

PART III

CHAPTERS 1300 – 3300

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
FOR
NEW OPTIONS WAIVER PROGRAM (NOW)
FORMERLY MENTAL RETARDATION WAIVER
PROGRAM SERVICES**



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

DIVISION OF MEDICAID

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07/1/2019	Appendix A Reimbursement Rates for NOW Services	Modified language to align manual with waiver. Provided clarifying language regarding Supported Employment rates.	M	NOW Policy Manual and NOW Waiver alignment

**PART III, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
FOR
NEW OPTIONS WAIVER PROGRAM (NOW)**

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PART III - CHAPTER 1300

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR ADULT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1301 General

Adult Occupational Therapy Services are evaluation and therapeutic services that are not otherwise covered by Medicaid State Plan services. These services address the occupational therapy needs of the adult participant that result from his or her developmental disability. Adult Occupational Therapy Services include occupational therapy evaluation, participant/family education, occupational therapy activities to improve functional performance, and sensory integrative techniques to enhance sensory processing and promote adaptive responses to environmental demands.

Adult Occupational Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed occupational therapist and by order of a physician. These services may be provided in a participant's own or family home, the Occupational Therapist's office, outpatient clinics, facilities in which Community Access or Prevocational Services are provided, Supported Employment work sites, or other community settings specific to community-based therapy goals specified in the Individual Service Plan. Adult Occupational Therapy Services may not be provided to participants receiving Community Residential Alternative Services in the Comprehensive Supports Waiver.

1302 Special Requirements of Participation

1302.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Adult Occupational Therapy Services providers must meet the following requirements:

1. **Service Provision:** Adult Occupational Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed occupational therapist and by order of a physician. Physician orders must be on letterhead or as a prescription from the physician and must indicate either the frequency of OT therapy services or an OT evaluation to determine the frequency of OT therapy services.

2. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Occupational Therapy Services:

a. Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;

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- b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - c. Location where the service was delivered;
 - d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
 - f. Adult Occupational Therapy Providers must maintain documentation for the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies.
3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
 4. **Adult Occupational Therapy Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities:**
Providers can provide Adult Occupational Therapy Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

1302.2

Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Adult Occupational Therapy Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

1. **Service Provision:** Adult Occupational Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed occupational therapist and by order of a physician. Physician orders must be on letterhead or as a prescription from the physician and must indicate either the frequency of OT therapy services or an OT evaluation to determine the frequency of OT therapy services.
2. **Types of Agencies:** Agencies that provide Adult Occupational Therapy Services are:

- a. Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies;

- b. Home Health Agencies.

3. Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities:

- a. **Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies** rendering Adult Occupational Therapy Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

- 1) A designated agency director who must:

- Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or

- 2) Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:

- Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
- Manages the use of agency funds;
- Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
- Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
- Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.

- 3) Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees or professionals under contract that are Georgia licensed occupational therapists to provide Adult Occupational Therapy Services as specified in the Individual Service Plans of participants served.

- Duties of the occupational therapists include all covered services in Section 1306.

- b. **Home Health Agencies** rendering Adult Occupational Therapy Services must have staffing that meets the conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for Home Health Services.

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4. **Agency Policies and Procedures:** Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Adult Occupational Therapy services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, set forth in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*.
5. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Occupational Therapy Services:
 - a. Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - c. Location where the service was delivered;
 - d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
 - f. Adult Occupational Therapy Providers must maintain documentation for the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies.
6. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
7. **Adult Occupational Therapy Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities:** Providers can provide Adult Occupational Therapy Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple waiver services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.
8. **Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards:** Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*.)

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1303 Licensure

- A. Adult Occupational Therapy Services are provided by a licensed Occupational Therapist in accordance with the applicable Georgia license as required under OCGA Title 43-28-1.
- B. Home Health Agencies providing Adult Occupational Therapy services must have a Home Health Agency License (State of Georgia Rules and Regulations 290-5-38)

1304 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. Adult Occupational Therapy Services are not available until the waiver participant's 21st birthday.
- B. The need for Adult Occupational Therapy Services must be reflected in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).
- C. There is a reasonable expectation by the licensed occupational therapist that the participant can achieve the goals in the necessary time frame.
- D. All services must be ordered by a physician.

1305 Prior Approval

Adult Occupational Therapy Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the operating agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions. The need for Adult Occupational Therapy must be an identifiable assessed need in the ISP and directly related to the disability.

1306 Covered Services

Reimbursable Adult Occupational Therapy Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

- 1. Occupational therapy evaluation.
- 2. Therapeutic activities to improve functional performance.
- 3. Sensory integrative techniques to enhance sensory processing and promote adaptive responses to environmental demands.
- 4. Participant/family education.

1307 Non-Covered Services

1. Services that duplicate any family education or training provided through Natural Supports Training (NST) Services.
2. Services that occur simultaneously or on the same day as NST Services.
3. Adult Occupational Therapy Services do not include in-home therapeutic services for the treatment of an illness or injury that are covered in Home Health Services under the regular Medicaid State Plan.
4. Transportation to and from these services is not included in the rate.
5. Group Therapy Activities.
6. Not covered for conditions not related to DD diagnosis.
7. Services that have not been ordered by a physician.
8. Services in a hospital.
9. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

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1308 Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rates for Adult Occupational Therapy Services are found in Appendix A.

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The rate cannot exceed the established Medicaid rates and limits for the Children Intervention Services Program.

1309 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction option with Adult Occupational Therapy Services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Adult Occupational Therapy Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 1400

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR ADULT PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1401 General

Adult Physical Therapy Services are evaluation and therapeutic services that are not otherwise covered by Medicaid State Plan services. These services address the physical therapy needs of the adult participant that result from his or her developmental disability. Adult Physical Therapy Services include physical therapy evaluation, participant/family education, and therapeutic exercises to develop sitting and standing balance, strength and endurance, and range of motion and flexibility. Adult Physical Therapy Services also consist of muscle strengthening and endurance to facilitate transfers from wheelchairs and the use of other equipment.

Adult Physical Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed physical therapist and by order of a physician. These services may be provided in a participant's own or family home, the Physical Therapist's office, outpatient clinics, facilities in which Community Access or Prevocational Services are provided, Supported Employment work sites, or other community settings specific to community-based therapy goals specified in the Individual Service Plan.

1402 Special Requirements of Participation

1402.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Adult Physical Therapy Services providers must meet the following requirements:

Rev. 07 2010

1. **Service Provision:** Adult Physical Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed physical therapist and by order of a physician. Physician orders must be on letterhead or as a prescription from the physician and must indicate either the

frequency of PT therapy services or a PT evaluation to determine the frequency of PT therapy services.

2. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Physical Therapy Services:

- a. Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;
- b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
- e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
- f. Adult Physical Therapy providers maintain documentation for: the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies.

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3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

4. **Adult Physical Therapy Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities:** Providers can provide Adult Physical Therapy Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple waiver services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Adult Physical Therapy Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

Rev. 07 2010

1. **Service Provision:** Adult Physical Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed physical therapist and by order of a physician. Physician orders must be on letterhead or as a prescription from the physician and must indicate either the frequency of PT therapy services or a PT evaluation to determine the frequency of PT therapy services.
2. **Types of Agencies:** Agencies that provide Adult Physical Therapy Services are:
 - a. Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies;
 - b. Home Health Agencies.

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3. **Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities:**
 - a. **Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies** rendering Adult Physical Therapy Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:
 - 1) A designated agency director who must:
 - Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - 2) Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:

- Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
 - Manages the use of agency funds;
 - Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
 - Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
 - Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.
- 3) Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees or professionals under contract that are Georgia licensed physical therapists to provide Adult Physical Therapy Services as specified in the Individual Service Plans of participants served.
- 4) Duties of the physical therapists include all covered services in Section 1406.
- b. **Home Health Agencies** rendering Adult Physical Therapy Services must have staffing that meets the conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for Home Health Services.
4. **Agency Policies and Procedures:** Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Adult Physical Therapy services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).
5. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Physical Therapy Services:
- a. Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;

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- c. Location where the service was delivered;
 - d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
 - f. Adult Physical Therapy providers maintain documentation for: the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies.
6. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
7. **Adult Physical Therapy Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities:** Providers can provide Adult Physical Therapy Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.
8. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards:** Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (refer to *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*).

1403 Licensure

- A. Adult Physical Therapy Services are provided by a licensed Physical Therapist in accordance with the applicable Georgia license as required under OCGA Title 43-33-1.

- B. Home Health Agencies providing Adult Physical Therapy services must have a Home Health Agency License (State of Georgia Rules and Regulations 290-5-38).

1404 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. Adult Physical Therapy Services are not available until the waiver participant's 21st birthday.
- B. The need for Adult Physical Therapy Services must be reflected in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).
- C. There is a reasonable expectation by the licensed physical therapist that the participant can achieve the goals in the necessary time frame.
- D. All services must be ordered by a physician.

1405 Prior Approval

Adult Physical Therapy Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the operating agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions. The need for Adult Physical Therapy must be an identifiable assessed need in the ISP and directly related to the disability.

1406 Covered Services

Reimbursable Adult Physical Therapy Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Physical therapy evaluation.
2. Therapeutic procedures.
3. Therapeutic exercises to develop strength and endurance, and range of motion and flexibility.
4. Participant/family education.
5. Therapeutic exercise programs including muscle strengthening, neuromuscular facilitation, sitting and standing balance and endurance and increased range of motion

6. Muscle strengthening and endurance to facilitate transfers from wheelchairs and the use of other equipment.

1407 Non-Covered Services

1. Services that duplicate any family education or training provided through Natural Supports Training (NST) Services.
2. Services that occur simultaneously or on the same day as NST Services.
3. Adult Physical Therapy Services do not include in-home therapeutic services for the treatment of an illness or injury that are covered in Home Health Services under the regular Medicaid State Plan.
4. Transportation to and from these services is not included in the rate.
5. Group Therapy Activities.
6. Not covered for conditions not related to DD diagnosis.
7. Services that have not been ordered by a physician.
8. Services in a hospital.
9. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

Rev 01 2013

1408 Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rates for Adult Physical Therapy Services are found in Appendix A.

Rev 04 2018

The rate cannot exceed the established Medicaid rates and limits for the Children Intervention Services Program.

1409 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction option with Adult Physical Therapy Services.

- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Adult Physical Therapy Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*).

PART III - CHAPTER 1500
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
ADULT SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICES
SCOPE OF SERVICES

1501 General

Rev 01 2017

Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services cover evaluation and therapeutic services that are not otherwise covered by Medicaid State Plan services. These services address the speech and language therapy needs of the adult participant that result from his or her developmental disability. Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services include the evaluation of speech language, voice, and language communication, auditory processing, and/or aural rehabilitation status. Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services also consist of participant/family education, speech language therapy, and therapeutic services for the use of speech-generating devices, including programming and modification. Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services also includes assessment of oral feeding and swallowing skills, and, if indicated, development and implementation of intervention to improve swallowing and reduce aspiration risk.

Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed speech and language pathologist and by order of a physician. These services may be provided in a participant's own or family home, the Speech and Language Pathologist's office, outpatient clinics, facilities in which Community Access or Prevocational Services are provided, Supported Employment work sites, or other community settings specific to community-based therapy goals specified in the Individual Service Plan.

1502 Special Requirements of Participation

1502.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Adult Speech and Language Therapy

Services providers must meet the following requirements:

Rev. 07 2010

1. **Service Provision:** Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed speech and language pathologist and by order of a physician. Physician orders must be on letterhead or as a prescription from the physician and must indicate either the frequency of speech and language therapy services or a speech and language evaluation to determine the frequency of speech and language therapy services.

2. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services:

- a. Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;
- b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;

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- e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
- f. Adult Speech and Language Therapy providers maintain documentation for: the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies.

3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

4. **Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities:** Providers can provide Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

1502.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

A. Service Provision: Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services are provided by a Georgia licensed speech and language pathologist and by order of a physician. Physician orders must be on letterhead or as a prescription from the physician and must indicate either the frequency of speech and language therapy services or a speech and language evaluation to determine the frequency of speech and language therapy services.

B. Types of Agencies: Agencies that provide Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services are:

- a. Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies;
- b. Home Health Agencies.
 - i. Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities:
 1. **Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies** rendering Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:
 - a. A designated agency director who must:
 - Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with

developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or

- Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or

b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:

- Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
- Manages the use of agency funds;
- Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
- Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
- Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.

c. Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees or professionals under contract that are Georgia licensed speech and language pathologists to provide Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services as specified in the Individual Service Plans of participants served.

d. Duties of the Speech and Language Pathologist include all covered services in Section 1506.

h. **Home Health Agencies** rendering Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services must have staffing that meets the conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for Home Health Services.

- C. **Agency Policies and Procedures:** Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Adult Speech and Language Therapy services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of

Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities as stated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*.

D. Documentation Requirement: Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services:

- a. Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;
- b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
- e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
- f. Adult Speech and Language Therapy providers maintain documentation for: the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies.

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E. Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements: Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

F. Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities: Providers can provide Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple waiver services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

G. DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards: Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

1503 Licensure

A. Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services are provided by a licensed Speech and Language Pathologist in accordance with the applicable Georgia license as required under OCGA Title 43-44-1.

B. Home Health Agencies providing Adult Speech and Language Therapy services must have a Home Health Agency License (State of Georgia Rules and Regulations 290-5-38)

1504 Special Eligibility Conditions

A. Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services are not available until the waiver participant's 21st birthday.

B. The need for Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services must be reflected in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

C. There is a reasonable expectation by the licensed speech and language pathologist that the participant can achieve the goals in the necessary time frame.

D. All services must be ordered by a physician.

1505 Prior Approval

Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the operating agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions. The need for Adult Speech and Language Therapy must be an identifiable assessed need in the ISP and directly related to the disability.

1506 Covered Services

Reimbursable Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Evaluation of speech language, voice, and language communication, auditory processing, and/or aural rehabilitation.
2. Individual treatment of speech, language, voice, communication, and/or auditory processing.
3. Therapeutic services for the use of speech-generating device, including programming and modification.
4. Participant/family education.

1507 Non-Covered Services

1. Services that duplicate any family education or training provided through Natural Supports Training (NST) Services.
2. Services that occur simultaneously or on the same day as NST Services.
3. In-home therapeutic services for the treatment of an illness or injury that are covered in Home Health Services under the regular Medicaid State Plan.
4. Transportation to and from these services is not included in the rate.
5. Group Therapy Activities.
6. Not covered for conditions not related to DD diagnosis.
7. Services that have not been ordered by a physician.
8. Services in a hospital.
9. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

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1508 Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rates for Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services are found in Appendix A.

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The rate cannot exceed the established Medicaid rates or limits for the Children Intervention Services Program.

Participant-Direction Options

1. Participants can choose the self-direction option with Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services.
2. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services.
3. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 1600
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
BEHAVIORAL SUPPORTS CONSULTATION SERVICES
SCOPE OF SERVICES

1601 General

Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation services are those that assist the participant with significant, intensive challenging behaviors that interfere with activities of daily living, social interaction, work or similar situations. These services consist of comprehensive functional and diagnostic assessment of challenging behavior, development of positive behavior support plans, training of identified professional and supervisory staff responsible for training of direct support staff/informal care providers, and routine review of program efficacy and adjustments to the plan based on review findings. These services may be provided in a participant's own or family home, the Behavioral Supports Consultant's office, outpatient clinics, facilities in which Community Access or Prevocational Services are provided, Supported Employment work sites, residential or other community settings.

Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services provide for the development of Positive Behavioral Support Plans that include interventions for the acquisition or maintenance of appropriate behaviors for community living and behavioral intervention for the reduction of challenging behaviors. Intervention modalities described in plans must relate to the identified behavioral needs of the waiver participant, and specific criteria for remediation of the behavior must be established and specified in the plan.

Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation services are provided by appropriately qualified individuals with expertise in behavioral supports evaluation and services for people with developmental disabilities. Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation services must be authorized prior to service delivery at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions. The need for Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services is identified through clinical assessment and included on the Individual Support Plan with indicated duration and frequency. All enrolled providers, agency-based or individual, will comply with DBHDD standards and policies which outline individual rights, core values, and the philosophy of service delivery within a person-centered model and consistent with empirical knowledge related to positive behavior supports.

Expectations/Outcomes:

A comprehensive functional behavior assessment is utilized to develop positive behavior support plans that reflect the best practices and principles of Positive Behavior Supports, Person Centered Values, the Normalization/Inclusion Movement,

and Behavioral/Biomedical Science.

Positive behavior support plans are developed in collaboration with all appropriate clinical team members and all involved stakeholders (including the individual). All professional and/or supervisory staff responsible for direct training of provider staff/informal care providers and for monitoring of program implementation receive competency based training on implementation and monitoring of positive behavior support plans.

Positive behavior support plans utilize approaches that are normalizing and valued by all stakeholders (including the individual).

Positive behavior support plans utilize non-punitive, non-restrictive procedures and interventions.

Positive behavior support plans focus on the context of the challenging behavior, not just the behavior itself, and have a primary emphasis on pro-active skill building and prevention of challenging behaviors.

Positive behavior support plans are based on empirical data, observation and documentation and take into consideration and account for the role that medical and environmental factors play in the manifestation of challenging behaviors.

Implemented positive behavior support plans are routinely monitored and reviewed for efficacy and needed adjustments and modifications are made in a timely manner.

Implemented positive behavior support plans can be empirically demonstrated within a reasonable amount of time to be effective in achieving established goals of improving quality of life for the individual as well as decreasing the negative impact of challenging behavior.

1602 Requirements for Enrollment and Participation

1602.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP Program, Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services individual providers must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Provider Qualifications** - Individual providers of Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation services must meet the following requirements at initial enrollment and continued service enrollment:

Education/Training

Minimum of a Master's degree in psychology, special education, counseling, social work or a related field;

Or

Licensure/certification in one of the following categories:

Licensure:

Psychologist (OCGA 43-39-1)

Licensed Professional Counselor (OCGA 43-10A-1)

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (OCGA 43-10A-1)

Psychiatrist (OCGA 43-24-20)

Certification:

Board Certified Behavior Analyst (certified through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board)

2. Experience:

Beginning July 1, 2015 all applicant providers must meet the following enrollment criteria. At least five (5) years of experience providing positive behavioral supports (functional assessment; plan development, training, and implementation) to people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

Other Standard:

- Documented supervision and/or peer consultation availability in the area of behavioral intervention and positive behavior management
- Documented supervision and/or consultation in application of adult education techniques designed to enhance training of paraprofessional staff.

3. DBHDD Continuing Education/Training:

Within six (6) months of enrollment as a Behavioral Support Consultation service provider, individual providers and direct professional providers in Agencies will have completed training and demonstrated proficiency in positive behavioral supports through courses approved and/or provided by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

4. Criminal records check in accordance with Criminal History Records Checks for Contractors, 04-104 (including process for reporting CRC status change); <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com>

5. Guidelines Requirement: refer to “**Behavioral Support Practices**” found in DBHDD’s Provider Manuals for Community Developmental Disabilities Providers, and Guidelines for Supporting Adults with Challenging Behaviors in

Community Settings and Best Practice Standards for Behavioral Support Services found in Appendix B of Part III Policy.

1602.2 Agency Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP Program, Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services agency providers must meet the following requirements:

1602.2.1 Types of Agencies

Types of Agencies: Agencies that provide Positive Behavior Supports Consultation Services are:

Behavioral Services Agency

Agency Requirements Specific to Behavior Supports Consultation Service Agencies:

- a. Designated agency director (or Agency DD Program Director) who must:
 - i. Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, special education, nursing, or a closely related field) and five years experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - ii. Have an associate degree in nursing, special education, or a related field and six years experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity
- b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency
 - ii. Manages the use of agency funds
 - iii. Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency
 - iv. Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency

- v. Designates another staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence

1603 Positive Behavioral Support Consultation Services at Community Access, Prevocational Service Facilities and in Residential Settings

Providers can provide Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services at facilities or residential settings however, the services must be documented and billed separately. While Positive Behavior Support Consultation Services rely on direct observation of the individual to develop the Plan and intervention recommendations, duplicative services will not be reimbursed. Examples include Consultant provision of community access or community residential service concurrently with Positive Behavior Support Consultation Service. The provider is responsible for observation at the setting where the behavior occurs and documentation of the Positive Behavioral Support Consultation Service provided at the facility and offsite. Examples of documentation of activities provided at a facility, whether residential or a day service facility include observation, training and coaching. Examples of documentation of offsite activities include development of the plan and tracking outcomes. . A complete copy of the Positive Behavior Support Plan must be maintained on site for use in training direct service staff.

Positive Behavior Support Plans developed for use in working with the same individual in various settings must include interventions specific to the setting but provide holistic strategies for all settings which may require positive behavioral interventions. The Positive Behavior Support Plan is developed for the individual and must be shared across the environments in which the person receives support for the purpose of assuring consistent implementation.

1604 Documentation Requirements

All Positive Behavioral Support Consultation Service Providers must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services:

- a. Specific activity or assistance provided including plan development, intervention and methods outline, tracking methods and intervention outcomes;
- b. Date, beginning and ending time when the service was delivered;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Description of behaviors in observable, measurable terms with frequency, precipitating events, and tracking methods;

- e. Progress toward participant goals outlined in the ISP, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan;
- f. Description of outcomes specific to each intervention to include but not limited to behavioral changes, ability to increase community integration, acquisition of new skills improvement in quality of life or other positive outcomes.
- g. Attestation of service delivery through signature and legible, printed first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service.

1605 Waiver Participant Eligibility

The need for Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services must be related to the individual participant's clinically validated behavioral needs, therapeutic in nature, and tied to a specific goal in the Division-approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

Eligibility Criteria:

Eligibility does not constitute approval or prior authorization of services. Approval and Prior Authorization of Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services are based on a clinical assessment and validation of behavioral support needs. A clinical assessment of need for Positive Behavioral Support Consultation Services is conducted when one or more of the following eligibility criteria are met:

- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item E. Clinical Issues Affecting Daily Life (documentation must indicate behavioral challenges as the clinical issue)
- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item F. Self-Abuse
- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item G. Aggression Toward Others or Property
- HRST score of 3 or higher on Item U. Emergency Room Visits (documentation must indicate behavioral challenges as the clinical issue)
- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item V. Hospital Admissions (documentation must indicate behavioral challenges as the clinical issue)
- HRST score of 4 on Item Q. Treatments (documentation must indicate 1:1 staffing need due to behavioral issues)
- Placement in Crisis Home in the last 12 months (documentation must indicate that placement was due to behavioral challenges)
- Provision of In-Home Mobile Crisis Services in the last 12 months
- Admission to a Crisis Stabilization Unit in the last 12 months
- Arrest or detention by law enforcement in the last 12 months
- SIS score of 7 or higher on Total Score for Section 3B: Behavioral Supports Needed

1606 Prior Approval

Criteria for eligibility:

Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services must be authorized prior to service delivery at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan (ISP) development and with any ISP revisions.

1607 Covered Services

Reimbursable Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and specified in the approved ISP:

1. Functional assessment of behavior and other diagnostic assessment of behavior.
2. Development and monitoring of Positive Behavioral Supports plans with specific criteria for the acquisition and maintenance of appropriate behaviors for community living and behavioral intervention for the reduction of challenging behaviors.
3. Training and coaching paid and unpaid supporters on recommended interventions and outcomes tracking.
4. Intervention modalities related to the identified behavioral needs of the participant.
5. Participant-specific skills or replacement behavior acquisition training.
6. Family and/or direct support staff education and training on Positive Behavioral Supports.

1608 Non-Covered Services

1. Services that duplicate any family education or training provided through Natural Supports Training (NST) Services.
2. Services that occur simultaneously or on the same day as NST Services.
3. Services in a hospital.
4. Restrictive behavioral interventions, including chemical or mechanical restraints and seclusion, prohibited by state law or regulations.
5. Transportation to and from these services is not included in the rate.

6. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 900*
7. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.
8. Services provided by an agency staff member not qualified under Section 1602.

1609 Basis for Reimbursement

Provider Managed
Unit of Service: 15 minute
Rate: 23.56/unit
Limit: 96 units per year
\$2,261.76 annual maximum

Self-directed:
Unit of service: \$1 = 1 unit
Annual Maximum: 2,262 units

1610 Participant-Direction Option

- A. Participants may choose the self-direction option for Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services however the employee must meet all enrollment criteria outlined in Section 1602.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 1700

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY ACCESS SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1701 General

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Community Access Services has three distinct categories, Community Access Individual, Community Access Participant Directed Activity, and Community Access Group. Community Access services are individually planned to meet the participant's needs and preferences for active community participation. Community Access services are provided outside the participant's place of residence. These services can occur during the day, the evenings, and weekends. Services include design of activities and environments for the participant to learn and/or use adaptive skills required for active community participation and independent functioning. These activities include training in socialization skills as well as personal assistance as indicated in the Individual Service Plan (ISP).

Community Access Individual (CAI) services are provided to an individual participant, with a one-to-one staff to participant ratio. CAI services are directly linked to goals and expectations of improvement in skills. The intended outcome of CAI services is to improve the participant's access to the community through increased skills, increased natural supports, and/or less paid supports. CAI services are designed to be teaching and coaching in nature. These services assist the participant in acquiring, retaining, or improving socialization and networking, independent use of community resources, and adaptive skills required for active community participation outside the participant's place of residence. CAI services may include programming to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors. CAI services are not facility-based.

