



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Behavioral Therapy Transition Update for Providers

April 2018

Historical Background

In the fall of 2015, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) directed the Department to add the Pediatric Behavioral Therapies Benefit to Health First Colorado (Colorado Medicaid) and remove behavioral services for children and adults less than 21 years of age from the following waivers: Children with Autism (CWA) waiver, Children's Extensive Support (CES) waiver, Children's Habilitative Residential Program (CHRP) waiver, Developmental Disabilities (DD) waiver and the Supported Living Services (SLS) waiver.

In May 2017, the Department presented a proposed deadline of July 1, 2018 to have completed transition of all children and adults less than 21 years of age from waiver behavioral services to Pediatric Behavioral Therapies. This information sheet is to provide updated information on the timeline for implementation. It is important to note that adults enrolled in the DD or SLS waiver who are 21 years old or older will not be impacted by this change.

In July 2017, the Department notified providers and Case Management Agencies (CMAs) that children and youth up to age 21 must transition from waiver behavioral services as soon as possible.

In November 2017, the Department notified all behavioral service waiver providers who were simultaneously approved to provide Pediatric Behavioral Services to transition billing from the waiver to Pediatric Behavioral Services effective December 15, 2017.

CES, DD, and SLS Waivers

Recently through our ongoing partnership with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Department and CMS clarified that members receiving behavioral services through a waiver must transition to Pediatric Behavioral Therapies as soon as a provider is available.

If you are currently a waiver provider and an approved Pediatric Behavioral Therapies provider, then you must transition waiver behavior services to Pediatric Behavioral Therapies immediately unless an extension has been approved on a case by case basis.

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In order to prevent a gap in services, if you are not authorized to provide Pediatric Behavioral Services and do not plan to become a provider, you will need to assist members to transition to a provider who is authorized to provide Pediatric Behavioral Services. Due to the number of children and youth who will transition prior to June 30, 2018 you are encouraged to complete this transition as soon as possible rather than waiting until June.

CWA Waiver

Through June 30th, 2018, the Department will continue to provide Behavioral Therapy through the CWA waiver. All behavioral services through the CWA waiver will terminate on June 30, 2018.

Next Steps

The case management agency serving children and youth in the HCBS-CWA, CES, DD or SLS waivers will work with providers and families to ensure a smooth transition of behavioral services from the waiver to Pediatric Behavioral Therapies as appropriate.

If the member's provider is not an Pediatric Behavioral Therapies provider or applying to be a Pediatric Behavioral Therapies provider, the case manager will immediately begin working with the family to assist them to find an approved Pediatric Behavioral Therapies provider.

If you are a waiver provider and wish to become a Pediatric Behavioral Therapies provider you will need to begin the application process now in order to be authorized by June 30, 2018. You can find more information about how to become a provider [here](#).

Contact Information

If you have questions, please visit the Pediatric Behavioral Therapies page <https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/pediatric-behavioral-therapies> or contact the member's case manager.

