



Now Available: Amendments to the Adult Autism Waiver (AAW) Approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

ODP Announcement 24-097

AUDIENCE:

- Individuals and Families
- Supports Coordination Organizations (SCOs)
- Providers of Adult Autism Waiver (AAW) services
- Other interested persons

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this announcement is to inform all interested parties that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved amendments to the AAW, effective January 1, 2025. The updated waiver is available on the Department of Human Services' (DHS) website.

DISCUSSION:

The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) is pleased to announce that the amendments to the AAW were approved by CMS on September 26, 2024. The waiver is

effective January 1, 2025. As communicated in ODP Announcement 24-072, the waivers were submitted to CMS on July 26, 2024. Since that time, ODP has engaged in discussions with CMS. No substantive changes were made to the waivers based on those discussions.

The following major changes were included in Adult Autism Waiver:

- American Sign Language- English Interpreter service will be added.
- Clarification about evaluations will be added to the Assistive Technology service.
- Revise and clarify the provider qualifications for Residential Habilitation: Residential Provider (Community Home) and Life Sharing.

The full waiver application, as well as a record of all substantive changes, is available online at:

[Adult Autism Waiver](#)

ODP will be holding one webinar to provide a general overview of the changes made in the approved waiver. There will be time during the session for presenters to answer questions submitted by participants. The date, time, and registration link for the webinar is as follows:

AAW Amendments Overview

November 8, 2024

10:00 am to 11:00 am

[Register Here](#)

ODP will hold additional webinars and publish guidance and clarification specific to the new American Sign Language – English Interpreter service.

CONTACT:

Questions about this communication should be directed to the [RA-
odpautismwaiver@pa.gov](mailto:RA-odpautismwaiver@pa.gov).