Community Access Group (CAG) services are provided to groups of individuals, with a staff to individual ratio of one to two or more. The direct care staff to individual ratio for Community Access Group services cannot exceed one (1) to ten (10) and is determined based on individual need level of the participants in the group. CAG services are designed to provide oversight, assist with daily living, socialization, communication, and mobility skills building and supports in a group. CAG services may include programming to

reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors. CAG services may be provided in a facility or a community as appropriate for the skill being taught or specific activity supported.

Community Access Participant Directed Activity services are for individuals who are participant directed and participate in authorized community activities as outlined in Section 1705—Covered Services in order to address functional impairment and/or therapeutic needs of the waiver participant.

Transportation to and from activities and settings primarily utilized by people with disabilities is included in Community Access services. Transportation provided through Community Access Services is included in the cost of doing business and incorporated in the administrative overhead cost. Transportation is to and from other community destinations and separate payment for transportation only occurs when the NOW's distinct Transportation Services are authorized.

All Community Access Services do not include educational services otherwise available through a program funded under 20 USC Chapter 3, section 1400 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Community Access services must not duplicate or be provided at the same period of the day as Community Living Support, Supported Employment, Prevocational Services or Transportation services. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services may not provide Community Access services. Community Access services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the operating agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions.

The NOW Program is intended for those goods and services that are not covered by the State Medicaid Plan or those instances in which a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available. Community Access Services Providers offer (or arrange when needed) any of the standard services listed in section 1705 – Covered Services that are needed by the participants served and specified in the participants' Individual Service Plans.

1702

Special Requirements of Participation

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Note: Effective with June 1, 2009 Individual Service Plans and plans developed thereafter, Community Access Individual Services can not be provided in facilities.

1702.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Community Access Services providers must meet the following requirements:

1. Individual providers of Community Access services must:

- a. Be 18 years or older;
- b. Have current CPR and Basic First Aid certifications;
- c. Have the experience, training, education or skills necessary to meet the participant's needs for Community Access services as demonstrated:

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(i) Direct Support Professional (DSP) Certification **or**

(ii) Copy of high school diploma/transcript or General Education Development (GED diploma; **and** at least six (6) months of experience providing behavioral health related service to individuals with developmental disabilities, or documented experience providing specific supports to individuals with disabilities.

d. Have evidence of an annual health examination with signed statement from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant that the person is free of communicable disease;

e. Agree to or provide required documentation of a criminal records check, prior to providing Community Access services.

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f Meet transportation requirements in NOW Part II Chapter, Section 905 if transporting participants

2 Documentation Requirement: Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Community Access Services:

- a. Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
- b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
- e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.

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3. Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements: Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

1702.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Community Access Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

1. Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities

Provider agencies rendering Community Access Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

- a. A designated agency director who must:

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- Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:
- Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
 - Manages the use of agency funds;
 - Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
 - Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
 - Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.
- c. At least one agency employee or professional under contract with the agency must:
- Be a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) (for definition, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Appendix I*);
 - Have responsibility for overseeing the delivery of Community Access Services to participants.
- d. The same individual may serve as both the agency director and the Developmental Disability Professional;
- e. Duties of the DDP include, but are not limited to:
- Overseeing the services and supports provided to participants;

- Supervising the formulation of the participant's plan for delivery of Community Access Services;
 - Conducting functional assessments; and
 - Supervising high intensity services.
- f. A minimum of one (1) direct care staff member for every ten (10) participants served in Group Community Access Services and minimum of one (1) direct care staff members for every one (1) participant served in Individual Community Access Services;
- g. Direct Care Staff must:

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- Be 18 years or older;
- Has high school diploma/equivalent (General Educational Development or GED)
- Meet transportation requirements in NOW Part II Chapter, Section 905 if transporting participants
- Be provided with a basic orientation prior to direct contact with participants and show competence in:
 - 1) The purpose and scope of Community Access Services, including related policies and procedures;
 - 2) Confidentiality of individual information, both written and spoken;
 - 3) Rights and responsibilities of individuals;
 - 4) Requirements for recognizing and reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of any individual:
 - i. To the DBHDD;
 - ii. Within the organization;
 - iii. To appropriate regulatory or licensing agencies; and
 - iv. To law enforcement agencies

h. Duties of the Direct Care Staff include, but are not limited to:

- Provides direct assistance in self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills training, retention and improvement to individual participants and groups of participants;
 - Provides direct assistance in training, retraining or improving the access to and use of community resources by individual participants or groups of participants;
 - Implements the behavioral support plans of participants to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors;
 - Provides active support and direct assistance in participants' participation in community social, recreational and leisure activities;
 - Provides participant-specific assistance, such as assistance with personal care and self-administration of medications.
- i. The agency has adequate direct care staff with First Aid and CPR certifications to assure having at least one staff person with these certifications on duty during the provision of facility-based or community-based Community Access services.
- j. The type and number of all other staff associated with the organization (such as contract staff, consultants) are:
- 1) Properly trained or credentialed in the professional field as required;
 - 2) Present in numbers to provide services and supports to participants as required;
 - 3) Experienced and competent in the services and support they provide.
- k. National criminal records check (NCIC) documentation for all employees and any volunteers who have direct care, treatment, or custodial responsibilities for participants

served by the agency.

2. **Agency Policies and Procedures** - Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Community Access services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).
3. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Community Access Services:
 - Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
 - Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - Location where the service was delivered;
 - Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
4. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
5. **Co-Employer Provider Agencies:** Co-Employer Provider Agencies cannot provide facility-based Community Access Service.
6. **Community Access and Other Services in the Same Facility:**
 - a. Providers rendering facility-based Community Access and

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other services (e.g., Prevocational Services and adult therapy services) can provide these services in the same facility; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

- b. Providers may grant access to other Medicaid providers for the provision of services at the facility; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

7. Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must utilize methods, materials, and settings that meet the following:

- a. Set positive expectations for life experiences of people with disabilities, which result in enhanced personal independence and productivity, greater active community participation, and/or increased community integration;
- b. Facilitate the provision of participant-specific supports through a supports network;
- c. Are appropriate to the chronological age of participants;
- d. Are culturally normative as specified in each participant's ISP.

8. Providers must meet the following requirements for staff-to-participant ratios:

- a. Group Community Access Services: a staff to individual ratio of one to two or more, not to exceed one (1) to ten (10). Specialized or intense needs of participants may warrant a lower staff to participant ratio than the upper limit allowed. On site reviews of the service will focus on the specialized needs of Group Community Access Services participants.
- b. Individual Community Access Services: a one-to-one staff to participant ratio.

9. DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards: Agency providers must adhere to DBHDD

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Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

10. Physical Environment

Providers who render facility-based Community Access Services must provide these services in a facility that meets the following requirements:

- a. **Accessibility:** Is accessible to and usable by participants and meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements for facilities.
- b. **Building Construction and Maintenance:** Is constructed, arranged, and maintained so as to provide adequately for health, safety, access, and wellbeing of the participants.
- c. **Building Codes:** Is in compliance with all local building codes and other applicable codes;
- d. **Lighting:** Provides adequate lighting for participants' activities and safety;
- e. **Ventilation:** Is adequately ventilated at all times by either mechanical or natural means to provide fresh air and the control of unpleasant odors;
- f. **Floor Space:** Has adequate floor space to safely and comfortably accommodate the number of participants for all activities and services provided in that space;
- g. **Furnishings:** Has sufficient furniture for use by participants, which provide comfort and safety; are appropriate for population served, including any participants with physical, visual, and mobility limitations; and provide adequate seating and table space for participant activities in the facility, including dining if applicable; Is accessible to and usable by participants and meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements for facilities.
- h. **Environmental/Sanitation:** Is in good repair and clean inside and outside of the facility, including being free from

liter, extraneous materials, unsightly or injurious accumulations of items and free from pest and rodents;

- i. **Temperature Conditions:** Has an adequate central heating and cooling system or its equivalent at temperature ranges that are consistent with the individual health needs and comfort of participants;
- j. **Equipment Maintenance:** Maintains all essential mechanical, electrical, and participant activity, care and support equipment in safe operating condition;
- k. **Drinking Fountain:** Must have drinking fountain(s) approved by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Division of Public Health or provide access to single disposable cups to participants, with participants disposing of the used cups immediately after use;
- l. **Restrooms:** Has a minimum of at least two toilets and lavatories available, with accessibility for individuals with physical and mobility limitations, including installed grab bars;
- m. **Participant Activities and Dining Space:** Has one or more clean, orderly, and appropriate furnished rooms of adequate size designated for participant activities and, if applicable, dining. If the facility has a single room for participant activities and dining, the room provides sufficient space to accommodate both activities without interfering with each other;
- n. **Medication Storage:** Assures that medications are:
 - 1) Stored under lock and key at all times. A staff member may keep medications needed for frequent or emergency use. The provider stores medications that require refrigeration in a locked container in the refrigerator;
 - 2) Kept in original containers with original labels intake or in labeled bubble packs from a pharmacy;
 - 3) Handled in accordance with current applicable State laws and regulations.

- o. **Documentation of Self-Administration of Medications:**
The facility maintains documentation of all self-administration of medications supervised by facility staff. The documentation record must include the name of the medication, dosage, date, time, and name of the staff person who assists the participants in the self-administration of medications by the participant.
- p. **Evacuation Plan:** The facility formulates a plan for evacuation of the building in case of fire or disaster. This plan is posted in a clearly visible place in each room. All employees are instructed and kept informed of their duties under the plan.
- q. **Food Services:** The following only apply if the facility stores, prepares, or distributes food:
- a. The facility observes and complies with all of the Rules of Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Public Health, Chapter 290-5-14, Food Service and any local health ordinances when engaged in the storage, preparation, and distribution of food.

Rev. 01 2009

Note. The Department will allow the facility to be exempted from the Food Service Permit requirement if all the facility does is use a microwave to heat up food participants bring to the facility.

This exception is allowed only if:

- The microwave oven is clean, in good repair, and free of unsanitary conditions
- The microwave oven is allowed for warming of permitted foods and beverages based on the provider's internal policies and procedures.
- All food and utensils are handled in a sanitary manner.

comply with the food and nutritional requirements. The facility posts its current Food Service Permit and inspection report or the subcontracted vendor's current Food Service Permit and inspection report.

- c. The facility has a designated kitchen area for receiving food, facilities for warming or preparing cold food, and clean-up facilities including hot and cold running water. The facility provides palatable, nutritious and attractive meals and snacks that meet the nutritional requirements of each member.

11. **Transportation:** The participant's family or representative may choose to transport the member to the Community Access facility.

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12. **Individual Site Enrollment:** *Part I Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids* require that each provider enroll at each location where services are provided to Medicaid members. Each individual, facility-based Community Access site must be individually enrolled. Individual site enrollment applies *only* to facility-based Community Access sites.

1703

Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. Community Access Services are only for participants for whom the service is not available under a program funded under 20 USC Chapter 3, section 1400 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- B. The need for Community Access Services must be related to the individual disability; services must be therapeutic in nature; and tied to a specific goal in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

1704

Prior Approval

Community Access services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the operating agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions.

1705

Covered Services

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Reimbursable Community Access Services for the distinct categories include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

Community Access Group

1. Services in facility-based and community-based settings outside the participant's own or family home or any other residential setting
2. Design and development of activities in any location outside the participant's own or family home or any other residential setting that assist the participant to learn, use, and/or maintain adaptive skills required for active community participation and independent functioning, which includes services provided on behalf of a specific participant as well as direct services.
3. Assistance in acquiring, retaining, or improving self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills for active community participation and independent functioning outside the participant's own or family home, such as assisting the participant with money management, teaching appropriate shopping skills, and teaching nutrition and diet information.
4. Assistance in acquiring, retaining, or improving access to and use of community resources that increases participation in integrated community activities, such as training and active support to use public transportation, banks, automated tellers, and restaurants.
5. Provision of oversight and assistance with daily living, socialization, communication, and mobility skills building and supports in a group.
6. Implementation of behavioral support plans to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors.
7. Recreational and leisure activities that support the participant's active, local community participation and are specific to an ISP goal and therapeutic in nature, such as teaching a participant how to participate in and take advantage of community social and recreational activities or providing active support for a participant in community recreational and leisure activities.
8. Facilitating volunteer roles in the community and participation in self-advocacy type activities.
9. Other related, participant-specific assistance, such as assistance with personal care and self-administration of medications, and

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nursing services, and health maintenance activities as indicated in the approved Individual Service Plan.

Rev. 04 2009

Rev. 04 2010

10. Transportation is required between point of origin and activities in settings primarily utilized by people with disabilities (a reasonable amount of transportation, defined as up to one hour per day, is billable). Point of origin is defined as any location that participants are available for pick up that is safe and appropriate for the participant based on the approved Individual Service Plan.

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Community Access Individual

1. Services in non-facility, community-based settings outside the participant's own or family home or any other residential setting
2. Design and development of activities in any non-facility, community-based location outside the participant's own or family home or any other residential setting that assist the participant to learn, use, and/or maintain adaptive skills required for active community participation and independent functioning, which includes services provided on behalf of a specific participant as well as direct services.
3. Assistance in acquiring, retaining, or improving socialization, and adaptive skills for active community participation and independent functioning outside the participant's own or family home, such as assisting the participant with money management, teaching appropriate shopping skills, using public transportation, and teaching nutrition and diet information.
4. Assistance in acquiring, retaining, or improving socialization and networking, independent use of community resources, and adaptive skills required for active community participation outside the participant's place of residence.
5. Participant-specific teaching and coaching of skills for access to the community, including communication, mobility, money management, and shopping skills.
6. Implementation of behavioral support plans to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors.
7. Teaching and coaching a participant how to participate in and take advantage of community social and recreational activities.

8. Facilitating volunteer roles in the community and participation in self-advocacy type activities.
9. Other related, participant-specific assistance, such as assistance with personal care and self-administration of medications, nursing services, and health maintenance activities as indicated in the approved Individual Service Plan.

Community Access Participant Directed Activity

1. Services for individuals who are participant directed and participate in community activities designed to address functional impairment and/or therapeutic needs of the waiver participant, which include therapeutic camp programs, therapeutic support groups, and physical fitness and weight reduction programs.
2. Services are tied to an ISP goal.

1706

Non-Covered Services

Rev. 01 2009

1. Educational services otherwise available through a program funded under 20 USC Chapter 3, section 1400 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), including private school tuition, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in schools, school supplies, and tutors.
2. Activities, training, or services provided in the participant's home or family home or family home, or host home/life sharing arrangement, foster home, personal care home, community living arrangement, group home, or any other residential setting.
3. Medically related services that are not allowable by State law, rules, and regulations.
4. Admission fees, Memberships, Subscriptions, Donations, or related items.
5. Registration Fees unless participant-directed services.
6. Out of state camps.
7. Community Access services must not duplicate or be provided at the same time of the same day as Community Living Support,

Supported Employment, Prevocational Services or Transportation Services.

8. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 900*.

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9. Non-covered health maintenance activities as defined in Rules and Regulations for Proxy Caregivers Used in Licensed Healthcare Facilities, Chapter 111-8-100.

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10. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

1707

Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rate for Community Access Services is found in Appendix A. Transportation provided through Community Access Services is included in the cost of doing business and incorporated in the administrative overhead cost

Separate payment for transportation only occurs when the NOW's distinct Transportation Services are authorized.

1708

Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction or co-employer options with Community Access Services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Community Access Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 1800
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
COMMUNITY GUIDE SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1801 General

Community Guide Services are direct assistance to participants in skills building and information in meeting participant-direction responsibilities. These services are available ***only*** for participants who choose the participant-direction option for service delivery. The participant, with the Support Coordinator, determines the amount of Community Guide Services, if any, and the specific services that the Community Guide will provide. The specific Community Guide Services for the participant are specified in the Individual Service Plan. Participants may elect to receive Community Guide Services, and when elected, participants choose their Community Guide.

Community Guide Services are individualized services designed to assist participants in meeting their responsibilities in the participant-direction option for service delivery. Community Guides provide information, direct assistance, and training to participants in support of participant direction. The intended outcome of these services is to improve the participant's knowledge and skills for participant direction.

Community Guides assist and train participants to build the skills required for participant direction, such as exploring and brokering available community resources, problem solving and decision-making, being an effective employer of support workers, developing and managing the individual budget, and record keeping. Information provided by the Community Guide helps the participant's understanding of provider qualifications, record keeping, and other participant-direction responsibilities.

The scope, intensity, and frequency of Community Guide Services may change over time, based on the needs of the participant. Community Guide Services providers offer (or arrange when needed) any of the standard services listed in section 1805 – Covered Services that are needed by the participants served and specified in the participants' Individual Service Plans.

1802 Special Requirements of Participation

1802.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Community Guide Services providers must meet the following requirements:

1. Individual Providers of Community Guide Services must:

- a. Be 18 years or older;
- b. Have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a human service field and experience in providing direct assistance to individuals with disabilities to network within a local community or comparable training, education or skills;
- c. Agree to or provide required documentation of a criminal records check, prior to providing Community Guide services;
- d. Be knowledgeable about resources in any local community in which the provider is a Community Guide;
- e. Have demonstrated connections to the informal structures of any local community in which the provider is a Community Guide;
- f. Have an understanding of Community Guide services, DD waiver participant-direction service delivery requirements, and strategies for working effectively and communicating clearly with individuals with DD and their families/representatives;
- g. Attend all mandatory, DBHDD training.

2. Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements: Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

3. Duties of the Community Guide include but are not limited to the covered services in 1805.

1802.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Community Guide Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

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1. Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities

Provider agencies rendering Community Guide Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

- a. A designated agency director who must:
 - Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:
 - Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
 - Manages the use of agency funds;
 - Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
 - Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
 - Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.

- i. At least one agency employee or professional under contract with the agency must:
 - Be a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) (for definition, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Appendix I*);
 - Have responsibility for overseeing the delivery of Community Guide Services to participants.
 - d. The same individual may serve as both the agency director and the Developmental Disability Professional;
 - e. Duties of the DDP include, but are not limited to:
 - Overseeing the services and supports provided to participants;
 - Supervising the formulation of the participant's plan for delivery of Community Guide Services;
 - Conducting functional assessments; and
 - Supervising high intensity services.
 - f. Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees that meet the Community Guide experience, training, education or skills qualification specified above for Individual Providers to provide all Community Guide Services that are needed by the participants served and specified in the participants' Individual Service Plans.
 - g. Duties of the Community Guide include but are not limited to the covered services in 1805.
2. **Agency Policies and Procedures** - Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Community Guide Services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*).
 3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
 4. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service**

Standards: Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Core Requirements for All Providers and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

1803 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. Community Guide Services are only for participants who opt for participant-direction.
- B. The participant determines the amount of Community Guide Services, if any, and the specific services that the Community Guide will provide.
- C. The specific Community Guide Services for the participant are specified in the Individual Service Plan.
- D. Participants may elect to receive Community Guide Services, and when elected, participants choose their Community Guide.
- E. The need for Community Guide Services must be related to the individual disability and tied to a specific goal in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

1804 Prior Approval

Community Guide Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions.

1805 Covered Services

Reimbursable Community Guide Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

:

1. Direct assistance to participants in exploring and brokering available community resources.
2. Direct assistance to participants in meeting their participant-direction responsibilities.
3. Information and assistance that helps the participant in problem solving and decision-making.

4. Information and assistance that helps the participant in developing supportive community relationships and other resources that promote implementation of the Individual Service Plan.
5. Assistance with developing and managing the individual budget;
6. Assistance with recruiting, hiring, training, managing, evaluating, and changing employees;
7. Assistance with scheduling and outlining the duties of employees;
8. Training the participant to be an effective employer of support workers;
9. Information and assistance in understanding provider qualifications, record keeping and other participant-direction requirements.

1806 Non-Covered Services

1. Community Guide services cannot duplicate Support Coordination services.
2. Community Guides cannot provide other direct waiver services, including Support Coordination, to any waiver participant.
3. Community Guide agencies cannot provide Support Coordination services.
4. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 900*.
5. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

Rev 01 2013

1807 Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rate for Community Guide Services is found in Appendix A.

- A. The unit of service is 15 minutes.

Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction or co-employer options with Community Guide Services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Community Guide Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

**PART III - CHAPTER 1900
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
COMMUNITY LIVING SUPPORT (CLS) SERVICES**

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1901. General Description of CLS Services

Community Living Support (CLS) Services are individually designed to support the acquisition, retention, or improvement of life skills to facilitate residence in a waiver participant's own or family home. Personal care/assistance may be a component part of CLS services but the focus of personal assistance should be teaching the skills related to activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living. CLS services are offered to participants who live in their own or family homes.

CLS services may include any of the following:

- Training and assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs), such as bathing, dressing toileting, and transferring,
- Teaching and assistance in performance of instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs), such as personal hygiene, light housework, laundry, meal preparation, grocery and other shopping, using the telephone, and medication and money management.
- Oversight and supervision of individuals unable to be left alone as assessed by DBHDD staff and under available funding.

CLS services include any transportation delivered to facilitate the individual's participation in grocery or personal shopping, banking and other community activities that support the goals of the waiver participant and /or family. CLS services may include health-related activities such as basic first aid, arranging and/or transporting waiver participants to medical appointments, accompanying participants on medical appointments, tracking and documenting health-related daily activities such as intake and output, reminding participants to take medication, assisting with or supervising self-administration of medication and other tasks that do not require the skill level of a licensed professional. Other tasks may be assigned by a licensed professional under the Proxy Caregiver Rule: *Chapter 111-8-100 Rules and Regulations for Proxy Caregivers Used in Licensed Healthcare Facilities.*

Direct personal care/assistance may be a component part of CLS services but should not be the only service provided to a participant. Rather, teaching skills that promote self-performance of the activities is the focus in all instances feasible. The frequency and duration of CLS service is designed to address specific needs determined by the Supports Intensity

Scale, the Health Risk Screening Tool, and other participant-centered assessment information. The service need responsive to personal goals is specified in the Individual Service Plan. Medically-related services do not include direct nursing services, if required to treat, evaluate, or monitor specific conditions. (Policies and Procedures for Nursing Services directly reimbursed through COMP Waiver Program are outlined in Chapter 3400 of *Part III Chapters 1300 – 3400 Policies and Procedures for Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program*.)

CLS services are reimbursed in 15-minute unit increments using three distinct categories: basic, extended, and shared CLS defined as follows:

- Basic CLS is defined as service delivered during visits of 11 or fewer units (2.75 hours) of service per visit. Note: CLS service delivered in two or more distinct visits per day may be billed under Basic CLS to accommodate travel required between visits.
- Extended CLS is billed for visits of more than 12 units (3.00 hours) per visit.
- Shared CLS reimbursement includes two- and three-person group rates. Shared CLS is designed to accommodate voluntary home-sharing of waiver participants, allowing one staff person to provide CLS services to groups of two or three waiver participants.

Note: Shared CLS is provided to waiver participants in their own leased or owned single-family home or apartment.

Personal Assistance Retainer

The personal assistance retainer is a component of Community Living Support Services designed to allow continued payment for Community Living Support services while a participant is hospitalized or otherwise away from the home. Staff may not provide services in a hospital or nursing home setting but are retained in order to ensure stability of staff upon the participant's return home. The retainer allows continued payment to direct support caregivers for up to thirty (30) days per calendar year for absences of participant from his or her home.

1902 Special Requirements of Participation

General Description of Provider Requirements

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP and NOW Programs, all providers of services described in this manual must meet the following requirements:

Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies rendering Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

1) A designated agency director who must:

- ☐ Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- ☐ Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity.

2) Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
- ☐ Manages the use of agency funds;
- ☐ Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
- ☐ Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
- ☐ Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.

3) At least one agency employee or professional under contract with the agency must be a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) (for definition, *Provider Manual for Community Developmental Disability Providers* at <http://dbhdd.org/files/Provider-Manual-DD.pdf>)

4) The same individual may serve as both the agency director and the Developmental Disability Professional;

Duties of the DDP include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Overseeing the services and supports provided to participants;
- ☐ Supervising the formulation of the participant's plan
- ☐ Conducting functional assessments; and
- ☐ Supervising high intensity services.

6) Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees or professionals under as specified in the Individual Service Plans of participants served.

Service-specific staff duties are outlined in the following chapters.

Agency Policies and Procedures: Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of the agency and which follow the *Provider Manual for Community Developmental Disability Providers* for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health

and Developmental Disabilities found at <http://dbhdd.org/files/Provider-Manual-DD.pdf>.

DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards: Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 603*)

Licensure

Provider agencies that render CLS Services must hold a current Private Home Care Provider License from the Department of Community Health, Healthcare Facilities Regulation Division (HFR). Licensure level must be commensurate with the level of service delivered:

Level 2: personal care tasks; and/or

Level 3: companion or sitter tasks

Please refer to <http://dch.georgia.gov/hfr-laws-regulations> for information about specific licensure regulations.

CLS allows enrollment of agency providers. For more information about provider enrollment, please refer to *Part II, Chapters 600 – 1200, Policies and Procedures For Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (Comp) and New Options Waiver Program (Now) General Manual*

Supervision and Direct Support Staff Duties

Supervision of Direct Support Staff

All agency providers must comply with staff supervision requirements as defined in Private Home Care licensure Rules.

Duties of Direct Support Staff include, but are not limited to:

- Provide direct assistance to the participant in self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills training, retention and improvement;
- Provide personal care and protective oversight and supervision;
- Implement the behavioral support plans of participants to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors;
- Provide assistance and training on independent community living skills, such as personal hygiene, light housework, laundry, meal preparation, transportation,

grocery shopping, using the telephone, and medication and money management.

- Provide assistance in completing Outcomes and Goals according to the current Individual Support Plan.

