



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER – Governor
RICHARD M. ARMSTRONG – Director

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

LESLIE M. CLEMENT - Administrator
DIVISION OF MEDICAID
Post Office Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0036
PHONE: (208) 334-5747
FAX: (208) 364-1811

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To: Developmental Disabilities Agencies

From: Leslie M. Clement, Administrator
Division of Medicaid 

Subject: Governor's Holdbacks and Operational Changes for Developmental Disability Agencies (DDA) Providers – Adult Services

On September 26, 2008, through Executive Order 2008-03, the Governor directed all state agencies to hold back one percent of their general fund budgets in the current fiscal year due to the downturn in the economy. On December 1, 2008, the Governor directed an additional three percent hold-back through Executive Order 2008-05.

As one of the responses to this, there will be a reduction in the weekly maximum DDA benefit for enhanced benchmark participants from 30 hours a week to 22 hours a week for claims of service dated January 1, 2009, or later.

The department would like you to be aware of some important operational changes that will specifically affect you as a DDA, if you provide adult DDA services.

Weekly Adult DDA Benefit Limitations

- Effective January 1, 2009, new *IDAPA* rules will go into effect to reflect the new 22 hour a week limitation. (The combination of services impacted by the 22 hour a week limit will not change and includes developmental therapy, intensive behavioral intervention, psychotherapy, supportive counseling, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech services billed by the DDA).
- If a participant has a current plan authorized to receive more than 22 hours a week of DDA services, a DDA provider will **not** need to request an addendum to reduce DDA services on a participant's current individual service plan (ISP). However, beginning January 1, 2009, reimbursement is not allowed for more than 22 hours of any combination of DDA services for any participant.
- Adding or deleting, or changing a participant goal on an ISP relevant to DDA services will still require an addendum.

- Before January 1, 2009, providers serving participants who are currently receiving more than 22 hours a week of DDA benefits should work with the participant and the person-centered planning team to determine which goals and/or objectives need to be modified or deleted in order to comply with the new benefit limitation.
- The DDA provider requirements and qualifications have not changed.
- Individual service plans approved after December 31, 2008, will not be prior authorized for more than 22 hours a week.
- Adult day care services delivered by a DDA are not effected by the 22 hour a week limit.
- Community supported employment services are not included in the 22 hour a week limit.

This information release will replace information contained in the *Medicaid Provider Handbook*, "Rehabilitation Section", for Developmental Disability Agency Services.

Thank you for participating in the Idaho Medicaid Program.

LMC/pg