prior to the public health emergency, participated in Day Habilitation or Prevocational Services delivered by a different provider 		✓

Community Habilitation and Community Based Prevocational Services	Sunsets on 10/14/20	Continues after 10/14/20
Remote telehealth and/or face-to-face service delivery		✓
 Allowance for people who live in a certified residence with less than 24- hour staffing to receive Community Habilitation services in the residence 		✓
 Services may be provided in out-of-state locations, if necessary, for the safety of the individual and in accordance with the waiver service definition and the person's Life Plan. Services must be delivered in the same scope, frequency, and duration, as described in the person's Community Habilitation Staff Action Plan 		*
 Flexibilities described in the section of interim "Delivering Services and Maintaining Social Distancing:" During the state of emergency,providers may provide and bill Medicaid for services that support the person, while maintaining social distancing. For example,staff may deliver groceries or other supplies, or assist with necessary outdoor household chores. For these types of services, the time that staff spend traveling to the person's home, running the errand, and returning to the worker's home, may be billed. Originally authorized in the Interim COVID-19 guidance for the applicable service. 	✓	