Other Requirements

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The agency has adequate direct care staff with First Aid and CPR certifications to assure having at least one staff person with these certifications on duty during the provision of services.

Training and/or experience requirements for CLS services are defined in *Rules and Regulations for Private Home Care Providers*, Section 111-8-65-.09 (5)(c), (d) and #6 in the same section found at <http://dch.georgia.gov/hfr-laws-regulations>.

CLS services must be provided by an employee of the enrolled CLS provider agency or by a family-selected employee under the participant-directed model.

1903 Special Eligibility Conditions

1. CLS services are provided only to participants who require in-home supports.
2. The need for CLS services must be reflected through assessed needs described as tasks or activities in the approved Individual Support Plan (ISP).
3. In order to remain eligible for CLS services, and as a condition of participation in those services, a participant must allow visits by his or her Support Coordinator for all purposes for which Support Coordinator visits are permitted by DCH and/or DBHDD policies and standards. Repeated refusals to allow visits by his or her Support Coordinator may result in the individual's loss of eligibility for CLS services and the consequent loss of those services.

1904 Prior Approval

Community Living Support Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with reevaluation of need, development of the initial and annual Individual Support Plan and with any ISP revisions completed based upon a change in condition or circumstances.

Covered Services

Reimbursable Community Living Support Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified and described in the approved ISP:

- (1) Social and leisure skills development that assists the participant in planning and engaging in social and leisure activities as a part of home living.
- (2) Adaptive skills development that assists the participant in community activities that are a part of home living in a community, such as communication, community navigation, mobility, , understanding community signs/clues, and safety in the community.
- (3) Personal care and protective oversight and supervision in the person's own or family home as a component part of the services.
- (4) CLS protective oversight and supervision that are services provided by staff present in the participant's own or family home, which include protective care and watchful monitoring activities of participant's functioning, the making and reminding a participant of medical appointments, and intervention if a crisis arises.
- (5) Training in and personal care/assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs), such as bathing, dressing, toileting, and transferring, and with instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs), such as personal hygiene, light housework, laundry, meal preparation, transportation, grocery shopping, using the telephone, and medication and money management..
- (6) Medically related services that are not required to be provided by a licensed professional under State law, rules, and regulations. Examples of medically-related services include basic first aid, arranging and transporting participants to medical appointments, accompanying participants on medical appointments, documenting a participant's food and/or liquid intake or output, supervision in the area of nutrition and self-administration of medications and other medically related services including health maintenance activities.
- (7) Implementation of the behavioral support plan of a participant to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors.

(8) Transportation required for participants living in their own home to facilitate the individual's participation in grocery or personal shopping, banking, and other community activities that support continued home living. Georgia's Non-Emergency Transportation System may be used for medical appointment transportation with proper supervision and assistance by the CLS provider or family.

(9) CLS services may be provided in the following living environments:

- (a) The waiver participant's owned or leased home
- (b) the home of a family member or other natural/informal supporter

1906

Non-Covered Services

1. Community Living Support services may not be delivered to a person living in a home leased or owned by the service delivery agency, by an employee or contractor of the service delivery agency, or by support staff hired under the participant-direction model.
2. Community Living Support services may not be delivered in a rental room/apartment/home for the individual participant where access to the kitchen is restricted and there is no access to at least one bathroom.
3. Community Living Support services may not be delivered in foster homes, host homes, personal care homes, community living arrangements, or any other home/residence other than the participant's own or family home. but in no instance, can the participant's own home or family home be a licensed Personal Care Home, a licensed Community Living Arrangement, or a host home/life sharing arrangement that provides Community Residential Alternative Services.
4. Educational and related services needed by children for whom the Department of Education is responsible.
5. CLS services that duplicate or are provided at the same time of the same day as Community Access or Supported Employment services.
6. Payment is not made for the cost of room and board, including the cost of building maintenance, upkeep and improvement.

7. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 900*.
8. Medically related services that cannot be provided by non-licensed persons according to State law, rules, and regulations.
9. Payment is not made for Personal Assistance Retainer outside of scheduled days and units per day for Community Living Support Services as specified in the ISP.
10. Payment of Personal Assistance retainer is not allowable for absences due to services that are reimbursable as other waiver and Medicaid State Plan services except for admissions to a general hospital or nursing facility in accordance with requirements specified below in Section 1908, Basis for Reimbursement.
11. Payment of Personal Assistance retainer beyond allowable days indicated below in Section 1908, Basis for Reimbursement.
12. Non-covered health maintenance activities are defined the Rules and Regulations for Proxy Caregivers Used in Licensed Healthcare Facilities, Chapter 111-8-100.
13. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

1907 Documentation

1. Documentation of CLS services must include the following elements in the record of each participant:
 - a. Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time of day when the service was delivered;
 - c. Location where the service was delivered;
 - d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;

- e. Supervisory note documenting licensure-level required supervision of the direct support personnel;
- f. Progress towards moving the participant towards his or her goals and meeting the needs identified in the participant ISP. Relevant sections of the ISP includes: person-centered goals and desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary, and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.

2. **Personal Assistance Retainer Documentation:** Providers must document the following in the record of each participant for whom a personal assistance retainer is a component of Community Living Support Habilitation Services:

- a. Beginning and end date of absence.
- b. Reason for absence.
- c. Scheduled days and units per day for Community Living Support Habilitation Services as specified in the ISP.
- d. Statement that the staff member has not been reassigned to another waiver participant during the absence.

Note: As of 4/1/17 providers must use the procedure code specified for Personal Assistance Retainer reimbursement.

3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation, including Personal Assistance Retainer documentation and other requirements for participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP and NOW, Chapter 1200*.

1908 Basis for Reimbursement

Reimbursement rates for CLS include the following:

CLS Basic – 1-person
 CLS Extended – 1-person
 CLS Shared – 2-person
 CLS Shared – 3-person
 CLS Participant-directed

Reimbursement rates for CLS services are found in Appendix A.

Transportation is included in the rate for CLS services but does not prevent the use of Georgia's Non-emergency Transportation Service for medical appointments.

1909 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction or co-employer options for delivery of CLS services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of CLS services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 1200*.
- D. All CLS services, including CLS delivered through the participant-directed model are provided within 1, the annual maximum.

PART III - CHAPTER 2000
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESSIBILITY ADAPTATION SERVICES
SCOPE OF SERVICES

2001 General

Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services include adaptations and technical assistance to individually or family owned private residences which are designed to enable individuals to interact more independently with their environment thus enhancing their quality of life and reducing their dependence on physical support from others. These services include physical adaptations to the participant's or family's home which are necessary to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the individual, or enable the individual to function with greater independence in the home and without which, the participant would require institutionalization. Environmental Accessibility Adaptations consist of the installation of ramps and grab-bars, widening of doorways, modification of bathroom facilities, or installation of specialized electric and plumbing systems which are necessary to accommodate the medical equipment and supplies necessary for the welfare of the participant and are of direct medical or remedial benefit to the participant.

Any item billed under Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services must not be available under the State Medicaid Plan. These services must also be documented to be the payer of last resource. The NOW does not cover items that have been denied through the DME and other programs for lack of medical necessity.

2002 Special Requirements of Participation

2002.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, individual providers of Environmental Accessibility Adaptations must meet the following requirements:

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1. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services:
 - a. The efforts of the participant's Support Coordinator to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources.
 - b. Verification of Environmental Accessibility Adaptation service delivery, including date, location, and specific environmental accessibility adaptations provided.
 - c. Associated administration costs for Environmental Accessibility Adaptation service delivery that delineates line item sources of costs; billing of associated administration costs can not exceed eight to ten (8 to 10) percent of any billing for Environmental Accessibility Adaptation services.
2. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 1200.

2002.2

Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

1. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services:
 - a. The efforts of the participant's Support Coordinator to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources.

- b. Verification of Environmental Accessibility Adaptation service delivery, including date, location, and specific environmental accessibility adaptations provided.
- c. Associated administration costs for Environment Accessibility Adaptation services delivery that delineates line item sources of cost; billing of associated administration costs can not exceed Eight to ten (8 to 10) percent of billing for Environment Accessibility Adaptation services.
- a. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*
- b. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and MHDDD Community Service Standards:** Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract Standards, DBHDD Core Requirements for All Providers and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

2003 Licensure

Environmental Accessibility Adaptations are made by building, plumbing or electrical contractors with applicable Georgia license (OCGA 43-14-2 or 43-41-2) or individual builders, plumbers or electricians with applicable Georgia business license as required by the local, city or county government in which the services are provided.

2004 Special Eligibility Conditions

- Rev. 10 2009 1. The need for Environmental Accessibility Adaptation services must be related to the individual disability and specified in the Health and Safety Section of the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).
- Rev. 10 2009 2. When a participant only receives specialized services, a specific goal must be in the ISP for specialized services, which includes Environmental Accessibility Adaptation.

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3. Medical Necessity for Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services must be documented through an order by the Georgia Licensed Physician.

2005

Prior Approval

1. Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services must relate to specific individual goals and must be required to meet the needs of the participant.
2. Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with the ISP development and any ISP revisions.

2006

Covered Services

Reimbursable Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services consist of physical adaptations to the participant's or family's home in which the participant resides and which are necessary to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the individual, or which enable the individual to function with greater independence in the home and without which, the participant would require institutionalization.
2. Environmental Accessibility Adaptations consist of the installation of ramps and grab-bars, widening of doorways, modification of bathroom facilities, or installation of specialized electric and plumbing systems which are necessary to accommodate the medical equipment and supplies necessary for the welfare of the participant and are of direct medical or remedial benefit to the participant.

2007

Non-Covered Services

1. Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services will not be approved for modifications made to homes that are licensed by the State as Personal Care Homes or Community Living Arrangements.
2. Adaptations that add to the total square footage of the home are excluded from this benefit except when necessary to complete an adaptation (e.g., in order to improve entrance/egress to a residence or to configure a bathroom to accommodate a wheelchair).

3. Adaptations that are not of direct medical or remedial benefit to the participant, such as carpeting, roof repair, central air conditioning, etc.
4. Adaptations that are made to leased property.
5. Comfort, convenience, or recreational adaptations.
6. Installations or adaptations for alarm systems, chairlifts, elevators, burglar bars, security cameras, personal emergency response systems, deadbolt locks, fences, hot tubs, whirlpool tubs, portable pools and spas, lap pools, and indoor ceiling lift systems.
7. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 900.
8. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

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2008 Basis for Reimbursement

- A. Lifetime maximum is \$10,400 per participant.
- B. Reimbursement Rate: Reimbursement rate for Environmental Accessibility Adaptation is the lower of three price quotes or the lifetime maximum. The reimbursement rates for all specialized services are found in Appendix A.

2009 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants may choose the self-direction option with Environmental Accessibility Adaptation.
- B. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 1200.

PART III - CHAPTER 2100

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2101 General

Financial Support Services (FSS) are designed to perform fiscal and related finance functions for the participant or representative who elects the participant-direction option for service delivery and supports. FSS assure that the funds to provide services and supports, outlined in the Individual Service Plan (ISP) and to be implemented through a self-directed approach, are managed and distributed as intended.

Financial Support Services are provided by a Fiscal Intermediary Agency (FIA) established as a legally recognized entity in the United States, qualified and registered to do business in the state of Georgia and approved as a Medicaid provider by the Department of Community Health (DCH).

Financial Support Services are mandatory and integral to participant-direction (budget authority).

2102 Special Requirement of Participation

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Financial Support Services providers must meet the following:

1. Provider Qualifications:

- a. Be a Fiscal Intermediary Agency;

- b. Be approved by the IRS under procedure 70-6 and meet requirements and functions as established by IRS code, Section 3504;
- c. Hold and execute Medicaid provider agreements and function as an Organized Health Care Delivery System (OHCDS) or as authorized under a written agreement with the Department of Community Health;
- d. Understand the laws and rules that regulate the expenditure of public resources;
- e. Have at least two years of basic accounting and payroll experience;
- f. Have a surety bond issued by a company authorized to do business in the State of Georgia in an amount equal to or greater than the monetary value of the participants' business accounts managed but not less than \$250,000;
- g. Be approved by the IRS (under IRS Revenue Procedure 70-6) and meet requirements and functions as established by the IRS code, section 3504;
- h. Not be enrolled to provide any other Medicaid services in the State of Georgia.

2. Service Delivery Requirements:

- a. Receive and disburse funds for the payment of participant-directed services under an agreement with the Department of Community Health, the State Medicaid agency.
- b. File claims through the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) for participant directed goods and services.
- c. Utilize accounting systems that operate effectively on a large scale and have the capacity to track individual budgets;
- d. Adhere to the timelines for payment that meet the individual participant's needs within Department of Labor standards;
- e. Develop, implement and maintain an effective payroll system that adheres to all related tax obligations for both payment and reporting;
- f. Maintain separate, individual accounts for each participant's funds to be used for participant-directed waiver services;

- g. Establish procedures for conducting and paying for up to five (5) local and national criminal background checks, and for completing age verification on service support workers;
- h. Establish procedures for generating service management, and statistical information and reports during each payroll cycle;
- i. Develop materials for startup training and technical assistance to participants, their representatives, and others as required to include, but not limited to, timesheets and payroll forms.
- j. Establish procedures for processing and maintaining all unemployment records;
- k. Provide an electronic process for reporting and tracking timesheets and expense reports;
- l. Establish procedures to execute and hold the Medicaid provider agreements as authorized under a written agreement with the Department of Community Health, the State Medicaid Agency.
- m. Monitor expenditures of individual budgets on a regular basis to ensure that payments to not exceed the total units amount and the total dollar amount allocated for each participant in the participant's approved budget;
- n. Provide all necessary employment and budget forms to Participants (employers) to include but not limited to timesheets, W-2s and a financial orientation package;
- o. Provide financial instruction and technical assistance to Participants (employers);

2103 Licensure

Provider agencies that render Financial Support Services must hold the applicable business license as required by the local, city, or county government in which the services are provided.

2104 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. *Only* participants who opt for participant-direction of services are eligible to receive Financial Support Services.
- B. The need for Financial Support Services must be reflected in the Individual Service Plan approved by the Intake and Evaluation Team.

- C. Financial Support Services are not available to participants or representatives who choose the ***Co-Employer*** model for self-directed services and supports.

2105 Prior Approval

Financial Support Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and revisions.

2106 Covered Services

Based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP, the Financial Support Services Provider:

1. Conducts and pays for criminal background checks (local and national) and completes age verification on service support workers.
2. Receives and disburses funds for payment of participant-directed services, in accordance with all related tax obligations, unemployment records, and worker compensation on earned income.
3. Generates service management, statistical information, and reports during each payroll cycle.
4. Provides startup training and technical assistance to participants, their representatives, and others as required.
5. Process and maintain all unemployment records.

2107 Non-Covered Services

1. Supplies and maintenance for fax machine.
2. The FSS provider can only provide Financial Support Services and must not be enrolled to provide any other Medicaid services in Georgia.
3. Financial Support Services are not available to participants or representatives who choose the ***Co-Employer*** model for self-directed services and supports.
4. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds

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State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

2108 Basis for Reimbursement

- A. One unit per month per member.
- B. Reimbursement Rate
The reimbursement rate for Financial Support Services is found in Appendix A.

2109 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Financial Support Services is a mandatory and non-negotiable for participants who choose the participant-directed option for service delivery.
- B. When the participant is the employer of record, the FSS provider is the Internal Revenue Service approved Fiscal Employer Agent (FEA).
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 2200

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL DIRECTED GOODS AND SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2201 General

Individual Directed Goods and Services are goods and services not otherwise provided through the NOW or the Medicaid State Plan but are identified by the waiver participant/representative who opts for participant direction and the Support Coordinator or interdisciplinary team. These services are available **only** for participants who choose the participant-direction option for service delivery. Individual Directed Goods and Services must be clearly linked to an assessed need of the individual participant due to his or her disability and be documented in the participant's Individual Service Plan.

Individual Directed Goods and Services are purchased from the participant-directed budget and cover services that include improving and maintaining the participant's opportunities for full membership in the community. Goods and services purchased under this coverage may not circumvent other restrictions on NOW services, including the prohibition against claiming for the costs of room and board. Individual Directed Goods and Services must be authorized by the operating agency prior to service delivery.

The Individual Directed Goods and Services must:

- Decrease the need for other Medicaid services; AND
- Not be available through another source, including the participant not having the funds to purchase the item or service; AND
- Promote inclusion in the community; OR
- Increase the participant's safety in the home environment;

The participant/representative must submit a request to the Support Coordinator for the goods or service to be purchased that includes the supplier/vendor name and identifying information and the cost of the service/goods. A paid invoice or receipt that provides clear evidence

of the purchase must be on file in the participant's records to support all goods and services purchased. Authorization for these services requires Support Coordinator documentation that specifies how the Individual Directed Goods and Services meet the above-specified criteria for these services. Participants receiving flexible support coordination are required to follow these same procedures.

2202 Special Requirements of Participation

2202.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Individual Directed Goods and Services providers must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Individual Providers of Individual Directed Goods and Services must:**
 - a. Must be 18 years or older;
 - b. Have a minimum of a high school diploma or GED Equivalent;
 - c. Must have two years of professional work experience in the area of purchasing or related experience; OR
 - d. Have an applicable business license for goods provided.
- 2. Authorization Documentation:** The vendor for Individual Directed Goods and Services assures receipt of a copy of the required Support Coordinator documentation for authorization of these services prior to service provision.
- 3. Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 1200.
- 4. Documentation of Services and Goods Purchased:** A paid invoice or receipt that provides clear evidence of the purchase

must be on file in the participant's records to support all goods and services purchased.

2202.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Individual Directed Goods and Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

1. **Agency Providers of Individual Directed Goods and Services must:**
 - a. Have employees providing services that meet the above requirements for individual providers; OR
 - b. Have an applicable business license for goods provided.
2. **Authorization Documentation:** The agency vendor for Individual Directed Goods and Services assures receipt of a copy of the required Support Coordinator documentation for authorization of these services prior to service provision.
3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 1200.
4. **Documentation of Services and Goods Purchased:** A paid invoice or receipt that provides clear evidence of the purchase must be on file in the participant's records to support all goods and services purchased.

2203 Licensure

Individual Directed Goods and Services are provided by vendors with the applicable Georgia business license as required by the local, city or county government in which the services are provided.

2204 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. Individual Directed Goods and Services are only for participants who opt for participant-direction.

- B. The specific goods and services provided under Individual Directed Goods and Services must be clearly linked to an assessed need of the individual participant due to his or her disability and be documented in the participant's Intake and Evaluation approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).
- C. The participant/representative must submit a request to the Support Coordinator for the goods or service to be purchased that will include the supplier/vendor name and identifying information and the cost of the service/goods.

2205 Prior Approval

- 1. Authorization for these services requires Support Coordinator documentation that specifies how the Individual Directed Goods and Services meet the requirements for purchase of this coverage specified below:
 - a) The goods or services are not covered through the NOW Program or Medicaid State Plan; AND
 - b) The participant does not have the funds to purchase the item or service or the item or service is not available through another source; AND
 - c) The item or service would decrease the need for other Medicaid services; AND
 - d) Promote inclusion in the community; OR
 - e) Increase the participant's safety in the home environment.
- 2. The Support Coordinator provides a copy of the above documentation to the vendor prior to service provision.
- 3. The above authorization procedures for the Support Coordinator must be followed for participants receiving flexible support coordination.
- 4. Individual Directed Goods and Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with the ISP development and any ISP revisions.

2206 Covered Services

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Reimbursable Individual Directed Goods and Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Goods that specifically relate to the participant's needs due to his or her disability and are not otherwise provided through the NOW or the Medicaid State Plan.
2. Services that specifically relate to the participant's needs due to his or her disability and are not otherwise provided through the NOW or the Medicaid State Plan.

2207 Non-Covered Services

1. Services or goods not related to the needs of the individual participant due to his or her disability.
2. Experimental or prohibited treatments.
3. Costs for room and board and other restrictions on NOW services.
4. Services otherwise provided through the NOW or the Medicaid State Plan, including additional units or costs beyond the maximum allowable for any NOW or Medicaid State Plan service.
5. Items denied through the Durable Medical Equipment and other Medicaid State Plan programs due to the lack of medical necessity.
6. Educational services otherwise available through a program funded under 20 USC Chapter 3, section 1400 of the Individuals Education Act (IDEA), including private school tuition, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in schools, school supplies, tutors, and home schooling activities and supplies.
7. Services that are available under a program funded under section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
8. Incentive payments, subsidies, or unrelated vocational training expenses.
9. Supervisory activities rendered as a normal part of the business setting.

10. Medically related services that are not allowable by State law, rules, and regulations.
11. Admission fees, Memberships, Subscriptions, Donations, or related items.
12. Training paid caregivers.
13. Services in a hospital.
14. Any item listed as non-covered for the NOW Specialized Medical Supplies, Specialized Medical Equipment, Vehicle Adaptations, and Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services.
15. Services reimbursable by any other source.
16. Costs of travel, meals and overnight lodging for families and natural support network members to attend a training event or conference.
17. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 900.

2208 Basis for Reimbursement

Reimbursement Rate: The reimbursement rate is the lower of three price quotes or the annual maximum. The reimbursement rate for Individual Directed Goods and Services is found in Appendix A.

- A. The annual maximum number of units is 20.
- B. Annual maximum is \$1500.00.
- C. Limit: 1 unit = \$1.00

2209 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Individual Directed Goods and Services are only for participants who opt for the self-direction option.

- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Individual Directed Goods and Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 2300

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR NATURAL SUPPORT TRAINING SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2301 General

Natural Support Training (NST) Services provide training and education to individuals who provide **unpaid** support, training, companionship or supervision to participants. For purposes of this service, individual is defined as any person, family member, neighbor, friend, companion, or co-worker who provides uncompensated care, training, guidance, companionship or support to a person served on the waiver. These services must relate to the individual participant's needs due to his or her disability and tie to a specific goal in the Individual Service Plan. All training for individuals who provide unpaid support to the participant provided through NST Services must be included in the participant's ISP.

NST Services include individualized training of families and members of the participants' natural support networks for the acquisition or enhancement of their ability to support the waiver participant. This training consists of instruction about treatment regimens and other services included in the ISP. NST Services comprise training on the use of equipment as specified in the ISP. These services may include updates in training required to maintain the participant safely at home. NST Services encompass the costs of registration and training fees associated with formal instruction in areas relevant to the participant's disability needs identified in the ISP. These services do not include the costs of travel, meals, and overnight lodging to attend a training event or conference.

NST Services are provided by Developmental Disability Professionals (see Appendix A for definition). These services may be provided in a participant's own or family home, the Developmental Disability Professional's office, outpatient clinics, Supported Employment work sites, or other community settings specific to community-based Natural Support Training goals specified in the Individual Service Plan. Natural Support Training Services Providers offer (or arrange when needed) any of the standard services listed in section 2306 – Covered Services that are needed due to the disability of the participants served and specified in the participants' Individual Service Plans.

2302 **Special Requirements of Participation**

2302.1 **Individual Provider**

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Natural Support Training providers must meet the following requirements:

1. **Individual Providers of Natural Support Training Services must meet the requirements for a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP).** For definition of DDP, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Appendix I*.
2. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Natural Support Training Services:
 - a. Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - c. Location where the service was delivered;
 - d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e. Verification of registration and certificate of attendance at any formal training;
 - f. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for

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individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

2302.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Natural Support Training Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

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1. Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities

Provider agencies rendering Natural Support Training Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

- a. A designated agency director who must:
 - Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:
 - Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
 - Manages the use of agency funds;
 - Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
 - Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;

- Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.
- c. At least one agency employee or professional under contract with the agency must:
- Be a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) (for definition, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Appendix I*);
 - Have responsibility for delivering Natural Support Training Services to participants.
- d. The same individual may serve as both the agency director and the Developmental Disability Professional;
- e. Duties of the DDP include, but are not limited to:
- Providing individualized training to families and members of participants' natural support networks;
 - Providing instruction about treatment regimens and other services included in the participant's ISP;
 - Instructing families and members of participants' natural support networks on the use of equipment specified in the participant's ISP;
 - Formulating the plan for delivery of Natural Support Training Services;
 - Overseeing plans for formal instruction in areas relevant to the participant's disability needs identified in the ISP.
- f. Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees or professionals under contract that meet the DDP definition to provide Natural Support Training Services as specified in the Individual Service Plans of participants served.
- g. Provider agencies must assure that employees or professionals under contract providing NST services hold applicable professional licenses as required by Georgia Code Title 43.
2. **Agency Policies and Procedures** - Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the

operations of Natural Support Training services, which follow the Standards for the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases as stated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*.

3. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Natural Support Training Services:
 - a. Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - c. Location where the service was delivered;
 - d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
4. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 1200.
5. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards:** Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Core Requirements for All Providers and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 603).

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2303 Licensure

The Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) providing NST services must have any applicable professional license as required by Georgia Code Title 43, for:

1. Psychologist (OCGA 43-39-1); or
2. Physician (OCGA 43-34-20); or
3. Physician Assistant (OCGA 43-34-21); or
4. Advanced Practice or Registered Nurse (OCGA 43-26-3); or
5. Social Worker or Professional Counselor (OCGA 43-10-A-1); or
6. Physical Therapist (OCGA 43-33-1); or
7. Occupational Therapist (OCGA 43-28-1); or
8. Speech and Language Pathologist (OCGA 43-44-1).

2304 Special Eligibility Conditions

The need for NST services must be related to the individual participant's disability and tied to a specific goal in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

2305 Prior Approval

NST services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with the ISP development and any ISP revisions.

