



Division of Specialized Care for Children

Provider Notice

8/31/2022

Dear Nursing Agency,

Thank you for your continued service to those enrolled with DSCC's Home Care program that is operated on behalf of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS).

As you know, allowing parents who are licensed nurses to be paid caregivers, has been a helpful flexibility allowed during the public health emergency. DSCC has been working with state and federal partners to make this a permanent option through the MFTD waiver. The waiver is renewed every five years. HFS recently renewed the MFTD waiver. DSCC and HFS partnered to request that nursing by licensed parent caregivers be a permanent MFTD waiver service. Federal CMS reviewed these proposed changes and is requesting more time to continue this review. Therefore, nursing by licensed parent caregivers is currently not part of the approved waiver. DSCC and HFS continue to work with Federal CMS to make this change be permanent as a MFTD waiver amendment.

In the meantime, nursing by licensed parent caregivers continues to be part of Appendix K. This benefit will continue throughout the public health emergency and through six months after the end of the public health emergency. The public health emergency is currently set to end in October, but this date will likely be pushed back once more, to January 2023. During the public health emergency (and through six months after it ends), this option is still available for all Home Care participants, including those who do not receive MFTD waiver benefits.

This timeframe will give CMS time to review and work with DSCC and HFS to approve licensed parent caregivers as a permanent waiver service. Please note, at this time we do not have a mechanism for this service to continue after the public health emergency for those who are non-waiver and not enrolled in the MFTD waiver.

This notice will also be posted to DSCC's website.

We thank you for your continued service to the participants that we jointly serve. If you have any questions, please contact your DSCC nursing agency liaison.