2306 Covered Services

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Reimbursable Natural Support Training Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Individualized, direct training of families and natural support networks for acquisition or enhancement of their ability to support the waiver participant.
2. Instruction about treatment regimens and other services included in the ISP.
3. Training on the use of equipment specified in the ISP.

4. Updates in training required to maintain the participant safely at home.
5. The costs of registration and training fees associated with formal instruction in areas relevant to the individual participant's needs due to his or her disability and as identified in the ISP.

2307 Non-Covered Services

1. Training paid caregivers.
2. Services reimbursable by any other source.
3. Costs of travel, meals and overnight lodging to attend a training event or conference.
4. Services not related to the needs of the individual participant due to his or her disability.
5. NST Services must not duplicate any family education or training provided through Adult Physical Therapy Services, Adult Occupational Therapy Services, Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services, or Behavioral Supports Consultation Services.
6. NST Services may not occur simultaneously or on the same day as Professional Therapeutic Services or Behavioral Supports Consultation Services.
7. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

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2308 Basis for Reimbursement

Reimbursement Rate

The reimbursement rate for Natural Support Services is found in Appendix A.

NST Services include the costs of registration and training fees associated with formal instruction *only* in areas relevant to the individual participant's needs due to his or her disability and as identified in the Individual Service Plan.

A. Unit of service is 15 minutes.

2309 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction option with Natural Support Training Services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Natural Support Training Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 2400

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2401 General

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Prevocational Services prepare a participant for paid or unpaid employment. These services are for the participant not expected to be able to join the general work force within one year as documented in the Individual Service Plan. If compensated, individuals are paid in accordance with the requirements of Part 525 of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Prevocational Services occur in facility-based settings or at community sites outside the facility for small groups of participants, called mobile crews, who travel from the facility to these community sites. Mobile crews receive Prevocational Services by performing tasks, such as cleaning or landscaping, at community sites other than the participant's home or family home or any residential setting.

The emphasis of Prevocational Services is directed to habilitative rather than explicit employment objectives. These services include teaching participants individual concepts necessary to perform effectively in a job in the community. Activities included in these services are directed at teaching concepts such as rule compliance, attendance, task completion, problem solving, endurance, work speed, work accuracy, increased attention span, motor skills, safety, and appropriate social skills.

The intended outcome of these services is to prepare the participant for paid or unpaid employment through increased skills. Prevocational Services are individually planned to meet the participant's needs for preparation for paid or unpaid employment. These services are provided either facility-based or at community sites other than the participant's home or family home or any other residential setting.

Prevocational Services are provided to groups of participants at a facility or to small groups of participants who travel to sites outside the facility, referred to as mobile crews. The staff to participant ratio for facility-based Prevocational Services cannot exceed one (1) to ten (10). The staff to participant ratio for Mobile Crew Prevocational Services cannot exceed one (1) to six (6). Prevocational Services Providers offer (or arrange when needed) any of the standard services

listed in section 2405 – Covered Services that are needed by the participants served and specified in the participants’ Individual Service Plans.

2402 Special Requirements of Participation

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Prevocational Services providers must meet the following requirements:

1. Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities

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Provider agencies rendering Prevocational Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

a. A designated agency director who must:

- Have either a bachelor’s degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or

b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:

- Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
- Manages the use of agency funds;
- Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
- Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
- Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.

- c. At least one agency employee or professional under contract with the agency must:
- Be a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) (for definition, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200, Appendix I*);
 - Have responsibility for overseeing the delivery of Prevocational Services to participants.
- d. The same individual may serve as both the agency director and the Developmental Disability Professional;
- e. Duties of the DDP include, but are not limited to:
- Overseeing the services and supports provided to participants;
 - Supervising the formulation of the participant's plan for delivery of Prevocational Services;
 - Conducting functional assessments; and
 - Supervising high intensity services.
- f. A minimum of one (1) direct care staff member for every ten (10) participants served in facility-based Prevocational Services and a minimum of one (1) direct care staff members for every six (6) participants served in Prevocational Services provided as mobile crews;
- g. Direct Care Staff must:
- Be 18 years or older;
 - Has high school diploma/equivalent (General Educational Development or GED).
 - Meet transportation requirement NOW Part II Chapter 900, Section 905 if transporting participants.
 - Be provided with a basic orientation prior to direct contact with participants and show competence in:
 - a. The purpose and scope of Prevocational Services, including related policies and procedures;
 - b. Confidentiality of individual information, both written and spoken;

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- c. Rights and responsibilities of individuals;
- d. Requirements for recognizing and reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of any individual:
 - i. To the DBHDD;
 - ii. Within the organization;
 - iii. To appropriate regulatory or licensing agencies; and
 - iv. To law enforcement agencies
- h. Duties of the Direct Care Staff include, but are not limited to:
 - Provides direct assistance in teaching such concepts as rule compliance, attendance, task completion, problem solving, endurance, work speed, work accuracy, increased attention span, motor skills, and safety to groups of participants;
 - Provides direct assistance in training appropriate social interaction skills required in the workplace to groups of participants;
 - Implements the behavioral support plans of participants to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors;
 - Provides participant-specific assistance, such as assistance with personal care and self-administration of medications.
- i. The agency has adequate direct care staff with First Aid and CPR certifications to assure having at least one staff person with these certifications on duty during the provision of facility-based or mobile crew Prevocational Services.
- j. The type and number of all other staff associated with the organization (such as contract staff, consultants) are:
 - 1) Properly trained or credentialed in the professional field as required;
 - 2) Present in numbers to provide services and supports to participants as required;

- 3) Experienced and competent in the services and support they provide.
 - k. National criminal records check (NCIC) documentation for all employees and any volunteers who have direct care, treatment, or custodial responsibilities for participants served by the agency.
2. **Agency Policies and Procedures** - Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Prevocational Services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities as stated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*.
 3. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Prevocational Services:
 - Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
 - Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - Location where the service was delivered;
 - Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
 4. **Prevocational Services and Other Services in the Same Facility:**
 - a. Providers rendering facility-based Prevocational Services and other services (e.g., Community Access Services and adult therapy services) can provide these services in the same facility; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.
 - b. Providers may grant access to other Medicaid providers for the provision of services at the facility; however, the services must

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be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple waiver services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

5. Providers must meet the following requirements for staff-to-participant ratios:

- a. Facility-Based Prevocational Services: a staff to participant ratio of one to two or more, not to exceed one (1) to ten (10).
- b. Mobile Crew Prevocational Services: a staff to participant ratio of one to two or more, not to exceed one (1) to six (6).
- c. The staff to participant ratio may be more intense than the upper limit indicated above; the actual ratio must be as indicated by the individualized needs of the participant as indicated on the ISP.

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6. DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards: Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

7. Fair Labor Standards Act Requirements: Providers must adhere to the requirements of Part 525 of the Fair Labor Standards Act as follows:

- a. Meet all requirements for time rates, piece rates, commensurate wages and fair business practices.
- b. Maintain Department of Labor certificates appropriate to the program provided and/or the individual if sub-minimum wage employment is provided.
- c. Determine Special Minimum Wage as specified in the Fair Labor Standards Act.

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8. Continuation of Prevocational Services: Effective July 1, 2009, any Individual Service Plan (ISP) for a participant who has a birthdays on or after November 1st, 2009 and has received at least a year (12 months) of Prevocational Services must document the following assessment of necessity and adequacy of the continuation of Prevocational Services for the participant:

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- a. Consideration of the following by the support coordinator and interdisciplinary team developing the ISP:

(1) Amount of time receiving Prevocational Services.

(2) Progress on any or all Prevocational Services goals in prior ISP.

(3) Interest of the participant in working.

(4) Any prior receipt of Supported Employment Services.

b. Determination by the support coordinator and interdisciplinary team of continuance or discontinuance of Prevocational Services for the participant based on the above assessment.

c. The provider of Prevocational Services for any participant for whom this section is applicable must maintain a copy of the required documentation in the participant's record.

9. Physical Environment

Providers who render facility-based Prevocational Services must provide these services in a facility that meets the following requirements:

- a. **Accessibility:** Is accessible to and usable by participants and meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements for facilities.
- b. **Building Construction and Maintenance:** Is constructed, arranged, and maintained so as to provide adequately for health, safety, access, and wellbeing of the participants.
- c. **Building Codes:** Is in compliance with all local building codes and other applicable codes;
- d. **Lighting:** Provides adequate lighting for participants' activities and safety;
- e. **Ventilation:** Is adequately ventilated at all times by either mechanical or natural means to provide fresh air and the control of unpleasant odors;
- f. **Floor Space:** Has adequate floor space to safely and comfortably accommodate the number of participants for all activities and services provided in that space;

- g. **Furnishings:** Has sufficient furniture for use by participants, which provide comfort and safety; are appropriate for population served, including any participants with physical, visual, and mobility limitations; and provide adequate seating and table space for participant activities in the facility, including dining if applicable; Is accessible to and usable by participants and meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements for facilities.
- h. **Environmental/Sanitation:** Is in good repair and clean inside and outside of the facility, including being free from litter, extraneous materials, unsightly or injurious accumulations of items and free from pest and rodents;
- i. **Temperature Conditions:** Has an adequate central heating and cooling system or its equivalent at temperature ranges that are consistent with the individual health needs and comfort of participants;
- j. **Equipment Maintenance:** Maintains all essential mechanical, electrical, and participant activity, care and support equipment in safe operating condition;
- k. **Drinking Fountain:** Must have drinking fountain(s) approved by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Division of Public Health or provide access to single disposable cups to participants, with participants disposing of the used cups immediately after use;
- l. **Restrooms:** Has a minimum of at least two toilets and lavatories available, with accessibility for individuals with physical and mobility limitations, including installed grab bars;
- m. **Participant Activities and Dining Space:** Has one or more clean, orderly, and appropriate furnished rooms of adequate size designated for participant activities and, if applicable, dining. If the facility has a single room for participant activities and dining, the room provides sufficient space to accommodate both activities without interfering with each other;
- n. **Medication Storage:** Assures that medications are:
 - 1) Stored under lock and key at all times. A staff member may keep medications needed for frequent or emergency use. The provider stores medications that require refrigeration in a locked container in the refrigerator;
 - 2) Kept in original containers with original labels intake or in labeled bubble packs from a pharmacy;

- 3) Handled in accordance with current applicable State laws and regulations.
- o. **Documentation of Self-Administration of Medications:** The facility maintains documentation of all self-administration of medications supervised by facility staff. The documentation record must include the name of the medication, dosage, date, time, and name of the staff person who assists the participants in the self-administration of medications by the participant.
- p. **Evacuation Plan:** The facility formulates a plan for evacuation of the building in case of fire or disaster. This plan is posted in a clearly visible place in each room. All employees are instructed and kept informed of their duties under the plan.
- q. **Food Services:** The following only apply if the facility stores, prepares, or distributes food:
 - 1) The facility observes and complies with all of the Rules of Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Public Health, Chapter 290-5-14, Food Service and any local health ordinances when engaged in the storage, preparation, and distribution of food.
 - 2) Meals and snacks are prepared either on site or under subcontract with an outside vendor who agrees to comply with the food and nutritional requirements. The facility posts its current Food Service Permit and inspection report or the subcontracted vendor's current Food Service Permit and inspection report.

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Note. The Department will allow the facility to be exempted from the Food Service Permit requirement if all the facility does is use a microwave to heat up food participants bring to the facility. This exception is allowed only if:

- The microwave oven is clean, in good repair, and free of unsanitary conditions
- The microwave oven is allowed for warming of permitted foods and beverages based on the provider's internal policies and procedures.
- All food and utensils are handled in a sanitary manner.

- 3) The facility has a designated kitchen area for receiving food, facilities for warming or preparing cold food, and
- 4) clean-up facilities including hot and cold running water. The facility provides palatable, nutritious and attractive meals and snacks that meet the nutritional requirements of each member.

10. **Transportation:** The participant's family or representative may choose to transport the member to the Prevocational Services facility.

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11. **Individual Site Enrollment:** *Part I Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/Peachcare for Kids* require that each provider enroll at each location where services are provided to Medicaid members. Each individual, facility-based Prevocational Services site must be individually enrolled.

2403 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. Prevocational Services are available only for participants for whom the service is not available under a program funded under section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the IDEA (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.). Documentation is maintained in the file of each participant receiving Prevocational Services that these services are not available through any of these programs.
- B. Prevocational Services are for participants not expected to be able to join the general work force within one year as documented in the Individual Service Plan.
- C. The need for Prevocational Services must be related to the individual disability; services must be therapeutic in nature; and tied to a specific goal in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

2404 Prior Approval

Prevocational Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan (ISP) development and with any ISP revisions.

2405 Covered Services

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Reimbursable Prevocational Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved

ISP:

1. Teaching such concepts as rule compliance, attendance, task completion, problem solving, endurance, work speed, work accuracy, increased attention span, motor skills, and safety.
2. Instruction in appropriate social interaction skills required in the workplace.
3. Participant-specific assistance, such as assistance with personal care and self-administration of medications, as identified in the Individual Service Plan.
4. Facility-based training and/or assistance.
5. Mobile crews, which consist of a group of participants who engage in prevocational services by performing tasks, such as cleaning or landscaping, at community sites at sites outside the facility.
6. Transportation is required to and from the facility site (a reasonable amount of transportation, defined as up to one hour per day, is billable).

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2406 Non-Covered Services

1. Prevocational Services are distinct from and do not occur at the same time of day as Community Access or Supported Employment services.
2. Services that are available under a program funded under section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the IDEA (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).
3. Medically related services that are not allowable by State law, rules, and regulations.
4. Prevocational Services may not be delivered in a participant's own or family home or any residential site.
5. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 900.
6. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds

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State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

2407 Basis for Reimbursement

- A. A Unit of service is 15 minutes.
- B. Reimbursement Rate: The reimbursement rate for Prevocational Services is found in Appendix A.

2408 Participant-Direction Options

- 1. Prevocational Services are not eligible for any participant-direction option.
- 2. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 2500
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
RESPITE SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2501 General Description of Respite Services

Respite Services provide brief periods of support or relief for family or other unpaid caregivers of individuals with disabilities. Respite is provided in the following situations:

- 1) When families or other unpaid caregivers are in need of support or relief in order to leave the home for periods during the day or overnight;
- 2) When the participant needs relief or a break from the caregiver;
- 3) When relief from caregiving is necessitated by unavoidable circumstances, such as a family emergency.

Planned respite provides brief periods of support or relief for caregivers or participants. Respite Services might also be needed to respond to family emergency situations.

Respite is intended to be a short term service for a participant who requires a period of structured support, or when respite services are necessitated by unavoidable circumstances, such as a family emergency. Respite may be provided as in-home support Provider agencies approved by DBHDD for in home respite (in participant's home) and/or out-of-home (participant receives service outside of their home). Approved providers may deliver out of home respite services in a host home managed by a Community Residential Alternative provider or in a licensed Personal Care Home, Community Living Arrangement, or Child Caring Institution.

Respite services are provided in the following configurations which may be used interchangeably by family members responsive to need:

In-Home Respite-15-Minute Unit	1 Member
In-Home Respite-15-Minute Unit	2 Members
In-Home Respite-15-Minute Unit	3 Members
Respite-Daily	Category 1
Respite-Daily	Category 2

2502 Special Requirements of Participation

2502.1 In-Home Respite Services Provider

Licensure

Provider agencies that render In-home Respite Services must hold a current Private Home Care Provider License from the Department of Community Health, Healthcare Facilities Regulation Division (HFR). Licensure level must be commensurate with the level of service delivered:

personal care tasks; and/or
companion or sitter tasks

Please refer to <http://dch.georgia.gov/hfr-laws-regulations> for information about specific licensure regulations.

For more information about provider enrollment, please refer to *Part II, Chapters 600 – 1200, Policies and Procedures For Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (Comp) and New Options Waiver Program (Now) General Manual*.

Supervision and Direct Support Staff Duties

Supervision of Direct Support Staff

All agency providers must comply with staff supervision requirements as defined in Private Home Care licensure Rules.

Duties of Direct Support Staff

Duties of direct support Respite staff include, but are not limited to:

- Provide direct assistance to the participant in self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills training, retention and improvement;
- Provide personal care and protective oversight and supervision;
- Implement the behavioral support plans of participants to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors;
- Provide assistance and training on independent community living skills, such as personal hygiene, light housework, laundry, meal preparation, transportation, grocery shopping, using the telephone, and medication and money management.
- Provide assistance in completing Outcomes and Goals according to the current Individual Support Plan.

Other Requirements

The agency has adequate direct care staff with First Aid and CPR certifications to assure having at least one staff person with these certifications on duty during the provision of services.

CLS services must be provided by an employee of the enrolled CLS provider agency, by an individual obtained through an employment agency or by a family-selected employee under the participant-directed model.

2502.2 Out-of-Home Respite Services Provider

Providers who render Respite Services outside the participant's own or family home must meet the following requirements:

Provider Agencies of Out-of-Home Respite Services

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP Program, provider agencies who render out-of-home Respite Services must meet the following requirements:

Licensure and Delivery Settings

<u>Setting</u>	<u>License Required</u>	<u>Citation Source</u>
Community Residential Arrangement	yes	http://dch.georgia.gov/hfr-laws-regulations
Child Placing Agency	yes	https://dhs.georgia.gov/child-placing-agencies-cpa
Host Home	no	* N/A

Community Living Arrangement: provider-operated residence with license capacity approval of four or fewer residents.

Child Placing Agency: provider-operated residence licensed for residential support of all waiver participants under age 19.

Host Home/Life Sharing Site: private residence in which the occupant owner or lessee provides residential services to one or two persons.

* Refer to DBHDD policy 02-704 *Process for Enrolling, Matching, and Monitoring Host Home/Life-Sharing Sites for DBHDD Developmental Disability Community Service Providers*

Supervision and Direct Support Staff Duties

Supervision of Direct Support Staff

Respite providers delivering out-of-home services must comply with staff supervision and training requirements as defined in licensure *Rules and DBHDD policy for Host Home/Life Sharing Sites*.

Enrolled Respite provider agencies provide nursing consultation and oversight through direct employment status or through contracted nursing services. Consultative nursing provides support to direct care staff and managers on an as needed basis and is available to respite staff to assist with healthcare decisions, training direct care staff, and communication with physicians and other healthcare providers.

Consultative nursing does not replace direct nursing services if required to treat, evaluate or monitor specific conditions. Policies and Procedures for Nursing Services directly reimbursed through the COMP Waiver Program are outlined in Chapter 3400 of *Part III Chapters 1300 – 3400 Policies and Procedures for Comprehensive Supports Waivers Program*.

Direct Care Staff

Duties of the Direct Care Staff include, but are not limited to:

- Providing participant-specific assistance and training in activities of daily living, such as bathing, dressing, grooming, other personal hygiene, feeding, toileting, transferring, and other similar tasks;
- Accompanying participants and facilitating participation in visits for medical care and other community activities if needed;
- Assistance in household care, such as meal preparation, clothes laundering, bed-making, housecleaning, shopping, and other similar tasks;
- Assisting with therapeutic exercises, supervising self-administration of medication and performing health maintenance activities;
- Implementing positive behavioral support plans of participants to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors.

Other Requirements

In respite service settings, at least one staff trained in Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS) and first aid is on duty at all times on each shift
Providers must comply with DBHDD Policy 04-104 relative to Criminal History Records Checks as well as all criminal background checks required by the applicable licensure Rules.

Overnight Respite Home Site Inspections: With the exception of providers of participant-directed services, individual providers who render out-of-home, Overnight Respite Services must meet the following requirements:

Initial Site Inspection: Designated DBHDD Field Office staff conduct the initial inspection for the above Physical Standards requirements of private residences of an individual provider prior to the rendering of Overnight Respite Services and send approval documentation to the DBHDD Regional Coordinator or designee.

Re-Inspections of Site: CRA providers who deliver out-of-home Respite Services must re-inspect semiannually the host home site for the standards requirements, document the meeting of these requirements, and make available documentation for review by Support Coordinators, and DBHDD and DCH staff.

DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards: Agency providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 600, Section 603*).

2503. Special Eligibility Conditions

Waiver participant lives with and receives support from unpaid caregivers.

The need for Respite services must be reflected through assessed needs described as tasks or activities in the approved Individual Support Plan (ISP).

2504. Prior Approval

Community Living Support Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with reevaluation of need, development of the initial and annual Individual Support Plan and with any ISP revisions completed based upon a change in condition or circumstances.

2505 Covered Services

Reimbursable Respite Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Planned or scheduled respite that provides brief periods of support or relief for caregivers or participants (1) when families or the usual caregivers are in need of additional support or relief; or (2) when the participant needs relief or a break from the caregiver.
2. Short-term Respite that provides a period of structured support for a participant due to unavoidable circumstances, such as a family emergency.
3. Respite Services are short-term services during a day or overnight that include but are not limited to:
 - a. Participant-specific assistance, such as assistance with activities of daily living, self-administration of medications, and health maintenance activities, personal care and protective oversight.
 - b. Direct assistance including transportation as needed to facilitate participants' routine engagement in community social, recreational and leisure activities during absence from the family or natural home;
 - c. Implementation of the behavioral support plans of participants to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors;

2506 Non-Covered Services

- a. Services delivered in a personal care home, community living arrangement, or child caring institution serving more than four individuals.
- b. Services provided in hospitals, ICF/ID facilities, assisted living facilities, and nursing homes.
- c. Services that duplicate or are provided at the same time of the same day as Community Living Support, Community Access or Supported Employment services.
- d. In-home Respite Services may not be delivered in foster homes, host homes, personal care homes, community living arrangements, or any other home/residence other than the participant's family home;

- e. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family.
- f. Medically related services that are not allowable by State law, rules, and regulations except health maintenance activities provided as defined in the *Rules and Regulations for Proxy Caregivers Used in Licensed Healthcare Facilities, Chapter 111-8-100*.
- g. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

2507 Documentation

- 1. Documentation of In-home Respite services must include the following elements in the record of each participant:
 - a. Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time of day(s) when the service was delivered;
 - c. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - d. Supervisory note documenting licensure-level required supervision of the direct support personnel;
 - e. Progress in moving the participant towards his or her goals and supporting the family. Relevant sections of the ISP include: person-centered goals and desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary, and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.

2508 Basis for Reimbursement

Reimbursement Rate: Reimbursement rates for Respite services are found in Appendix A.

- Once a participant uses the annual maximum of 30 days of overnight respite or the equivalent in in-home respite, no additional Respite Services are billable for that participant for the remainder of the individual's ISP year.

2509 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction option with Respite Services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Respite Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 2600

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIALIZED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2601 General

Specialized Medical Equipment (SME) Services include various devices, controls or appliances which are designed to enable individuals to interact more independently with their environment thus enhancing their quality of life and reducing their dependence on physical support from others. SME services also include assessment or training needed to assist participants with mobility, seating, bathing transferring, security or other skills such as operating a wheelchair, locks, door openers, or side lyers. These services additionally consist of customizing a device to meet a participant's needs. The NOW is intended for those goods and services that are not covered by the State Medicaid Plan or those instances in which a participant's needs exceed State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

The NOW is the payer of last resource for items that are covered through the Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Orthotics and Prosthetics, and Hearing Services programs and other Medicaid State Plan programs. All items covered through these programs must be requested through the respective programs. Specialized Medical Equipment services must be documented to be the payer of last resource. The DME program prior approval process is used to determine medical necessity for medical equipment. The NOW does not cover items that have been denied through the DME and other programs for lack of medical necessity.

Providers for Specialized Medical Equipment should refer to Part II, Policies and Procedures for Durable Medical Equipment, Part II, Policies and Procedures for Orthotics and Prosthetics and Part III, Hearing Services for additional information about coverage of these services.

2602 Special Requirements of Participation

2602.1 Individual Vendor or Dealer

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, individual vendors and dealers in Specialized Medical Equipment must meet the following requirements:

Rev 04 2009

1. **Documentation Requirement: Documentation of administration costs for SME services delivery, that delineates lines item sources of cost; billing of associated administration cost can not exceed eight of ten (8 to 10) percent of original billing for SME services.** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving SME services:

Rev. 01 2009

- a. The efforts to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources by the participant's support coordinator.
- b. State Plan denial of coverage documentation received by the DME Program.
- c. Verification of SME service delivery, including date, location, and specific equipment and assessment, training, customizing, or special circumstances repair of equipment provided.

2. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

2602.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for

the NOW Program, Specialized Medical Equipment Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

Rev. 04 2009

1. **Documentation Requirement: Documentation of** providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving SME services:

Rev. 04 2009

- a. The efforts to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources by the participant's support coordinator.

Rev. 01 2009

- b. State Plan denial of coverage received by the DME Program.

Rev. 04 2009

- c. Verification of SME service delivery, including date, location, and specific equipment and assessment, training, customizing, or special circumstances repair of equipment provided. Documentation of associated administration costs for SME service delivery that delineates line item sources of costs; billing of associated administration costs can not exceed eight of ten (8 to ten) percent of any billing for SME services.

2. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

3. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and MHDDD Community Service Standards:** Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract Standards, DBHDD Core Requirements for All Providers and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

2603

Licensure

Specialized Medical Equipment vendors must hold the applicable Georgia business license as required by the local, city or county government in which the services are provided.

2604

Special Eligibility Conditions

- Rev 10 2009
1. The need for SME services must be related to the individual disability and specified in the Health and Safety Section of Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).
- Rev. 10 2009
2. Medical necessity for SME services must be documented through an order by a Georgia licensed physician.

2605

Prior Approval

- Rev. 01 2009
1. Participant receives recommendation in writing from physician stating a need for SME
 2. Participant takes recommendation in writing to a DME vendor.
 - a. Support Coordination may assist with locating/accessing an appropriate DME vendor.
 3. DME vendor submits a prior approval request to the Department of Community Health using the prior approval process outlined in the policy manual for Durable Medical Equipment, Section 803, found on the web portal at www.mmis.georgia.gov
 4. The Department's contractor approves or denies prior approval based on medical necessity criteria and notifies DME through electronic format of determination.
 - a. If there is not enough information to make the determination, the Department's contractor will request additional documentation from the appropriate party.
 - b. If approved as a State Plan Service, the DME vendor then submits a claim and provides the medically necessary equipment to the participant.
 - c. If denied for not meeting medical necessity criteria, the waiver will not pay for the SME.
 - d. If denied for reasons other than medical necessity criteria, the waiver will pay for the SME. Some DME items are allowable but only through the prior approval process described in Chapter 800 of the DME Program Policy Manual. (Section 802 of this chapter reviews which items require prior approval. The following sections of the chapter describe the procedures for obtaining prior approval. Denial of prior approval for these items allows for billing to the waiver).
 - e. If the DME vendor is unable to submit a prior authorization or obtain a denial because the medically necessary item is

not a State Plan covered item, the provider maintains in the participant record a copy of the DME Policy Manual Section 902, 903, 904, or 905, substantiating the item as non-covered. This documentation will be accepted in lieu of a formal denial for the equipment. With this documentation, the item can be purchased through the waiver

Rev. 04 2010

5. If the waiver will pay for the SME, the SME services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revision.

2606 Covered Services

Reimbursable SME services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Purchase of equipment or the lease of equipment when cost effective.
2. Devices, controls or appliances specified in the Individual Service Plan, which enable participants to increase their abilities to perform activities of daily living and to interact more independently with their environment, including costs of assessment or training needed to assist participants with use of devices, controls, or appliances, such as operating a wheelchair, locks, door openers, or side lyers.
3. Applications, scanning communicators, speech amplifiers, control switches, electronic control units, wheelchairs, locks, door openers, or side lyers.
4. Customizing a device to meet a participant's needs.
5. Replacement or repair of equipment is covered in cases of special circumstances (e.g., from fire), normal wear and tear, or when the participant's condition changes.

Rev 01 2017

2607 Non-Covered Services

1. Equipment that has been denied through the DME and other programs for lack of medical necessity.
2. Equipment covered under the Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Orthotics and Prosthetics, and Hearing Services programs and other Medicaid non-waiver programs.
3. Environmental control equipment (e.g., air conditioners, dehumidifiers, air filters or purifiers).
4. Comfort or convenience equipment (e.g., vibrating beds, over-the-bed trays, chair lifts).
5. Institutional-type equipment (e.g., cardiac or breathing monitors).
6. Equipment designed specifically for use by a physician and trained medical personnel (e.g., EKG monitor, oscillating bed and laboratory testing equipment).
7. Physical fitness equipment (e.g., exercise cycle, exercise treadmill).
8. Furnishing-type equipment (e.g., infant cribs).
9. Home security items, (e.g., alarm systems, burglar bars, security cameras, personal emergency response systems and deadbolt locks).
10. Elevators, chair lifts, and indoor ceiling lift systems.
11. Equipment considered experimental or under investigation by the Public Health Service.
12. Equipment associated with experimental medical practices or treatments.
13. Infant and child car seats.
14. Blood pressure monitors and weight scales.
15. IPads, Computers, such as desktop and personal computers.
16. Cell phones and minutes.

Rev 01 2017

17. Hot tubs, spas, and whirlpool tubs.
18. Items that add value to a property, such as a fence.
19. Equipment commonly used for recreational purposes, including but not limited to bicycles, trampolines, swimming pools, swing sets, slides, stereos, radios, televisions, and MP3 players.
20. Equipment for education and related services by children for whom the Department of Education has primary responsibility (i.e., private schools, ABA in school, home-schooling, tutors).
21. Equipment replacement or repair that is necessitated by participant neglect, wrongful disposition, intentional misuse or abuse. Equipment will not be replaced due to the participant's negligence and/or abuse (e.g., a wheelchair left outside). Equipment will not be replaced before its normal life expectancy has been attained unless supporting medical documentation of change in the physical or developmental condition of the participant.
22. Extended warranties and/or maintenance agreement.
23. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in Chapter 900.
24. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

Rev 01 2013

2608 Basis for Reimbursement

- A. Lifetime maximum is \$13,474.76 per participant.
- B. Annual maximum is \$5,200.
- C. Reimbursement Rate
The reimbursement rate for the purchase, replacement or repair for Specialized Medical Equipment is the established Medicaid rate, or in the absence of a Medicaid rate, the lower of three price quotes or the annual maximum. Price quotes are not required for purchases, replacements, or repairs under \$200.00. The reimbursement rate is inclusive of equipment and any necessary technical assistance in its usage. The reimbursement rates for all specialized services are found in Appendix A.

2609 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants may choose the self-direction option with Specialized Medical Equipment Services.
- B. If the participant (or representative, if applicable) opts for participant direction of SME services, then this equipment will be purchased through participant-directed service delivery.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 2700

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIALIZED MEDICAL SUPPLIES SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2701 General

Rev. 04 2010
Rev. 04 2018

Specialized Medical Supplies (SMS) Services include various supplies that enable individuals to interact more independently with their environment and contribute to an enhanced quality of life, as well as a reduced dependence on physical support from others. SMS includes items such as food supplements, special clothing, diapers, bed wetting protective chucks, and other supplies that are specified in the approved Individual Service Plan and are not available under the other Medicaid non-waiver programs. Ancillary supplies necessary for the proper functioning of approved devices are also included in this service. The NOW is intended for those goods and services that are not covered by the other Medicaid programs or those instances in which a participant's needs exceed coverage limits in the other Medicaid programs and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

Medical supplies can be obtained through the waiver if the supplies needed are not offered through the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) program (e.g. diapers and formula for individual 21 or older). When the medical supplies are not covered by the DME program it is not necessary to first submit a request to the DME program before requesting SMS.

The NOW Waiver Program is the payer of last resource for items that are covered through the Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Orthotics and Prosthetics (O&P), and Hearing Services programs and other Medicaid non-waiver programs. All items covered through Medicaid non-waiver programs (e.g. dental, DME services, etc.) must be requested through the respective programs, Medicare or private insurance where eligible and coverable. DME and other specialized medical supplies services require prior approval through the related Medicaid Program. If the specialized medical supplies services are non-covered through the related Medicaid Program, the services being requested through the NOW must be supported by:

- Documentation of COMP as payor of last resort as evidenced by:

- Documented phone calls to DME vendors to determine coverage through other healthcare funding sources
- Documented review of the DME policy manual found at <https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Provider%20Information/Provider%20Manuals/tabId/54/Default.aspx>
- Documentation that service coverage has been exhausted in the other potential healthcare funding sources including State Plan Medicaid.
- The need for the services is documented through clinical evaluation.

The NOW does not cover items that have been denied through the DME or other Medicaid programs for lack of medical necessity. Supplies requested through the State DME program must comply with the guidelines outlined in Chapter 700 & 900 of Part II Policies and Procedures of Durable Medical Equipment.

For specific benefit coverage and limitations, providers of DME or other specialized medical supplies and services should refer to Part II, Policies and Procedures for Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Part II, Policies and Procedures for Orthotics and Prosthetics (O&P) and Part III, Hearing Services found at <https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Provider%20Information/Provider%20Manuals/tabId/54/Default.aspx>.

Rev 07 2018

Note: Pursuant to 42 CFR 440.70(b)(3)(i), “Supplies are health care related items that are consumable or disposable, or cannot withstand repeated use by more than one individual, that are required to address an individual medical disability, illness, or injury.”

2702 Special Requirements of Participation

2702.1 Individual Vendor or Dealer

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, individual vendors and dealers in Specialized Medical Supplies must meet the following requirements:

Rev. 04 2018

1. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers must document the following in the record of each participant receiving SMS services:

a. The efforts to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources by the participant's support coordinator.

Rev. 01 2009

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4/1/2018

a. State Plan non-coverage of a particular item or items as evidenced by:

i. Documented phone calls to DME vendors to determine coverage through other healthcare funding sources

ii. Documented review of the DME policy manual found at

<https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Provider%20Information/Provider%20Manuals/tabId/54/Default.aspx>

The following items do not require State Plan denial of coverage documentation for adults over age 21:

Diapers

Chucks (used to line the bed for incontinent people)

Diaper wipes

Nutritional supplements for adults

Medication not covered by Medicaid

Hearing aides

Eye glasses

Condom catheters

Rev. 04 2010

b. Verification of SMS service delivery, including date, location, and specific supplies provided.

Rev. 07 2009

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d. Documentation of associated administration costs for SMS service delivery that delineates line item sources of costs; billing of associated administration costs can not exceed eight to ten (8 to 10) percent of the cost of Specialized Medical Supplies.

2. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

3. **Transfer of Specialized Medical Supplies with Transition to**

New Provider: Specialized Medical Supplies billed for a participant **must** transfer with the participant when the participant transitions to a new waiver provider (e.g., SMS purchased in bulk for the participant for the entire quarter or year). This transfer of SMS includes all Specialized Medical Supplies billed for the participant but not yet provided to or used by the participant.

Rev. 04 2018

2702.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Specialized Medical Supplies Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

Documentation Requirement: Providers must document the following in the record of each participant receiving SMS services:

- a. The efforts to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources by the participant's support coordinator.
- b. State Plan non-coverage of a particular item or items as evidenced by:
 - i. Documented phone calls to DME vendors to determine coverage through other healthcare funding sources
 - ii. Documented review of the DME policy manual found at <https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Provider%20Information/Provider%20Manuals/tabId/54/Default.aspx>

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The following items do not require State Plan denial of coverage documentation for adults over 21:

Diapers
Chucks (used to line the bed for incontinent people)
Diaper wipes
Nutritional supplements for adults
Medication not covered by Medicaid

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Hearing aides
Eye glasses
Condom catheters

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- c. Verification of SMS service delivery, including date, location, and specific supplies provided.
- d. Documentation of associated administration costs for SMS service delivery that delineates line item *sources* of costs; billing of associated administration costs cannot exceed eight to ten (8 to 10) percent of the cost of Specialized Medical Supplies.

2. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 900*.
3. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and MHDDD Community Service Standards:** Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract Standards, DBHDD Core Requirements for All Providers and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARE, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).
4. **Transfer of Specialized Medical Supplies with Transition to New Provider:** Specialized Medical Supplies billed for a participant **must** transfer with the participant when the participant transitions to a new waiver provider (e.g., SMS purchased in bulk for the participant for the entire quarter or year). This transfer of SMS includes all Specialized Medical Supplies billed for the participant but not yet provided to or used by the participant.

2703 **Licensure**

Specialized Medical Supplies vendors must hold the applicable Georgia business license as required by the local, city or county government in which the services are provided.

2704 **Special Eligibility Conditions**

Rev. 04 2018

1. The need for SMS services must be related to the individual's disability and verified through clinical evaluation.

1. Medical necessity for SMS services must be documented through an order by a Georgia licensed physician, except for incontinent supplies which are approved by the Level of Care Nurse in the review of the ISP.

2705

Prior Approval

Rev. 01 2009
Rev. 04 2010

1. Participant receives recommendation in writing from physician stating a need for SMS, except for incontinent supplies which are approved by the Level of Care Nurse in the review of the ISP as indicated in Section 2704.
2. SMS provider attempts to procure the items through a DME vendor through all available healthcare coverage sources including but not limited to: private insurance, Medicare, and/or State Plan Medicaid.

Note: Representatives/individuals self-directing SMS are required to attempt to access SMS items through a DME vendor using all available healthcare coverage sources including but not limited to: private insurance, Medicare, and/or State Plan Medicaid.

Rev. 4/1/2018

- a. Support Coordination will assist with locating/accessing an appropriate DME vendor
3. DME vendor provides the item/items through authorization and reimbursement through a non-waiver fund source, or verifies that the item/items are not reimbursed through any other healthcare fund source.
 - a. Items covered by State Plan Medicaid are processed as outlined in the policy manual for Durable Medical Equipment, Section 803, found on the web portal at www.mmis.georgia.gov.

Rev. 04 2010

Rev. 04 2010

Rev. 04 2010

4. The DME vendor may be required to seek additional information for prior approval such as clear physician orders or other medical necessity documentation.
 - a. If denied for not meeting medical necessity criteria, the waiver will not pay for the SMS.
 - b. If denied for reasons other than medical necessity criteria, the waiver will authorize the item(s) under SMS.
 - c. If the DME vendor is unable to submit a prior authorization or obtain a denial because the medically

necessary item is not a State Plan covered item, the provider maintains in the participant record a copy of the DME Policy Manual Section 902, 903, 904, or 905, substantiating the item as non-covered. This documentation will be accepted in lieu of the formal denial for the supplies. With this documentation, the item can be purchased through SMS waiver funds.

Rev. 04 2010
4/1/2018

5. SMS services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revision.

Rev. 04 2010
Rev. 01 2011
4/1/2018

NOTE: Prior approval through the DME Program will not be required for items listed above in 2501.1b and 2502.1 (1b).

The following items do not require State Plan denial of coverage documentation:

Diapers
Chucks (used to line the bed for incontinent people)
Diaper wipes
Nutritional supplements for adults
Medication not covered by Medicaid
Hearing aides
Eye glasses
Condom catheters

2706

Covered Services

Reimbursable SMS services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

Rev. 04 2018

1. Specialized Medical Supplies are various supplies, which enable individuals to interact more independently with their environment thus enhancing their quality of life and reducing their dependence on physical support from others.
2. Nutritional supplements, such as Ensure, Isomil, and Boost, for participants 21 years of age or older.
3. Nutritional supplements, such as Ensure, Isomil, and Boost, for participants under the age of 21 years **only** if insurance benefits and/or State Plan coverage is exhausted.

4. Special clothing, such as specially designed vests to assist with wheelchair transfers and re-positioning, adaptive clothing for individuals with limited mobility, clothing designed with G-tube access openings, and other easy access clothing specifically designed for individuals with disabilities.
5. Diapers, bed wetting protective chucks, and other continence supplies.
6. Other supplies with documented medical necessity that are related to the participant's disability, such as supplies for ongoing medical or nursing care of the participant.
7. Ancillary supplies necessary for the proper functioning of approved devices are also included in this service.
8. Infection control supplies, such as non-sterile gloves, aprons, masks and gowns, when services are provided by an individual. Supplies used by agencies are customarily included in the agency's reimbursement rate for services. However, when supplies are required in quantity, for recurring need and are included in the ISP for a specific participant, these supplies would be considered as a separate billable item under this program. Supplies that are considered as separate billable items must meet the following criteria:
 - a. The supply is directly identifiable to an individual participant.
 - b. The item furnished at the direction of the participant's physician and is specifically identified in the ISP and only used by that participant.
9. Over-the-counter (OTC) medications when prescribed by a physician and related to a diagnosed condition.
10. Medications not covered by the Medicaid State Plan when written documentation from the pharmacy for non-coverage of the medication through the State Medicaid Plan is in the participant's record.

Rev 10 2013

Rev 10 2013

1. Items covered under the Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Orthotics and Prosthetics, and Hearing Services programs and other Medicaid non-waiver programs.
2. Items that have been denied through the DME and other programs for lack of medical necessity.
3. Environmental control items (e.g., air conditioners, dehumidifiers, air filters or purifiers).
4. Comfort or convenience items.
5. Physical fitness items (e.g., exercise cycle, exercise treadmill).
6. Supplies considered experimental.
7. Experimental medicines, practices, or treatments.
8. Infant and child car seats.
9. Blood pressure monitors and weight scales.
10. Computer supplies (printers, cartridges, speakers and other supplies).
11. Cell phones and minutes.
12. Ancillary supplies for the proper functioning of non-approved devices or equipment.
13. Supplies for education and related services by children for whom the Department of Education has primary responsibility (i.e., private schools, ABA in school, home-schooling, tutors).
14. Vitamins, herbal supplement, nutritional oils, and other non-nutritional supplements are not covered except when prescribed by a physician and related to a diagnosed condition.
15. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 900*.
16. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

Rev. 10 2011
Rev. 10 2013

Rev. 10 2013

- Rev. 10 2013 17. Medications covered by the Medicaid State Plan are not allowed.
18. Co-pays for medications.
- Rev. 01 2016 19. Bicycles, trampolines, swimming pools, swing sets, slides, stereos, radios, televisions, and MP3 players.

2708 Basis for Reimbursement

- A. \$1,734.48 annual maximum.
- B. Reimbursement Rate
Reimbursement rate for Specialized Medical Supplies is participant specific up to the annual maximum. The reimbursement rates for all specialized services are found in Appendix A.

2709 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants may choose the self-direction option with Specialized Medical Supplies Services.
- B. If the participant (or representative, if applicable) opts for participant direction of SMS services, then these supplies will be purchased through participant-directed service delivery.

For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 2800

Now found in *PART III POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR SUPPORT COORDINATION SERVICES AND INTENSIVE SUPPORT COORDINATION SERVICES (COMP & NOW)*
Waiver Programs

PART III - CHAPTER 2900

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

2901 General

Rev. 07 2011

Supported Employment services are ongoing supports that enable participants, for whom competitive employment at or above the minimum wage is unlikely absent the provision of supports, and who, because of their disabilities, need supports, to perform in a regular work setting. Supported Employment services are conducted in a variety of settings, particularly work sites where persons without disabilities are employed. The scope and intensity of Supported Employment supports may change over time, based on the needs of the participant. Supported Employment services are conducted in a variety of settings, particularly work sites where persons without disabilities are employed. Participants who receive Supported Employment services must require long-term, direct or indirect job-related support in job supervision, adapting equipment, adapting behaviors, transportation assistance, peer support, and/or personal care assistance during the work day. Supported Employment services consist of activities needed to obtain and sustain paid work by participants, including job location, job development, supervision, training, and services and supports that assist participants in achieving self-employment through the operation of a business, including helping the participant identify potential business opportunities, assisting in the development of a business plan, identifying the supports that are necessary for the participant to operate a business, and ongoing assistance, counseling and guidance once the business has been launched. These services do not include the supervisory activities rendered as a normal part of the business setting.

The planned outcomes of these services are to increase the hours worked by each participant toward the goal of forty hours per week and to increase the wages of each participant toward the goal of increased financial independence. Supported Employment services are based on the individual participant's needs, preferences, and informed choice. These services allow for flexibility in the amount of support a participant receives over time and as needed in various work sites.

Supported Employment Group services are provided to groups of participants, with a staff to participant ratio of one to two or more. The staff to participant ratio for Supported Employment Group services cannot exceed one (1) to ten (10). Supported Employment Individual services are provided to an individual participant, with a one-to-one staff to participant ratio. Supported Employment Services Providers offer (or arrange when needed) any of the standard services listed in section 2905 – Covered Services that are needed by the participants served and specified in the participants’ Individual Service Plans.

2902 Special Requirements of Participation

2902.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Supported Employment Services providers must meet the following requirements:

1. **Individual providers of Supported Employment services must meet the following requirements for Supported Employment Specialists:**
 - a. Be 18 years or older;
 - b. Have current CPR and Basic First Aid certifications;
 - c. Have the experience, training, education or skills necessary to meet the participant’s needs for Supported Employment services as demonstrated by:

Rev. 01 2009

- (1) Direct Support Professional (DSP) certification, **and** at least six (6) months of experience in supported employment of individuals with disabilities; **or**
- (2) Copy of high school diploma/transcript or General Education Development (GED) diploma **and** at least six (6) months of experience in supported employment of individuals with disabilities **and** fifteen (15) hours of training in providing supported employment of individuals with disabilities; **or** high school diploma or GED and one (1) year experience in providing supported employment to individuals with disabilities;

or documented experience providing specific supports to individuals with disabilities related to the supported employment of those individuals.

Rev. 04 2009

1. Agree to or provide required documentation of a criminal records check prior to providing Supported Employment services.
2. Meet transportation requirements in NOW Part II Chapter 900, Section 905 if transporting participants.

2. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Supported Employment Services:

- a. Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
- b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;

Rev. 10 2009

- e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.

3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

2902.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of

Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Supported Employment Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

Rev 01 2013

1. Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities

Provider agencies rendering Supported Employment Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

- a. A designated agency director who must:
 - Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:
 - Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
 - Manages the use of agency funds;
 - Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
 - Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
 - Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.
- c. At least one agency employee or professional under contract with the agency must:
 1. Be a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) (for definition, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Appendix I*);

2. Have responsibility for overseeing the delivery of Supported Employment Services to participants.
- d. The same individual may serve as both the agency director and the Developmental Disability Professional;
 - e. Duties of the DDP include, but are not limited to:
 - Overseeing the services and supports provided to participants;
 - Supervising the formulation of the participant's plan for delivery of Supported Employment Services;
 - Conducting functional assessments; and
 - Supervising high intensity services.
 - f. Must have a minimum of one (1) employee that meets the Supported Employment Specialist experience, training, education or skills qualifications specified above for Individual Providers for every five (5) direct care staff members.
 - g. Duties of the Supported Employment Specialist include, but are not limited to:
 - 1) Provides direct supervision of Direct Care Staff in their performance of Supported Employment services for participants;
 - 2) Develops, acquires, and maintains work opportunities for participants;
 - 3) Conducts necessary additional assessments at the work site;
 - 4) Helps participants choose appropriate jobs or a specific employment option;
 - 5) Applies training techniques which enhance the social and vocational functioning of participants;
 - 6) Monitors wages, hours, and productivity of participants on an ongoing basis;

- 7) Assists the participant, if applicable, in achieving self-employment through the operation of a business by:
 - i. Aiding the participant to identify potential business opportunities;
 - ii. Assisting in the development of a business plan, including potential sources of business financing and other assistance in developing and launching a business;
 - iii. Identifying the supports that are necessary for the participant to operate a business;
 - iv. Providing ongoing assistance, counseling and guidance once the business has been launched.
- h. A minimum of one (1) direct care staff member **or** Supported Employment Specialist for every ten (10) participants served in Group Supported Employment Services and minimum of one (1) direct care staff member **or** Supported Employment Specialist for every one (1) participant served in Individual Supported Employment Services;
- i. Direct Care Staff must:
 - Be 18 years or older;
 - Has high school diploma/equivalent (General Educational Development or GED)
 - Meet transportation requirements in NOW Part II Chapter 900, Section 905 if transporting participants.
 - Be provided with a basic orientation prior to direct contact with participants and show competence in:
 - 1) The purpose and scope of Supported Employment Services, including related policies and procedures;
 - 2) Confidentiality of individual information, both written and spoken;
 - 3) Rights and responsibilities of individuals;

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- 4) Requirements for recognizing and reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of any individual:
 - i. To the DBHDD;
 - ii. Within the organization;
 - iii. To appropriate regulatory or licensing agencies; and
 - iv. To law enforcement agencies
- j. Duties of the Direct Care Staff include, but are not limited to:
 - Provides direct assistance in activities needed for the individual participant or a group of participants to sustain work, including job coaching, supervision and training;
 - Provides direct assistance in training, retraining or improving the social and vocational functioning of the individual participant worker or groups of participant workers;
 - Implements the behavioral support plans of participants to reduce inappropriate and/or maladaptive behaviors and to acquire alternative adaptive skills and behaviors;
 - Provides active support and direct assistance in facilitating natural supports at the work site;
 - Provides other support services at or away from the work site, such as transportation and personal assistance services.
- k. The type and number of all other staff associated with the organization (such as contract staff, consultants) are:
 - 1) Properly trained or credentialed in the professional field as required;
 - 2) Present in numbers to provide services and supports to participants as required;

- 3) Experienced and competent in the services and support they provide.
1. National criminal records check (NCIC) documentation for all employees and any volunteers who have direct care, treatment, or custodial responsibilities for participants served by the agency.
2. **Agency Policies and Procedures** - Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Supported Employment services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities refer to *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*.
3. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Supported Employment Services:
 - Specific activity, training, or assistance provided;
 - Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - Location where the service was delivered;
 - Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
4. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
5. **Providers must meet the following requirements for staff-to-participant ratios:**

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- a. Group Supported Employment Services: a staff to participant ratio of one to two or more, not to exceed one (1) to ten (10).
- b. Individual Supported Employment Services: a one-to-one staff to participant ratio.

6. Providers must develop and plan Supported Employment services and supports:

- a. Based on the individual participant's needs, preferences, and informed choice;
- b. To allow for flexibility in the amount of support a participant receives over time and as needed in various work sites;
- c. With attention to the health and safety of the participant;
- d. In accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, if applicable, to include documentation of sub-minimum wage;
- e. With planned outcomes, which include:
 - 1) Increases in hours worked by each participant toward the goal of 40 hours per week;
 - 2) Frequent opportunities for each participant to interact with non-disabled peers during the normal performance of the job and/or during breaks, lunch periods, or travel to and from work;
 - 3) Increases in wages of each participant toward the goal of increased financial independence.

- b. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards:** Agency providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

2903 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. Supported Employment Services are available only for participants for whom the service is not available under a program funded under section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the IDEA (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.). Documentation is maintained in the file of each participant receiving Supported Employment Services that these services are not available through any of these programs.
- B. The need for Supported Employment Services must be related to the individual disability and tied to a specific goal in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

2904 Prior Approval

Supported Employment Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the operating agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan (ISP) development and with any ISP revisions.

2905 Covered Services

Rev. 07 2010 Reimbursable Supported Employment Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

- 1. Assisting the participant to locate a job or develop a job on behalf of the participant.
- 2. Activities needed to sustain paid work by participants, including supervision and training.
- 3. Services and supports that assist the participant in achieving self-employment through the operation of a business and may include:
 - a. Aiding the participant to identify potential business opportunities;
 - b. Assistance in the development of a business plan, including potential sources of business financing and other assistance in developing and launching a business;
 - c. Identification of the supports that are necessary for the participant to operate the business; and

- d. Ongoing assistance, counseling and guidance once the business has been launched. Payment is not made to defray the expenses associated with starting up or operating a business.
- 4. Adaptations, supervision, and training required by participants receiving Supported Employment services as a result of their disabilities, when these services are provided in a work site where persons without disabilities are employed.
- Rev 01 2018 5. Transportation of two or more participants to the same community work site is provided by the Supported Employment provider as an administrative cost in Supported Employment Group services.
- Rev 10 2009 6. Job Maintenance activities to maintain a participant in 60 to 80 or more hours of work per month.

2906 Non-Covered Services

- 1. Incentive payments, subsidies, or unrelated vocational training expenses such as the following:
 - a. Incentive payments made to an employer to encourage or subsidize the employer's participation in Supported Employment program;
 - b. Payments that are passed through to users of Supported Employment programs; or
 - c. Payments for training that is not directly related to an individual's Supported Employment program.
- 2. Supervisory activities rendered as a normal part of the business setting.
- Rev. 10 2009 3. Supported Employment Services are distinct from and do not occur at the same time of the same day as Community Access, Prevocational or Transportation Services, with the exception of non-face-to-face Supported Employment job development. The exception for Supported Employment job development must be documented sufficiently to demonstrate no duplication of services for an individual participant and a service provided in preparation for transition of an individual participant to Supported Employment Services.

4. Services that are available under a program funded under section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the IDEA (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).
5. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*, Chapter 900.

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6. Supported Employment Services do not include sheltered work or other similar types of vocational services furnished in specialized facilities, such as service centers for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

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7. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

2907

Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rate for Supported Employment Services is found in Appendix A

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Separate authorization of transportation services may be made for NOW participants to facilitate access to community work sites but must be provided by a vendor enrolled to provide transportation services or through participant direction.

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A. Supported Employment Job Maintenance

1. Supported Employment Job Maintenance is billed as actual hours worked from 60 hours up to a maximum of 80 hours per month, even if the participant works more than 80 hours.
2. Supported Employment Job Maintenance is billed under Supported Employment Group.
3. Supported Employment Group Services other than Job Maintenance can not be billed in any month in which Supported Employment Job Maintenance is billed.

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4. Supported Employment Individual Services can not be billed in any month in which Supported Employment Job Maintenance is billed. Exception: Individuals may need to receive focused individual supported employment service for a period of time during a month for the purpose of resolving problems in the workplace or facilitating building of a new skill or job task. Documentation must describe and support the need.

2908

Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants can choose the self-direction or co-employer options with Supported Employment Services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Supported Employment Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III – CHAPTER 3000
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
SERVICES

3001 General

Transportation Services enable waiver participants to access non-medical services, activities, resources, and organizations typically utilized by the general population. These services are only provided as independent, stand-alone waiver services when transportation is not otherwise included as an element of another waiver service.

Transportation services are not intended to replace available formal or informal transit options for participants. Whenever possible, family, neighbors, friends or community agencies, which can provide this service, without charge, are to be utilized. The need for Transportation Services and the unavailability of other resources for transportation must be documented in the Individual Service Plan (ISP).

Transportation Services provide transportation for the participant to waiver services and other community services, activities, resources, and organizations typically utilized by the general population. These services include:

- (1) One-way or round trips provided by Georgia licensed drivers and/or DD Service Agencies; and
- (2) Transit by commercial carrier available to the community at large.

Transportation Services must not be available under the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation Program, State Plan, Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), or the Rehabilitation Act. These services do not include transit provided through Medicaid non-emergency transportation. Transportation Services are not available to transport an individual to school (through 12th grade). These services do not include transportation that is included as an element of another waiver service as follows:

- Community Living Support Services
- Prevocational Services
- Supported Employment Group Services

- Community Access Group or Individual Services, which entail activities and settings primarily utilized by people with disabilities, such as transportation to and from a Mental Retardation Service Center or other day center.

Transportation Services are only for participants who do not have formal or informal transit options available. The type and amount of Transportation Services provided are specific to the individual participant and detailed in his or her Individual Service Plan. Transportation Services providers offer any of the standard services listed in section 3006—Covered Services that are needed by the participants served and specified in the participants' Individual Service Plans.

3002 Special Requirements of Participation

3002.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Transportation Services providers must meet the following requirements:

1. **Transportation Provided:** Individual providers rendering Transportation Services provide one-way or round trip transportation for participants.
2. **Individual providers of Transportation must:**
 - a. Be 18 years or older;
 - b. Have a valid, Class C license as defined by the Georgia Department of Driver Services;
 - c. Have current mandatory insurance;

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- d. Have no more than two chargeable accidents, moving violations, or any DUI's in a three (3) year period within the last five (5) years of the seven (7) year Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) period;

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NOTE: The Department will allow an exception to Out-of-State Driver's License and MVP record under the following circumstances: (1) the individual is on active duty in Georgia; (2) the individual is a college student enrolled at a Georgia college or university; or (3) the individual's place of residence is a neighboring state on the border of Georgia. For individual to be granted this exception, he or she must:

- Have a valid, Class C license
- Have no convictions for substance abuse, sexual crime or crime of violence for five (5) years prior to providing the service
- Have current, valid insurance

- e. Have evidence of an annual health examination with signed statement from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant that the person is free of communicable disease;
- f. Agree to or provide required documentation of a criminal records check, prior to providing Transportation Services.

3. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Transportation Services:
 - a. Specific type and purpose of transportation provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - c. Location of origin and that for destination of transportation services;

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- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
4. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

3002.2

Transportation Broker Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Transportation Broker Provider Agencies must meet the following requirements:

1. **Community Commercial Carrier:** Transportation Broker Provider Agencies rendering Transportation Services must provide commercial carrier services to the community at large or broker these services.
2. **Agency Policies and Procedures:** Each Transportation Broker Provider Agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Transportation Services.
3. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Transportation Services:
 - a. Specific type and purpose of transportation provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;

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- c. Location of origin and that for destination of transportation services;
 - d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
4. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
5. **DBHDD Provider Requirements:** Transportation Broker Provider Agencies must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, and any other applicable DBHDD Standards refer to *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*.

3002.3

DD Service Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, DD Service Agencies rendering Transportation Services must meet the following requirements:

Rev 01 2013

- 1. **Transportation Provided:** DD Service Agencies rendering Transportation Services provide one-way or round trip transportation for participants.
- 2. **Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities**

DD Service Provider agencies rendering Transportation Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

 - a. A designated agency director who must:

- Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:
- Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
 - Manages the use of agency funds;
 - Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;
 - Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;
 - Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.
- c. At least one agency employee or professional under contract with the agency must:
- Be a Developmental Disability Professional (DDP) (for definition, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Appendix I*);
 - Have responsibility for overseeing the delivery of Transportation Services to participants.
- d. The same individual may serve as both the agency director and the Developmental Disability Professional;
- e. Duties of the DDP include, but are not limited to:
- Overseeing the services and supports provided to participants;

- Supervising the formulation of the participant's plan for delivery of Transportation Services;
- Conducting functional assessments; and
- Supervising high intensity services.

f. Driver Staff must:

- Be 18 years or older;
- Be legally licensed in the State of Georgia with the class of license appropriate to the vehicle operated as follows:
 - 1) Have a valid, Class C license as defined by the Georgia Department of Driver Services for any single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating not in excess of 26,000 pounds.
 - 2) Have valid, Commercial Driver's License (CDL) as defined by the Georgia Department of Driver Services if the vehicle operated falls into one of the following three classes:
 - i. If the vehicle has a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 or more pounds or such lesser rating as determined by federal regulation; or
 - ii. If the vehicle is designated to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver.
- Have no more than two chargeable accidents, moving violations, or any DUI's in a three (3) year period within the last five (5) years of the seven (7) year Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) period;

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NOTE: The Department will allow an exception to Out-of-State Driver's License and MVP record under the following circumstances: (1) the individual is on active duty in Georgia; (2) the individual is a college student enrolled at a Georgia college or university; or (3) the individual's place of residence is a neighboring state on the border of Georgia. For individual to be granted this exception, he or she must:

- Have a valid, Class C license
- Have no convictions for substance abuse, sexual crime or crime of violence for five (5) years prior to providing the service
- Have current, valid insurance

Be provided with a basic orientation prior to direct contact with participants and show competence in:

- 1) The purpose and scope of Transportation Services, including related policies and procedures;
 - 2) Confidentiality of individual information, both written and spoken;
 - 3) Rights and responsibilities of individuals;
 - 4) Requirements for recognizing and reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of any individual:
 - i. To the DBHDD;
 - ii. Within the organization;
 - iii. To appropriate regulatory or licensing agencies; and
 - iv. To law enforcement agencies
- g. Duties of the Driver Staff include, but are not limited to:
- Provides transportation for the participant to waiver services and other community services, activities, resources, and organizations;
 - Provides assistance to the participant in entering or exiting the vehicle.

- Ensures transportation from the designated pick up point to the designated drop off point.
 - h. The agency has adequate driver staff with First Aid and CPR certifications to assure having at least one staff person with these certifications on duty during the provision of services.
 - i. The type and number of all other staff associated with the organization (such as contract staff, consultants) are:
 - 1) Properly trained or credentialed in the professional field as required;
 - 2) Present in numbers to provide services and supports to participants as required;
 - 3) Experienced and competent in the services and support they provide.
 - j. National criminal records check (NCIC) documentation for all employees and any volunteers who have direct care, treatment, or custodial responsibilities for participants served by the agency.
2. **Agency Policies and Procedures:** Each DD Service Provider Agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Transportation Services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities refer to *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW*.
3. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Transportation Services:
- a. Specific type and purpose of transportation provided;
 - b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - c. Location of origin and that for destination of transportation services;

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- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
- e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.

4. **DHS Vehicle Requirements**

DD Service Agency Providers who render Transportation Services in a vehicle owned by, titled to, or otherwise controlled by DHS must meet the policies and procedures for transportation and vehicle management in the DHS Transportation Manual, which is available at the following website: www.odis.dhr.state.ga.us.

5. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

6. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards:** DD Service Agency Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

3003 **Licensure**

- A. Individual Providers rendering Transportation Services must hold a valid Class C license as defined by the Georgia Department of Driver Services.
- B. DD Service Provider Agency driver staff providing Transportation Services must hold the class of license appropriate to the vehicle operated as defined by the Georgia Department of Driver Services.

3004 Special Eligibility Conditions

- A. The need for Transportation services must be reflected in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).
- B. The unavailability of other resources for transportation must be documented in the ISP.

3005 Prior Approval

Transportation Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions.

Covered Services

Rev 07 2010 Reimbursable Transportation Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

- Rev. 04 2009 1. One-way trip provided by Georgia licensed drivers or DD Service Agencies to waiver services and other community, non-medical services, activities, resources, and organizations typically utilized by the general population.
- Rev. 04 2009 2. One-way trip provided by Georgia licensed drivers or DD Services Agencies of one participant to Supported Employment Services community work sites.
- 3. Brokering or provision of commercial carrier services available to the community at large.

3006 Non-Covered Services

- 1. Transportation of a waiver participant to school (through 12th grade).
- 2. Transportation that is included as an element of another waiver service as follows:
 - a. Community Living Support Services
 - b. Prevocational Services

- c. Supported Employment Group Services
 - d. Community Access Group or Individual Services, which entail activities and settings primarily utilized by people with disabilities, such as transportation to and from a Mental Retardation Service Center or other day center.
3. Transit provided through Medicaid non-emergency transportation.
 4. Transportation available under the State Medicaid Plan, including transportation to medical services, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), or the Rehabilitation Act.
 5. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.
 6. Transportation services are not intended to replace available formal or informal transit options for participants
 7. Payment for mileage or vehicle maintenance.

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3007

Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rate for transportation services is found in Appendix A.

- A. Unit of service: encounter/one-way trip or commercial carrier/multipass.
- B. Annual maximum is 203 units for encounter/one-way trip.
- C. Annual maximum for all Transportation Services, including encounter/one-way and commercial carrier/multipass, is \$2,797.34 per participant.

1 unit = \$1.00

Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget up to annual maximum for all self-directed Transportation Services of \$2,797.

Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants may choose the participant-direction or co-employer options with Transportation Services.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Supported Employment Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 3100
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
VEHICLE ADAPTATION SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

3101 General

Vehicle Adaptation Services include various adaptations and technical assistance to individually or family owned vehicles which are designed to enable individuals to interact more independently with their environment thus enhancing their quality of life and reducing their dependence on physical support from others. Vehicle Adaptations are limited to a participant's or his or her family's privately owned vehicle and include such things as a hydraulic lift, ramps, special seats and other interior modifications to allow for access into and out of the vehicle as well as safety while moving. The adapted or to be adapted vehicle must be the participant's primary means of transportation.

Any item billed under Vehicle Adaptation Services must not be available under the State Medicaid plan. These services must also be documented to be the payer of last resource. The NOW does not cover items that have been denied through the DME and other programs for lack of medical necessity.

3102 Special Requirements of Participation

3102.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, individual vendors and dealers in Vehicle Adaptations must meet the following requirements:

1. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must

document the following in the record of each participant receiving Vehicle Adaptation Services:

- a. The efforts of the Participant's Support Coordinator to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources.
- b. Verification of Vehicle Adaptation service delivery, including date, location, and specific vehicle adaptations provided.

2. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

3102.2 Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and Part II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the NOW Program, Vehicle Adaptation Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

1. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Vehicle Adaptation services:
 - a. The efforts of the Participant's Support Coordinator to substantiate payer of last resource, including available community, State Plan, or other resources.
 - b. Verification of Vehicle Adaptation service delivery, including date, location, and specific vehicle adaptations provided.
2. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

3. **DBHDD Contract/LOA and MHDDD Community Service Standards:** Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract Standards, DBHDD Core Requirements for All Providers and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the DBHDD (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 603*).

3103 Licensure

Vehicle Adaptations are made by vendors with the applicable Georgia business license as required by the local, city or county government in which the services are provided.

3104 Special Eligibility Conditions

Rev. 10 2009

1. The need for Vehicle Adaptation Services must be related to the individual disability and specified in the Health and Safety Section of the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

Rev. 10 2009

2. Medical necessity for Vehicle Adaptation Services must be documented through and order by a Georgia licensed physician.

3105 Prior Approval

1. Vehicle Adaptation Services must relate to specific individual goals and must be required to meet the needs of the participant.
2. Vehicle Adaptation Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the applicable DBHDD Field Office at least annually in conjunction with the ISP development and any ISP revisions.

3106 Covered Services

Reimbursable Vehicle Adaptation Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

1. Vehicle Adaptations are limited to a participant's or his or her family's privately owned vehicle.
2. Vehicle Adaptations include such things as a hydraulic lift, ramps, special seats and other interior modifications to allow for access into and out of the vehicle as well as safety while moving.
3. Vehicle Adaptation to the participant's primary means of transportation.
4. Repair of a prior existing vehicle adaptation provided the repair is less than replacement.
5. Replacement of a prior existing vehicle adaptation if replacement is less than a repair.

3107 Non-Covered Services

1. Adaptation, repair or replacement costs for adaptations to provider-owned vehicles.
2. Adaptation, repair or replacement costs for adaptations to leased vehicles.
3. Vehicle adaptations will not be replaced in less than three years except in extenuating circumstances and authorized by the Division of Medical Assistance, Department of Community Health.
4. Vehicle backup sensor and alarm systems.
5. Comfort, convenience, or recreational adaptation.
6. Adaptation, replacement or repair that is necessitated by participant's neglect, wrongful disposition, intentional misuse or abuse. Adaptations will not be replaced due to the participant's negligence and/or abuse (e.g., before its normal life expectancy has been attained unless supporting medical documentation and change in the physical or developmental condition of the participant).
7. Regularly scheduled upkeep and maintenance of the vehicle or its modifications.
8. Adaptations of general utility that are not of direct medical or remedial benefit to the individual.

9. Purchase or lease of vehicles.
10. Extended warranties and/or maintenance agreements.
11. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 900*.
12. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

3108 Basis for Reimbursement

- A. Lifetime maximum is \$6,240.00 per participant.
- B. Reimbursement Rate
Reimbursement rate for Vehicle Adaptation is the lower of three price quotes or the lifetime maximum. The reimbursement rates for all specialized services are found in Appendix A.

3109 Participant-Direction Options

- A. Participants may choose the self-direction option with Vehicle Adaptation.
- B. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for NOW, Chapter 1200*.

**PART III - CHAPTER 3200
SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
BEHAVIORAL SUPPORTS SERVICES
SCOPE OF SERVICES**

3201 General

Positive Behavioral Supports Services are those that assist the participant with significant, intensive challenging behaviors that interfere with activities of daily living, social interaction, work or similar situations through *offering direct training and assistance to formal and informal care providers*. Positive Behavioral Supports Services complement Positive Behavioral Supports Consultation through the delivery of on-sight training to direct care staff and informal care providers in implementation of the behavior plan, data collection/graphing, monitoring of staff compliance with plan, aversion of risk, and development of crisis plans.

Positive Behavioral Supports Services are designed to bridge plan recommendations and implementation for direct care staff and/or family intervention. Positive Behavioral Supports Services may be provided in various settings including the waiver participant's home, day services setting, and other residential or community setting.

Positive Behavioral Supports Services are ordered as part of the Individual Support Plan in response to clinically-validated behavior needs. Positive Behavioral Supports Services are not designed to provide direct assistance, rather serve in facilitation of the plan and education of direct care staff. All enrolled providers, agency-based or individual, will comply with DBHDD standards and policies which outline individual rights, core values, and the philosophy of service delivery within a person-centered model and consistent with empirical knowledge related to behavior analysis and support.

Expectations/Outcomes:

1. All staff/paid care providers supporting the individual receive competency based training on implementation of positive behavior support plans developed by the Positive Behavior Supports Consultant. Training is made available to family members and other non-paid stakeholders.
2. Positive behavior support plans utilize approaches that are normalizing and valued by all stakeholders (including the individual).
3. Positive behavior support plans utilize non-punitive, non-restrictive procedures and interventions.
4. Positive behavior support plans focus on the context of the challenging behavior, not just the behavior itself, and have a primary emphasis on proactive skill building and prevention of challenging behaviors.
5. Implemented positive behavior support plans are routinely monitored to ensure provider compliance with prescribed interventions and data collection.
6. Implemented positive behavior support plans are continually revisited with staff and family members to promote consistency in implementation and evaluation of the outcome of specific interventions.

3202 Requirements for Enrollment and Participation

3202.1 Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP Program, Positive Behavior Supports Services individual providers must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Provider Qualifications** - Individual providers of Positive Behavior Supports services must meet the following requirements at initial enrollment and continued service enrollment:

Education/Training:

Minimum of a Master's degree in psychology, special education, counseling, social work or a related field;

Or

Licensure/certification in one of the following categories:

Licensure:

Psychologist (OCGA 43-39-1)
Licensed Professional Counselor (OCGA 43-10A-1)
Licensed Master Social Worker (OCGA 43-10A-1)
Licensed Clinical Social Worker (OCGA 43-10A-1)
Psychiatrist (OCGA 43-24-20)
Registered Nurse (OCGA 43-26-3)

Certification:

Board Certified Behavior Analyst (certified through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board)

2. Experience:

At least two (2) years of experience providing positive behavioral supports to individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities to include direct implementation of positive behavior support interventions, training of formal/informal care providers in implementation of positive behavior support interventions, monitoring of program implementation, risk identification/amelioration.

3. DBHDD Continuing Education/Training:

Within six (6) months of enrollment as a Positive Behavioral Support services provider, individual providers and direct professional providers in Agencies will have completed training and demonstrated proficiency in positive behavioral supports through courses approved and/or provided by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

Other Standard:

- Documented supervision and/or peer consultation availability in the area of behavioral intervention and positive behavior management
- Documented supervision and/or consultation in application of adult education techniques designed to enhance training of paraprofessional staff

4. Criminal records check in accordance with Criminal History Records Checks for Contractors, 04-104 (including process for reporting CRC status change); <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com>

5. Guidelines Requirement: refer to “**Behavioral Support Practices**” found in DBHDD’s Provider Manuals for Community Developmental Disabilities Providers, and Guidelines for Supporting Adults with Challenging Behaviors in Community Settings and Best Practice Standards for Behavioral Support Services found in Appendix B of Part III Policy.

3202.2 Agency Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP Program, Positive Behavioral Supports Services agency providers must meet the following requirements:

3202.2.1 Types of Agencies:

Agencies that provide Positive Behavioral Supports Services are:

Behavioral Services Agency

Agency Requirements Specific to Behavioral Supports Service Agencies:

a. Designated agency director who must:

- i. Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, special education, nursing, or a closely related field) and five years' experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- ii. Have an associate degree in nursing, special education, or a related field and six years' experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity

b. Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:

- i. Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency
- ii. Manages the use of agency funds
- iii. Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency
- iv. Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency
- v. Designates another staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence

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- c. Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees or professionals under contract that meet all of the requirements criteria for individual providers under 3302.1 of this section.

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- d. Duties of the employees/contracted professionals providing Behavioral Supports services include all covered services outlined in Section 3307.

3203 Positive Behavioral Support Services at Community Access, Prevocational Service Facilities and in Residential Settings

Providers can provide Positive Behavioral Supports Services at facilities or residential settings however, the services must be documented and billed separately. While Positive Behavioral Support Services rely on direct training and coaching to teach intervention strategies, duplicative services will not be reimbursed. Examples include provision of community access or community residential service concurrently with Positive Behavioral Supports Service by the same staff person. The provider is responsible for training and coaching in the setting where the behaviors occur. A copy of the Positive Behavior Support Plan, training agenda and training tools must be maintained on site for use as reference by supervisory and direct service staff.

Training and intervention tools developed for use in working with the same individual in various settings must include interventions specific to the setting but provide holistic, integrated strategies for all settings which may require positive behavioral interventions.

3204 Documentation Requirements

All Positive Behavioral Support Service Providers must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Positive Behavioral Supports Services:

- a. Specific activity or assistance provided including training and coaching in: intervention methods, tracking methods and tools for documentation by direct support staff of outcomes;
- b. Date, beginning and ending time when the service was delivered;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Description of behaviors in observable, measurable terms with frequency, precipitating events, and tracking methods;

- e. Progress toward participant goals outlined in the ISP, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan.
- f. Description of outcomes specific to each intervention to include but not limited to behavioral changes, ability to increase community integration, acquisition of new skills improvement in quality of life or other positive outcomes.
- g. Attestation of service delivery through signature and legible, printed first and last name and title (if applicable) of the person providing the service

3205 Waiver Participant Eligibility

The need for Positive Behavioral Supports Services must be related to the individual participant's clinically validated behavioral needs, therapeutic in nature, and tied to a specific goal in the Division-approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).

Eligibility Criteria:

Eligibility does not constitute approval or prior authorization of services. Approval and Prior Authorization of Positive Behavioral Supports Services are based on a clinical assessment and validation of behavioral support needs. A clinical assessment is conducted when one or more of the following eligibility criteria are met:

- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item E. Clinical Issues Affecting Daily Life (documentation must indicate behavioral challenges as the clinical issue)
- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item F. Self-Abuse
- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item G. Aggression Toward Others or Property
- HRST score of 3 or higher on Item U. Emergency Room Visits (documentation must indicate behavioral challenges as the clinical issue)
- HRST score of 2 or higher on Item V. Hospital Admissions (documentation must indicate behavioral challenges as the clinical issue)
- HRST score of 4 on Item Q. (Treatments (documentation must indicate 1:1 staffing needs due to behavioral issues)
- Placement in Crisis Home in the last 12 months (documentation must indicate that placement was due to behavioral challenges)
- Provision of In-Home Mobile Crisis Services in the last 12 months

- Admission to a Crisis Stabilization Unit in the last 12 months
- Arrest or detention by law enforcement in the last 12 months
- SIS score of 7 or higher on Total Score for Section 3B: Behavioral Supports Needed

3206 Prior Approval

Positive Behavioral Support Services must be authorized prior to service delivery at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan (ISP) development and with any ISP revisions.

3207 Covered Services

Reimbursable Positive Behavioral Supports Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and specified in the approved ISP:

1. Development of person-centered training curriculum specific to the positive behavior support plan.
2. Training provided to paid and unpaid supporters on recommended interventions, replacement behavior and outcomes tracking.
3. Ongoing coaching as needed for staff/family reinforcement
4. Intervention modalities related to the identified behavioral needs of the participant.

3208 Non-Covered Services

1. Services that duplicate any family education or training provided through Natural Supports Training (NST) Services.
2. Services that occur simultaneously or on the same day as NST Services.
3. Services in a hospital.
4. Restrictive behavioral interventions, including chemical or mechanical restraints and seclusion, prohibited by state law or regulations.
5. Transportation to and from these services is not included in the rate.

6. Payment is not made, directly or indirectly, to members of the individual's immediate family, except as approved as indicated in *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 900*
7. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.
8. Services provided by an agency staff member not qualified under Section 1602.

3209 Basis for Reimbursement

Provider Managed
Unit of Service: 15 minute
Rate: 18.75/unit
Limit: 96 units per year
\$1,800 annual maximum

Self-directed:
Unit of service: \$1 = 1 unit
Annual Maximum: 1,800 units

3210 Participant-Direction Option

- A. Participants may choose the self-direction option for Positive Behavioral Supports Services, however the employee must meet all enrollment criteria outlined in Section 3202.
- B. An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider of Positive Behavioral Supports Services.
- C. For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 1200*.

PART III - CHAPTER 3300

Rev. 04 2017

**SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR**

July 1, 2019

NEW OPTIONS WAIVER PROGRAM (NOW)

B-13

NURSING SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Policies and procedures in this Chapter apply to all Nursing Services delivered by enrolled providers with a Private Home Care or Community Living Arrangement license. This Chapter must be used in conjunction with the manuals listed below:

Part I – Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/Peach Care for Kids, Chapters 100 through 500

Part II – Chapters 600-1200 Policies for Procedures for Now and COMP Medicaid Waiver Programs

Rules and Regulations for Private Home Care Providers, Chapter 290-5-54

Rules and Regulations for community Living Arrangements, Chapter 290-9-37

3301 General

This policy is intended to outline the parameters of the practice of licensed nursing within the waiver. Clinical nursing services are indicated when the individual has a clinical diagnosis which requires ongoing complex assessment and intervention for the purpose of health restoration or prevention of further deterioration of the health of the individual.

Nursing care is the assessment and treatment of human responses to actual or potential health problems as identified through the nursing process. Thusly, nursing services are the provision of this level of care via the process of assessment, assignment of nursing diagnosis, planning, implementation/intervention and continued evaluations directed by the Georgia Nurse Practice Act and generally accepted standards of practice.

Nursing Services may be provided by licensed private home care or community living arrangement provider in the community. Private home care and community living arrangement providers, in accordance with O.C.G.A. 31-7-300 et seq., and community living arrangements in accordance with O.C.G.A. 31-7 et seq. and 37-1-22, must be licensed by the Georgia Department of Community Health, and Health Care Facility Regulations Division. Private Home rules are stated in Chapter 290-5-54. Community living arrangement rules are found in Chapter 290-9-37. In accordance with Section 105A of Part I Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids, providers must be fully licensed without restriction. Agencies providing nursing services at one site location may do so under the site's Community Living Arrangement license if enrolled to provide nursing services at that location. All nursing services provided under a Community Living Arrangement license require site-specific nursing enrollment.

Nursing services are approved when there is the requirement to meet the

healthcare needs of the member and may be delivered in a variety of settings including but not limited to the member's home, relative's home, or other location where no duplicative services are available.

Individuals admitted to the NOW and COMP Waiver Programs are screened using the Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST) (see Health Risk Screening Tool, Policy 02-803 for additional detail). A baseline nursing assessment will be performed for individuals with nursing services authorized after October 1, 2015 for the purpose of identification of healthcare risks. The nursing assessment will result in documentation of the individual's indicated and/or performed nursing supports, services and/or needs which will be included in the ISP.

3302 Waiver Participant Eligibility

3302.1 Eligibility for Nursing Services

- A. Nursing services are available to individuals who meet the following criteria:
 - a. Are over age 21; and
 - b. Have the following scores on an appropriately completed HRST with review and signature by a Georgia-licensed registered nurse:
 - 1. An HRST score of 3 or above on eating or toileting
 - 2. A rating of a 4 on treatments in the HRST category 3I (physiological)
 - 3. A rating of 4 or more ratings of 4 overall An HRST score of 3 or higher on item U, emergency room visits (documentation must indicate clinical health needs).
 - 4. An HRST score of 2 or higher on item V, hospital admissions (documentation must indicate healthcare issues as the clinical need.
 - 5. A SIS score of 2 or higher on the total score for section 3B, exceptional medical supports needed.
 - 6. Any and/all healthcare needs as assessed by the Registered Nurse that healthcare plans such as skincare, diabetes, hypertension, bowel function, nutritional needs, weight monitoring, etc.
 - 7. Preventative healthcare maintenance activities as required based on risk score of HRST; **OR**
 - c. Have specific skilled nursing needs, as indicated in an appropriately completed HRST completed within the previous 90 days and supported by a nursing assessment completed by a registered nurse employed by DBHDD.

3302.2 Determination of Approved Hours

- A. The number of hours for which approval will be granted is based on specific medical and/or treatment needs of the member confirmed by available medical information assessed and documented by a qualified professional who is knowledgeable about the individual's clinical needs.
- B. Documentation:
 - a. For individuals who currently receive nursing services funded through an HCBS waiver or through GAPP, hours will not be allocated without:
 - i. A nursing assessment completed by a licensed registered nurse;
 - ii. written orders from a licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner order;

- iii. an appropriately completed HRST; and
 - iv. documentation evidencing implementation of physician (or physician extender's) order
 - b. For individuals who are being assessed for nursing services funded through an HCBS waiver or through GAPP for the first time, hours will not be allocated without:
 - i. A nursing assessment completed by a licensed registered nurse;
 - ii. written orders from a licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner order; and
 - iii. an appropriately completed HRST
- C. Nursing assessments are performed by DBHDD Field Office staff and provide documented assessment of diagnosis, risk, indicated preventative maintenance needs of the individual, and indicated or ordered skilled nursing tasks required to treat, mitigate risk, or comply with the schedule of care.
- D. Approval of specific hours is determined by use of a standardized methodology for determination of skilled nursing support. The standardized methodology allocates time needed for skilled nursing tasks identified in assessments and validated screenings.
 - a. The standardized methodology tool does not include allocation for unskilled support needs.
 - b. Hours are allocated based only on current skilled need, not projected needs.
 - c. Hours are allocated based solely on medical necessity, taking into consideration the overall medical condition of the individual, the equipment, and the level of and frequency of care required for the individual, and do not consider social support needs.
 - d. Approval for the utilization of a registered nurse versus a licensed practical nurse is determined by the inherent complexity of the service, the condition of the individual, and accepted standards of medical and nursing practice. Approval will be granted for the lowest level of professional licensure appropriate to serve the medically necessary needs of the individual.

3303 Nursing Services Provider Qualifications and Scope of Services

Nursing Services are performed by a Registered Nurse, or under certain circumstances a licensed practical nurse, both of whom are licensed to practice in the State of Georgia; both having at least two years of home health, long term care or acute care nursing experience. Complex or high risk waiver participants may require nursing care by individuals with specific training, for example, pulmonary, gastroenterology, or wound care skills. In such cases, DBHDD will determine and specify the skills and experience required.

Professional nursing oversight and care is provided according to laws and standards of practice found in the:

1. Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 43-26-3, ET. seq.
2. Georgia Board of Nursing Rules and Regulations, Chapter 410
3. American Nurses Association [ANA] Professional Standards

4. Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association [DDNA] Aspirational Standards of Developmental Disabilities Nursing Practice

3303.1 Qualifications for Registered Professional Nurse

1. Successful completion of an approved nursing education program as defined in Code Section 43-26-3.
2. Successful passing of a board recognized licensing examination.
3. Successful completion of the initial orientation and competency based training provided by the provider agency and the State of Georgia.

Preferred Qualification

1. Minimum of 4000 hours of RN nursing experience within the past five (5) years. (DDNA).

3303.2 Services by a Registered Nurse include (but are not limited to):

- Assessment of participant's nursing needs
- Initial healthcare plan(s) development (*based upon assessed needs, risks, and active conditions*)
- Development of teaching plan and caregiver(s) competency checklist;
- Implementation of ordered/indicated clinical and nursing interventions
 - Preparation of clinical progress notes
 - Coordination of healthcare services
 - Informing the physician, support coordination and other personnel of changes in the patient's condition or needs
 - Patient and family teaching
 - Supervision (to be performed by RN) and teaching of other provider personnel (clinical and other direct support staff)
 - Administering medications and treatments as prescribed by a physician in accordance with currently accepted standards of nursing practice
 - Other services in accordance with and as outlined in the Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act

3303. 3 Qualifications for Licensed Practical Nurse

Licensed Practical Nurses function by law in a dependent role at the direction of a Registered Professional Nurse or other select authorized health care providers. Under such direction, the Licensed Practical Nurse may administer medication, provide nursing treatments, gather data, signs and symptoms that can be utilized by the RN in his/her decisions about the care of specific individuals. The scope of practice does not include assessment, independent interpretation of clinical data or independent action on such data, triage, creation, initiation or establishment of nursing healthcare plans or the alteration of nursing care goals. Supervising RNs must provide an appropriate degree of clinical supervision which is determined by the specific assessed needs of the individual care to be provided. Providers and employers must assure that such on-site direct supervision is readily available when hiring LPNs.

1. Successful completion of a formal educational program in practical nursing approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing
2. Successful passing of the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses and a current Georgia issues license.
3. Successful completion of orientation and competency based training provided by the provider agency and the State of Georgia.

Preferred Qualification

1. Minimum of 4000 hours (2 years) of practical nursing experience within the past five (5) years (DDNA).

3303.4 Services which may be provided by Licensed Practical Nurse include:

- Collecting data and collaborating in the assessment of the health status of a patient
- Collaborating in the development and modification of the registered professional nurse's or advanced practice nurse's comprehensive nursing plan of care for all types of patients.
- Implementing aspects of the plan of care as delegated.
- Participating in health teaching and counseling to promote, attain, and maintain the optimum health levels of patients, as delegated.
- Serving as an advocate for the patient by communicating and collaborating with other health services personnel, as delegated.
- Participating in the evaluation of patient responses to interventions
- Communicating and collaborating with other health care professionals, as delegated
- Providing input into the development of policies and procedures to support patient safety. (Section 55-30 of the Act)

Services which may not be provided by a Licensed Practical Nurse include:

- a. The initial evaluation or complex assessment of a waiver participant
- b. Initial development of the healthcare plan
- c. Supervisory responsibilities

3303.5 Duties of the RN providing oversight (*include but are not limited to*):

- Provision of appropriate degree of clinical supervision, is determined by the specific assessed needs of the individual receiving care.
- Monitoring and supervising the healthcare of individuals receiving nursing services.
- Reviewing referrals, evaluating the individual's needs during initial and subsequent visits, and identifying and assigning the appropriate staff to provide support needed.
- Developing and revising the healthcare plan as appropriate and reviewing the content of healthcare plans during each supervisory visit and communicating all revisions to appropriate staff
- Supervising functions of direct support staff, CNAs and licensed practical nurses.
- Completing supervisory assessments to include observation of each CNA or LPN providing support.
- Arranging for orientation of each CNA or LPN to each individual for whom they are providing care.

3303.6 Contracted Services

Enrolled providers must maintain adequate and appropriate staffing to render the approved services, but may contract with other entities to provide nursing services. Such contracts must be maintained in the provider's office and must reflect the enrolled provider's total administrative responsibility, to include training and determining competency of contracted nurses, professional, supervisory, and billing responsibility. Providers must assure that the persons delivering services meet minimum staff requirements.

3303.7 Subcontracting

Providers may subcontract for the provision of services as long as the subcontract contains, at a minimum, the following elements:

- Names of all parties entering into contract
- A stipulation requiring subcontractors to perform in accordance with all conditions of participation which pertain to the service purchased under subcontract, requirements specific to nursing services policy and

requiring the contractor to assume responsibility if the selected subcontractor fails to do so.

- A stipulation requiring contractor agency to maintain responsibility for, and assure the subcontractor's performance of administrative, supervisory, professional and service delivery responsibilities relative meeting all requirements of the program.
- A stipulation that the subcontractor will comply with local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations and will adhere to program policies and procedures as they now exist or may hereafter is amended.
- A stipulation that the persons delivering services meet the staff requirements
- A stipulation that the subcontractor will participate as needed in the nursing agency's case conferences to coordinate support or care.
-

3303.8 Care That May Not Be Delegated Under This Policy

Healthcare needs that require the training and skill level of a Registered Professional Nurse and are not delegable nursing tasks (without physician or physician extender order and documentation of training) or are not predictable or able to be scheduled may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Ventilator Care
2. Tracheostomy care
3. Deep/endo-tracheal suctioning
4. Wound Vac care
5. Wound Care
6. IV medication administration
7. IM medication administration
8. Irrigation of wound, orifices and catheters
9. Physical
10. Chest Physical therapy (CPT)
11. Cough Assist vest
12. Oxygen administration above 6L/minute
13. Insertion of indwelling catheter/tube
14. Medication calculation

Regardless of delegation of other tasks to unlicensed personnel, the Department of DBHDD considers these care interventions to be non-delegable to unlicensed staff.

3304 Provider Policy and Procedure Requirements

The nursing service provider will have written policies and procedures, which are reviewed at least annually and address, at a minimum:

1. Scope of services offered
 - a. Method of oversight of offered services (supervision)
2. Procedures for admission and discharge
3. Healthcare plans stipulating emergency procedures for active conditions
4. Onsite clinical records management, including clinical note format and schedule of record retention (consistent with state and federal policies).
5. Administrative, Personnel, and the Training records of staff
6. Use and maintenance of supplies and equipment (if applicable); and training of the use of indicated equipment.
7. The role of the RN in the coordination of care with physicians and other providers and Support Coordination staff.

3305 Documentation

3305.1 On–Site Record Review

Providers must agree to periodic on-site reviews and financial audits by authorized representatives of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the Department of Community Health Program Integrity Unit, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Office of Inspector General (OIG), and Georgia Medical Care Foundation.

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities' procedure for reviewing providers may involve the use of sampling a percentage of records of full and complete review of all records. When sampling is used, the Department or its agents will utilize a generally accepted statistically valid sampling methodology for selecting the sample or records to be reviewed.

3305.2 Record Management and Maintenance of Clinical Records

Providers must maintain records pertaining to the provision of nursing services in accordance with the standards in this policy and with accepted professional standards and practices, including but not limited to actual times of services provided; i.e., date with the beginning and ending time when the service was provided to the member.

Records must be available as requested for a period of six (6) years following the date of service in compliance with *PART I POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR MEDICAID/PEACHCARE FOR KIDS*, Section 106. *General Conditions of Participation*. The provider must maintain a copy of all service records at the Medicaid enrolled provider site(s). Records must be maintained in a manner that assures security, accuracy, confidentiality, and accessibility.

In accordance with 45 CFR Part 17, state and federal governments shall have access to any pertinent books, documents, papers and records for the purpose of making audit examinations, excerpts, and transcripts and copies as needed. If any litigation, claim, or audit is initiated before the expiration of the ten (10) year period the provider must retain records until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records are resolved. All original documents should be maintained in the member record at the agency.

The agency is to maintain the nurses' signed time sheets on file for a period no less than three (3) years.

3305.3 The Clinical Record

The nurse agency must establish and maintain at the agency's office and at the service delivery site, a current clinical record for all waiver participants admitted to the agency. There must be eighteen months of clinical records available on site. While the member is receiving services, the following records (below), marked with an asterisk, should be maintained securely at the site where the individual receives nursing services. These records shall be kept in accordance with currently accepted standards of medical practice, be readily available to facilitate coordination of healthcare services, and must include at minimum:

- a. Appropriate patient identifying information, including current directions to the service delivery site from the provider's site
- b. The name of the individual's primary care physician with current contact information*
- c. Signed and dated progress notes written the day of service, by the providing member of the health team, to include at a minimum:
 - All logs as applicable according to the healthcare plan*
- d. Current healthcare plan* (signed and dated by the preparing provider)
- e. A current copy of the completed DMA-6/7
- f. Copies of summary reports sent to the physician to correspond with physician visits and provide report
- g. Discharge summary when applicable
- h. Hospital discharge notes and instructions
- i. Detailed teaching plan and skills check for all staff providing tasks through proxy caregiver status. This document should be maintained at the service delivery site and updated as necessary
- j. Supervisory assessment dated and signed by the R.N. when applicable
- k. A current ISP which reflects approved nursing services with duration and frequency; to include goals.
- l. Current clinical assessments relevant to the holistic healthcare plan

3305.4 Clinical Notes

The clinical record must include written progress notes detailing specific tasks provided to the individual. The notes should be written by all personnel delivering support. The written notes should include all information pertaining to the waiver participant. Any problems reported by an individual, support staff member or family must be addressed in the notes. The notes should include on-going evaluation regarding the progress made toward identified goals. Progress notes must be maintained on a continuous basis and should also include daily documentation of all treatments and medications administered by the nurse. Signed and dated clinical notes, written by the close of the business day of the day the service was rendered by the providing member of the health team, and incorporated in the office record no less often than weekly. Original clinical notes will remain on site.

Services must be performed and documented according to the physicians' orders and the healthcare plan. See templates for specific protocols and risk reduction or management strategies available at www.gadhbdd.policystat.com.

Logs (i.e., seizure/bowel/intake & output) are to reflect date and time, and description of the activity assessed, duration, intervention/s required and individual response.

3305.5 Summary Report

The summary report is a report of the individual's condition, change or progress, new problems identified, vital signs, complaints, description of wound, etc. (Applicable on to Licensed Private Care Homes) The summary report must be sent to the physician with each physician visit with returned instructions as appropriate.

3305.6 Healthcare Plan

The health risk screening tool identifies the risks and triggers further assessment for the purpose of diagnosis and recommendations of treatment. The healthcare plan addresses the identified risks and outlines interventions necessary to mitigate them. It must indicate the disciplines to be involved and individualized teaching plans to be utilized as well as provide updates regarding the accomplishments of goals. It must be formulated, signed and dated by the provider RN. It should be reviewed and revised as often as the severity of the individual's condition requires (i.e., change in medication, treatment, or condition) or at a minimum of annually (in conjunction with the ISP review).

3306 Non-covered Services

- A. In-home services for the treatment of an illness or injury covered in Home Health Services under the Medicaid State Plan, Medicare, private health insurance or other fund sources.
- B. Services that have not been ordered/approved by a physician or physician extender licensed to provide such orders.
- C. Services provided to individuals receiving concurrent nursing services through home health, hospice.
- D. Services to individuals under the age of 21.
- E. Services provided in a hospital or other institution.
- F. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan.

Rev. 10 2017 Nursing services that are not provided in accordance with State law, rules, and regulations

Section 3307 Basis for Reimbursement

Rev. 10 2017 Reimbursement for Nursing Services is based on a fixed rate per unit (15 – minute).
Reimbursement for employee travel time and expenses to and from the member's home is included in the reimbursement rate for skilled nursing visits.

RN – nursing services (T1002-U1)
Unit = 15 minutes
Maximum rate per unit = \$10.00
LPN – nursing services (T1003-U1)
Unit = 15 minutes
Maximum rate per unit = \$8.75

Section 3308 Essential Elements of the Healthcare Plan

- Demographic information
- Diagnosis(s)
- Nursing Diagnosis (s)
- Goals and Objectives (standards of care)
- Nursing Interventions
- Documentation Requirements
- Evaluation of Progress
- Signature of approving RN

Section 3309 Annual Health Screening Recommendations

Rev. 10 2017

ALL ADULTS		1. Date of last screen 2. N/A 3. Does this need to be done?	Questions / Notes
Height / Weight / BMI	Annually		
Colorectal Cancer Screen	1. Fecal Occult Blood Testing ages 50+ OR 2. FOBT + Sigmoidoscopy every 5 years ages 50+ OR 3. Colonoscopy every 10 years at ages 50+, per HCP recommendation or if above screens not performed		
Skin Cancer Screen	1. Total skin examination every 3 years from 20–39. 2. Annually age 40 and older.		
Hypertension	At least Annually		
Cholesterol	Every 5 years or at HCP discretion.		
Diabetes [Type II]	1. HgbA1c or fasting plasma glucose screen at least every 5 years until age 45 if at high risk. 2. Every 3 years after age 45.		
Osteoporosis	Consider Bone Mineral Density (BMD) testing ages 19-59 when risk factors are present (including medications, mobility impairment, hypothyroid). BMD testing for others age 60-65.		
Dysphagia and Aspiration	Annually assess for swallowing problems and symptoms of GERD		
STDs	Annual screen if at risk		
HIV	Periodic testing if at risk		
Hepatitis B and C	Periodic testing if at risk		

Tuberculosis	Skin testing every two years if at risk		
Depression	Screen annually for sleep, appetite disturbance, weight loss, general agitation.		
Dementia	Monitor for problems in performing activities of daily living		
MEN		1. Date of last screen 2. N/A 3. ?Does this need to be done?	Questions / Notes
Testicular Exam	Annually		
Prostate cancer screen (PSA or DRE)	1. Discuss screen age 40-49 if at risk. 2. Discuss risks and benefits of screen age 50-75, based on presence of symptoms and clinician/patient discretion.		
WOMEN		1. Date of last screen 2. N/A 3. ?Does this need to be done?	Questions / Notes
Clinical Breast Exam	Annually		
Mammogram	1. Annually ages 50-69. 2. Earlier at HCP discretion.		
Pap Smear	1. Every 2 years through age 29. 2. Every 3 years ages 30-65, depending on risk factors.		
IMMUNIZATIONS		1. Date of last screen 2. N/A 3. ?Does this need to be done?	Questions / Notes
Tetanus-Diphtheria [Tdap]	1. Three doses given once. 2. TD booster every 10 yrs.		
Influenza Vaccine	Annually		

Pneumococcal Vaccine	One time [booster at age 65]		
Hepatitis B	One series of 3 vaccinations. Reevaluate antibody status every 5 years.		
HPV Vaccine	Three doses for unvaccinated adults ages 9-26.		
VISION AND HEARING		1. Date of last screen 2. N/A 3. ?Does this need to be done?	Questions / Notes
Eye Examination	Ophthalmologist or optometrist should guide vision care plan and eye examination schedule, to include: 1. Glaucoma assessment at least once by age 22; and if diabetic 2. Annual eye exams.		
Hearing Assessment	Annually. Re-evaluate if hearing problem reported or change in behavior noted.		
GENERAL COUNSELING / GUIDANCE		1. Date of last screen 2. N/A 3. ?Does this need to be done?	Questions / Notes
Prevention Counseling	Annually. Includes but not limited to accident/fall prevention, fire/burns, choking.		
Abuse or neglect	Annually. Monitor for behavioral and physical signs of abuse and neglect.		
Healthy Lifestyle	Annually. Includes but no limited to diet/nutrition, physical activity, & substance abuse.		
Pre- conception Counseling	As appropriate to situation. Genetic counseling, folic acid supplementation, discussion of parenting capability.		
Menopause Management	As age and situation appropriate. Counsel on change and symptom management		

SPECIFIC POPULATIONS		1. Date of last screen 2. N/A 3. ?Does this need to be done?	Questions / Notes
Individuals with Downs Syndrome	1. Thyroid function test every 3 yrs (sensitive TSH) 2. Obtain baseline of cervical spine x-ray to rule out atlanto-axial instability; recommend repeat if symptomatic, or 30 years from baseline. 3. Baseline echocardiogram if no records of cardiac function are available. 4. Annual screen for dementia after age 40		
Hepatitis B Carrier	Annual liver function test		
Other Screening or questions to be considered at this appointment			Questions / Notes

DATE	Signature of Family / Advocate / Staff Present at Annual Appointment	Relationship / Title

PART III – CHAPTER 3400

**SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
FOR
ADULT NUTRITION SERVICES**

SCOPE OF SERVICES

3401 General

Adult Nutrition Services provide evaluation and dietary intervention services that are not otherwise reimbursed through Medicaid State Plan Services. Adult Nutrition Services include nutrition evaluation, education of participant, family, and support staff, and periodic monitoring and dietary intervention to improve nutrition-related health conditions. Adult Nutrition Services are provided by a Georgia Licensed Dietitian and by order of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner. These services may be provided in the participant's own home, family home, Licensed Dietitian's office, outpatient clinic, or facilities in which day services are provided.

Adult Nutrition Services include development of diet guidelines consistent with physician's order, mealtime observation to gather information about typical meal choices and preparation practices, development of sample menus, training and education of the participant, family, and staff in dietary compliance, and other clinically sound interventions judged necessary by the Licensed Dietitian, and not inconsistent with the physician's order. Any recommendations made by the Licensed Dietitian that alter the original order (e.g., modification to the prescribed diet, addition of supplements) must be ordered by the physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner before implementation.

3402 Special Requirements of Participation

Licensure

- A. Adult Nutrition Services are provided by a licensed Dietitian in accordance with the applicable Georgia license as required under Title [O.C.G.A. § 43-11A-18](#).
- B. Home Health Agencies providing Adult Nutrition services must have a Home Health Agency License as required under Title O.C.G.A. § 31-7-150.

Individual Provider

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP Program, Adult Occupational Therapy Services providers must meet

the following requirements:

1. **Service Provision:** Adult Nutrition Services are provided by a Georgia licensed dietitian and by order of a physician.
2. **Documentation Requirement:** Providers must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Nutrition Services:
 - a) Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;
 - b) Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
 - c) Location where the service was delivered;
 - d) Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
 - e) Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan, and the amount/type of assistance/support in the Current Service Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.
 - f) Adult Nutrition Providers must maintain documentation for the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies. Copies of documentation and/or educational material must be part of the documentation of a residential or other setting as training tools.
3. **Participant-Directed Services Documentation and other Requirements:** Documentation and other requirements for individual providers of participant-directed services are specified in *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 1200*.
4. **Adult Nutrition Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities:** Providers can provide Adult Nutrition Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant

receiving multiple services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

Provider Agencies

In addition to those conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in Part I, Policies and Procedures for Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Manual applicable to all Medicaid providers, Section 106 (General Conditions of Participation), and PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for the COMP Program, Adult Nutrition Services provider agencies must meet the following requirements:

Service Provision: Adult Nutrition Services are provided by a Georgia licensed dietitian and by order of a physician.

Types of Agencies: Agencies that provide Adult Nutrition Services are:

Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies;

Home Health Agencies.

Staffing Qualifications and Responsibilities:

Accredited or Certified DD Service Agencies rendering Adult Nutrition Services must have staffing that meets the following requirements:

- 1) A designated agency director who must:
 - Have either a bachelor's degree in a human service field (such as social work, psychology, education, nursing, or closely related field) and five years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
 - Have an associate degree in nursing, education or a related field and six years of experience in service delivery to persons with developmental disabilities, with at least two of these years serving in a supervisory capacity; or
- 2) Duties of the Agency Director include, but are not limited to:
 - Oversees the day-to-day operation of the agency;
 - Manages the use of agency funds;

Ensures the development and updating of required policies of the agency;

Manages the employment of staff and professional contracts for the agency;

- Designates another agency staff member to oversee the agency, in his or her absence.

- 3) Provider agencies must have available a sufficient number of employees or professionals under contract that are Georgia licensed dietitians to provide Adult Nutrition Services as specified in the Individual Service Plans of participants served.

Home Health Agencies rendering Adult Nutrition Services must have staffing that meets the conditions of participation in the Medical Assistance Program as outlined in PART II, Chapter 600 Policies and Procedures for Home Health Services.

7. Agency Policies and Procedures: Each provider agency must develop written policies and procedures to govern the operations of Adult Nutrition services, which follow the Standards for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities refer to *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP*.

7. Adult Nutrition Services at Community Access and Prevocational Service Facilities: Providers can provide Adult Nutrition Services at facilities where Community Access and Prevocational Services are rendered; however, the services must be documented and billed separately, and any waiver participant receiving multiple waiver services may not receive these services at the same time of the same day.

8. DBHDD Contract/LOA and DBHDD Community Service Standards: Providers must adhere to DBHDD Contract/LOA, DBHDD Community Service Standards and all other applicable DBHDD Standards, including accreditation by a national organization (CARF, JCAHO, The Council, Council on Accreditation) or certification by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 603*).

3403 Special Eligibility Conditions

In addition to a physician's order, a participant must have one of the following conditions:

1. A medical condition or diagnosis:
 - a. For which a special therapeutic diet or dietary plan has been ordered by a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner; **or**
 - b. Which has resulted in the participant's inability to maintain adequate nutrition or hydration; **or**
 - c. Which involved pressure ulcers, non-healing skin lesions, or wounds **or**
2. The participant is obese with a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or greater¹ **or**
3. The participant has had an unplanned weight gain or loss of 10% in the past six months.

$^1 \text{ BMI} = \frac{\text{weight in pounds}}{(\text{height in inches})^2} \times 703 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\text{weight in kilograms}}{(\text{height in meters})^2}$
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4. Adult Nutrition Services are not available until the waiver participant's 21st birthday.
5. The need for Adult Nutrition Services must be reflected in the Intake and Evaluation Team approved Individual Service Plan (ISP).
6. There is a reasonable expectation by the licensed dietitian that the participant can achieve the goals in the necessary time frame.
7. All services must be ordered by a physician.

3404 Prior Approval

Adult Nutrition Services must be authorized prior to service delivery by the operating agency at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan development and with any ISP revisions. The need for Adult Nutrition Services must be an identifiable assessed need in the ISP and directly related to the disability.

$$^1 \text{ BMI} = \frac{\text{weight in pounds}}{(\text{height in inches})^2} \times 703 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\text{weight in kilograms}}{(\text{height in meters})^2}$$

3405 Covered Services

Reimbursable Adult Nutrition Services include the following based on the assessed need of the participant and as specified in the approved ISP:

Nutrition evaluation.

Participant/family/staff education.

3406 Non-Covered Services

1. Adult Nutrition Services do not include in-home therapeutic services for the treatment of an illness or injury that are covered in Home Health Services under the regular Medicaid State Plan.
2. Transportation to and from these service delivery site may not be billed as part of the service.
3. Not covered for conditions not related to DD diagnosis.
4. Services that have not been ordered by a physician.
5. Services in a hospital.
6. Payment is not made for those goods and services covered by the State Medicaid Plan except where a participant's need exceeds State Plan coverage limits and exceptions to the coverage limits are not available.

3407. Documentation Requirement: Providers, except for providers of participant-directed services, must document the following in the record of each participant receiving Adult Nutrition Services:

- a. Specific evaluation, training or therapeutic assistance provided;
- b. Date and the beginning and ending time when the service was provided;
- c. Location where the service was delivered;
- d. Verification of service delivery, including first and last name and title of the person providing the service and his or her signature;
- e. Progress towards moving the participant towards independence by meeting the participant ISP, which includes person-centered goals, desired outcomes in the participant's action plan and the amount/type of

assistance/support in the Current Services Summary and the Health and Safety sections of the ISP.

- f. Adult Nutrition Providers must maintain documentation for the identified need of therapies, frequency and duration of therapy, interventions to be provided, and goals addressing therapies.

3408 Basis for Reimbursement

The reimbursement rates for Adult Nutrition Services are found in Appendix A.

The rate cannot exceed the established Medicaid rates for the Children Intervention Services Program.

3409 Participant-Direction Options

Participants can not choose the self-direction option with Adult Nutrition Services.

An individual serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed provider

For details on participant-direction, see *Part II Policies and Procedures for COMP, Chapter 1200*.

APPENDIX A

REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR 'NOW' SERVICES

The reimbursement rates outlined below are the maximum amount that Medicaid may reimburse providers.

Rev.
01
2018

Adult Nutrition Services:

Service	Procedure Code	Modifier	Limits	Rate
Nutrition Evaluation	97802	U1	1 visit	\$14.89
Nutrition Follow Up	97803	U1	8 units/month (15-minute)	\$14.89

*Nutrition Evaluation is limited to 1 visit per year. 1 visit = 3 units.

Unit = 15-minute

Rate per unit = \$14.89

\$1,800 total for any Adult Nutrition Service procedure codes

Note: All adult therapy codes are subject to NCCI edits which cut back the allowable reimbursement to that noted below. CMS developed the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) in 1997 which is included in the claims edits and cannot be overridden by the Georgia Department of Community Health.

Rev 07 2018

A. Adult Occupational Therapy:

Procedure Name	Code	Modifier	Modifier	Limit	Rate
Adult OT Evaluation – Low Complexity	97165			1/yr	\$67.21
Adult OT Evaluation – Low Complexity – self directed	97165	UC		1/yr	\$67.21
Adult OT Evaluation – Moderate Complexity	97166			1/yr	\$67.21
Adult OT Evaluation – Moderate Complexity – self directed	97166	UC		1/yr	\$67.21
Adult OT Evaluation – High Complexity	97167			1/yr	\$67.21
Adult OT Evaluation – High Complexity – self directed	97167	UC		1/yr	\$67.21

Adult OT Re-Evaluation	97168			1 unit/180 days	\$44.40
Adult OT Re-Evaluation – self directed	97168	UC		1 unit/180 days	\$44.40
Adult OT Therapeutic Services	97530	GO		8 units/month (15-minute)	\$28.23
Adult OT Therapeutic Services (self -directed)	97530	GO	UC	8 units/month (15-minute)	\$28.23
Adult OT Sensory Integrative Techniques	97533	GO		8 units/month (15-minute)	\$24.46
Adult OT Sensory Integrative Techniques (self-directed)	97533	GO	UC	8 units/month (15-minute)	\$24.46
Adult Orthotic and Prosthetic Fitting and Training	97760	GO		8 units/month (15-minute)	\$27.38
Adult Orthotic and Prosthetic Fitting and Training (self-directed)	97760	GO	UC	8 units/month (15-minute)	\$27.38
Prosthetic Training	97761	GO		8 units/month (15-minute)	\$24.98
Prosthetic Training (self-directed)	97761	GO	UC	8 units/month (15-minute)	\$24.98
Orthotic and Prosthetic Check Out	97763	GO		8 units/month (15-minute)	\$23.39
Orthotic and Prosthetic Check Out (self-directed)	97763	GO	UC	8 units/month (15-minute)	\$23.39

Annual Limit for All Adult Therapies = \$5,400.00

Rev 04 2018

A. **Adult Physical Therapy:**

Procedure Name	Code	Modifier	Modifier	Limit	Rate
Adult PT Evaluation – Low Complexity	97161	GP		1 eval/year	\$69.34
Adult PT Evaluation –	97161	GP	UC	1	\$69.34

Low Complexity – self directed				eval/year	
Adult PT Evaluation – Moderate Complexity	97162	GP		1 eval/year	\$69.34
Adult PT Evaluation – Moderate Complexity – self directed	97162	GP	UC	1 eval/year	\$69.34
Adult PT Evaluation – High Complexity	97163	GP		1 eval/year	\$69.34
Adult PT Evaluation – High Complexity - self directed	97163	GP	UC	1 eval/year	\$69.34
Adult PT Re-evaluation	97164	GP		1 unit/180 days	\$47.14
Adult PT Re-evaluation – self directed	97164	GP	UC	1 unit/180 days	\$47.14
Adult PT Therapeutic Procedure	97110			8 units/month	\$25.91
Adult PT Therapeutic Procedure - self-directed	97110		UC	8 units/month	\$25.91
Neuro-Muscular Re-Education	97112	GO		8 units/month	\$27.07
Neuro-Muscular Re-Education (self-directed)	97112	GO	UC	8 units/month	\$27.07

Annual Limit for All Adult Therapies = \$5,400.00

Rev 04 2018

B. Adult Speech and Language Therapy:

Procedure Name	Code	Modifier	Modifier	Limit	Rate
Adult Speech Language Evaluation	92523			2 evals/year	\$163.81
Adult Speech Language Evaluation (self-directed)	92523		UC	2 evals/year	\$163.81
Adult Speech Language Therapy	92507	GN		8 visits/month	\$62.53
Adult Speech Language Therapy (self-directed)	92507	GN	UC	8 visits/month	\$62.53
Adult Speech Generating Device Evaluation	92607			2 evals/year	\$109.28
Adult Speech Generating Device Evaluation (self-directed)	92607		UC	2 evals/year	\$109.28

Adult Speech-Generating Device Therapy	92609			8 visits/month	\$54.75
Adult Speech-Generating Device Therapy (self-directed)	92609		UC	8 visits/month	\$54.75
Adult Swallowing/Feeding Therapy	92526			8 visits/month	\$44.66
Adult Swallowing/Feeding Therapy (self-directed)	92526		UC	8 visits/month	\$44.66
Adult Swallowing/Feeding Evaluation	92610			2 evals/year	\$117.54
Adult Swallowing/Feeding Evaluation (self-directed)	92610		UC	2 evals/year	\$117.54

Note: All reference to 2 evaluations/year indicates 1 evaluation/180 days.

Annual Maximum for All Adult Therapies = \$5,400.00

Behavioral Supports Consultation Services:

Behavioral Supports Consultation (H2019)
Behavioral Supports Consultation Self-Directed (H2019-UC)
Unit = 15 minutes
Limit = 96 annual units
Maximum rate per unit = \$23.56
Annual Maximum = \$2,261.76

Rev. 07 2014

Self-Directed
Limit: 1 unit = \$1.00
Annual maximum = \$2,262

Behavioral Supports Services:

Rev. 07 2014 Behavioral Supports Services (H2019-U1)
Behavioral Supports Services Self-Directed (H2019-U1/UC)
Unit = 15 minutes
Limit = 96 annual units
Maximum rate per unit = \$18.75
Annual Maximum = \$1,800

Self-Directed
Limit: 1 unit = \$1.00
Annual maximum = \$1,800

Community Access Services:

Community Access Group (T2025-HQ)
Community Access Group Self-Directed (T2025-HQ/UC)
Community Access Group Co-Employer (T2025-HQ/UA)
Unit = 15 minutes
Daily Limit = 24 units
Monthly Limit = 504 units
Annual Limit = 5760 units
Rev. 04 2015 Maximum rate per unit = \$3.10

Community Access Individual (T2025-UB)
Community Access Individual Self-Directed (T2025-UB/UC)
Community Access Individual Co-Employer (T2025-UB/UA)
Unit = 15 minutes
Daily Limit = 40 units
Annual Limit = 1440 units
Rev. 04 2015 Maximum rate per unit = \$7.41

Rev. 07 2014 Self-Directed
Rev. 04 2015 Community Access Group Limits: 1 unit = \$1.00
Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget
up to an annual maximum of \$17,856.

Rev. 04 2015 Community Access Individual Limits: 1 unit = \$1.00
Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget
up to an annual maximum of \$10,670.

Community Guide Services:

Community Guide Self-Directed (H2015-UC)
Community Guide Co-Employer (H2015-UA)
Unit = 15 minutes
Daily Limit = 32 units
Annual Limit = 224 units
Maximum rate per unit = \$8.93
Annual Maximum = \$2,000.32

Rev. 07 2014 Self-Directed
Limit: 1 unit = \$1.00
Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget up to an annual maximum

of \$2,000.

Community Living Support Services:

Rev 01 2018

Service	Unit of Service	Procedure Code	Rate
Community Living Support - Basic	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5	\$6.35
CLS – Basic self-directed	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UC	\$6.35
CLS – Basic co-employer	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UA	\$6.35
Community Living Support - Extended	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4	\$5.74
CLS- Extended self-directed	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UC	\$5.74
CLS – Extended co-employer	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UA	\$5.74
Community Living Support, 2 Members - Basic	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UN	\$3.49
CLS Basic – 2 Members self-directed	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UN-UC	\$3.49
CLS Basic – 2 Members co-employer	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UN-UA	\$3.49
Community Living Support, 2 Members - Extended	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UN	\$3.16
CLS Extended, 2 Members self-directed	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UN-UC	\$3.16
CLS Extended, 2 Members co-employer	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UN-UA	\$3.16
Community Living Support, 3 Members - Basic	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UP	\$2.54
CLS Basic – 3 Members self-directed	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UP-UC	\$2.54
CLS Basic – 3 Members co-	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-UP-UA	\$2.54

employer			
Community Living Support, 3 Members - Extended	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UP	\$2.30
CLS Extended – 3 Members self-directed	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UP-UC	\$2.30
CLS Extended – 3 Members co-employer	15-minute Unit	T2025-U4-UP-UA	\$2.30
Personal Assistance Retainer	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-CG	\$5.74
Personal Assistance Retainer self-directed	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-CG-UC	\$5.74
Personal Assistance Retainer co-employer	15-minute Unit	T2025-U5-CG-UA	\$5.74

Rev 01 2018

Total annual amount of all fifteen-minute CLS services billed **cannot** exceed \$39,999 annually.

Self-Directed

Community Living Support: 1 unit = \$1.00

Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget up to an annual maximum of \$39,999.

Environmental Accessibility Adaptation:

Rev 01 2013

Environmental Accessibility Adaptation (S5165)

Rev 10 2016

Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Self-Directed (S5165-UC)

Participant Specific rate

Lifetime maximum per participant = \$10,400.00

The reimbursement rate is the lower of three price quotes or the lifetime maximum.

Financial Support Services:

Financial Support Services (T2040-UC)

Monthly maximum unit = 1

Maximum annual number of units = 12

Maximum rate per participant = \$75.00 per month

Rev 07

Individual Directed Goods and Services:

2017

Individual Directed Goods and Services (T2025 U7/UC)

Maximum annual number of units = 1500
Annual maximum = \$1,500.00

Rev. 07 2014 Limits: 1 unit = \$1.00
\$1,500 annual maximum.

Natural Support Training Services:

Natural Support Training (T2025-UD)
Natural Support Training Self-Directed (T2025-UD/UC)
Unit = 15 minutes
Maximum annual number of units = 86
Maximum rate per unit = \$20.78

Rev. 07 2014 Self-Directed
1 Unit = \$1.00
Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget up to annual maximum of \$1,787.

Nursing Services

Rev. 10 2017 RN – nursing services (T1002-U1)
Unit = 15 minutes
Maximum rate per unit = \$10.00
LPN – nursing services (T1003-U1)
Unit = 15 minutes
Maximum rate per unit = \$8.75

Prevocational Services:

Prevocational Services (T2015)
Unit = 15 minutes
Daily Limit = 24 units
Monthly Limit = 504 units
Annual Limit = 5760 units
Rev. 04 2015 Maximum rate per unit = \$3.10

Respite Services

Rev 01 2018

Service	Unit	Procedure Code	Rate
Respite-15-Minutes 1 Member	15 min	S5150	\$4.83

Respite-15-Minutes 1 Member, self-directed	15 min	S5150-UC	\$4.83
Respite-15-Minutes 1 Member, co-employer	15 min	S5150-UA	\$4.83
Respite-15-Minutes 2 Member	15 min	S5150-UN	\$2.66
Respite-15-Minutes 2 Member, self-directed	15 min	S5150-UN-UC	\$2.66
Respite-15-Minutes 2 Member, co-employer	15 min	S5150-UN-UA	\$2.66
Respite-15-Minutes 3 Member	15 min	S5150-UP	\$1.93
Respite-15-Minutes 3 Member, self-directed	15 min	S5150-UP-UC	\$1.93
Respite-15-Minutes 3 Member, co-employer	15 min	S5150-UP-UA	\$1.93
Respite-Daily Category 1	One day	S5151-UJ	\$153.61
Respite-Daily Category 1, self-directed	One day	S5151-UJ-UC	\$153.61
Respite-Daily Category 1, co-employer	One day	S5151-UJ-UA	\$153.61
Respite-Daily Category 2	One day	S5151-U1-UJ	\$209.51
Respite-Daily Category 2, self-directed	One day	S5151-U1-UJ-UC	\$209.51
Respite-Daily Category 2, co-employer	One day	S5151-U1-UJ-UA	\$209.51

Annual Limit Overnight = 30 units

Rev 01 2018

Self-Directed

Respite: 1 unit = \$1.00

Applies to 15 minutes Respite and Overnight

Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget up to the annual maximum of:
Category 1 respite: \$4,608
Category 2 respite: \$6,285

Specialized Medical Equipment:

Specialized Medical Equipment (T2029)
Specialized Medical Equipment Self-Directed (T2029-UC)
1 unit = \$1.00
Annual maximum = \$5,200.00

Rev 01 2013 The amount of funds per equipment purchase is the standard Medicaid reimbursement rate for the equipment or, in the absence of a standard Medicaid rate, the lower of three price quotes. The annual maximum number of units is 5,200 unless there is approval to exceed the annual maximum up to the lifetime maximum due to assessed exceptional needs of the participant.
Lifetime maximum per participant = \$13,474.76

Specialized Medical Supplies:

Specialized Medical Supplies (T2028)
Specialized Medical Supplies Self-Directed (T2028-UC)
1 unit = \$1.00
Annual maximum = \$3,800

Rev 08 2018 The annual maximum number of units is \$3,800 unless there is approval to exceed annual maximum units due to assessed exceptional needs of the participant.

Note: Revision to the annual maximum authorization for Specialized Medical Supplies was approved by CMS through NOW Waiver Renewal as of 03/2018 but omitted in error in the 40/2018 policy publication.
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Supported Employment Services:

Rev. 07 2019 Supported Employment Group (T2019-HQ)
Supported Employment Group Self-Directed (T2019-HQ/UC)
Supported Employment Group Co-Employer (T2019-HQ/UA)
Unit = 15 minutes
Maximum rate per unit = \$1.84

Support Employment Individual (T2019-UB)
Support Employment Individual Self-Directed (T2019-UB/UC)
Support Employment Individual Co-Employer (T2019-UB/UA)
Unit = 15 minutes
Maximum rate per unit = \$7.41

Annual Limit for Supported Employment Individual and Supported Employment

Group combined = \$17,856

Rev. 07 2019 Self-Directed
Rev. 04 2019 Supported Employment Group Limits: 1 unit = \$1.00
Supported Employment Individual Limits: 1 unit = \$1.00

Rev. 01 2019 Annual limit for Self-Directed Supported Employment Group and Self-Directed
Supported Employment Individual combined = \$17,856.

Transportation Services:

Transportation Encounter/Trip (T2003)
Transportation Encounter/Trip Self-Directed (T2003-UC)
Transportation Encounter/Trip Co-Employer (T2003-UA)
Unit = one-way trip
Annual Limit = 203
Maximum rate per unit = \$13.78

Transportation Commercial Carrier, Multi-Pass (T2004)
Transportation Commercial Carrier, Multi-Pass Self-Directed (T2004-UC)
Annual Limit = 203
Participant specific rate for local commercial carrier, multi-pass

Rev. 07 2014 Annual Maximum for Transportation Services = \$2,797.34
Self-Directed
Scheduled Encounter/Trip
Limit = \$1.00
Annual limit is authorized in the individual budget up to annual maximum for all
self-directed Transportation services of \$2,797.

Commercial Carrier/Multipass/Intermittent Trip
1 unit = \$1.00
Annual limit is as authorized in the individual budget up to annual maximum for
all self-directed Transportation Services of \$2,797.

Vehicle Adaptation Services:

Vehicle Adaptation (T2039)
Vehicle Adaptation Self-Directed (T2039-UC)
1 unit = \$1.00
Lifetime maximum per participant = \$6,240.00
The reimbursement rate is the lower of three price quotes or the lifetime
maximum.

APPENDIX C

Procedures for Billing and Documenting Personal Assistance Retainer

Rev 04
2016

A personal assistance retainer is a component of Community Living Support Services. The personal assistance allows continued payment for Community Living Support services while a participant is hospitalized or otherwise away from the home to prevent reassignment of or otherwise stabilize staff known to the participant. Staff may not provide services in a hospital or nursing home setting but are retained in order to ensure stability of staff upon the participant's return home. This retainer allows continued payment to personal caregivers under the waiver for up to thirty (30) days per calendar year for absences of participant from his or her home.

Rev.
01
2016

Personal Assistance Retainer Documentation: Providers must document the following in the record of each participant for whom a personal assistance retainer is a component of Community Living Support Services:

1. Beginning and end date of absence.
2. Reason for absence.
3. Scheduled days and units per day for Community Living Support Services as specified in the ISP.
4. Scheduled staff was not deployed to work at any other provider location, in home of another participant, or in an institutional setting (hospital or nursing facility).

The Co-Employer agency of any participant/representative who opts for participant-direction through a Co-Employer Agency must document the personal assistance retainer as above. The participant/representative who opts for participant-direction through a Financial Support Services Provider must maintain copies of CLS Personal Assistance Retainer Timesheet for any claims of this retainer for Community Living Support Services.

Personal Assistance Retainer Allowances and Exclusions:

A. Personal Assistance Retainer Allowances

The personal assistance retainer allows continued payment to personal caregivers under the waiver for up to thirty (30) days per year for absences of the participant from his or her home, per calendar year.

- 1) **Only** for the scheduled days and amounts of Community Living Support services as indicated in the ISP (e.g., if a participant receives CLS services only on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for a total of 16 units per day, the personal assistance retainer may only be claimed for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for 16 units per day for any week for which the retainer provides continued payment). The provider must document specific days and units billed under the personal assistance retainer.

B. **Personal Assistance Retainer Exclusions**

The following exclusions apply to the personal assistance retainer:

- 1) Payment is not made for Personal Assistance Retainer outside of scheduled days and units per day for Community Living Support Services as specified in the Individual Service Plan.
- 2) Payment of Personal Assistance retainer is not allowable for absences due to services that are reimbursable as other waiver and Medicaid State Plan services except for admissions to a general hospital or nursing facility as indicated below.
- 3) Payment of Personal Assistance retainer beyond allowable days indicated below.

Personal Assistance Retainer Billing:

Providers must submit claims as follows for the personal assistance retainer:

A. **Claims During Hospital Stays**

Rev 01 2013
Rev 04 2016

- 1) Providers submit claims for each admission to a general hospital or nursing facility, including ICF/ID and skilled nursing facilities;
- 2) Providers submit claims for only scheduled days and units as specified in the participant's Individual Service Plan;
- 3) Providers bill ***a separate line for each day*** claimed during the hospital stay;
- 4) Providers list place of service on the claim as follows:
 - 31 for Skilled Nursing Facility
 - 32 for Nursing Facility
 - 54 for Intermediate Care Facility/MR
 - 21 for Inpatient Hospital

Note: Providers may not submit reimbursement for services provided in a nursing facility, hospital or ICF/ID.

Rev 01 2013

Note: For personal assistance retainer claims during hospital stays, the provider must bill a separate line for each day claimed during the hospital stay up to the allowable (30) days per calendar year for all absences of the participant from his or her home.

B. Claims for Other Absences

Rev 01 2013

- 1) Providers submit claims up to the allowable thirty (30) days per calendar year for all absences of the participant from his or her home, including hospital stays as in Section A. above and other absences of the participant from his or her home, such as vacations and family/relative visit, per calendar year;

Rev 04 2016

- 2) Providers submit claims for only scheduled days and units (would have been provided except for the absence from the home) as specified in the participant's Individual Service Plan;
- 3) Providers may submit claims for other absences as standard (that is, in weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly spans)