

DEPARTMENT of SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Intent to Renew the Acquired Brain Injury II Waiver and to Amend the Acquired Brain Injury Waiver

In accordance with the provisions of section 17b-8 of the Connecticut General Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services (DSS) intends to renew the Acquired Brain Injury II Waiver (ABI II), and amend the Acquired Brain Injury ABI Waiver (ABI I) to align with proposed changes in the ABI II renewal. The current ABI II waiver expires on November 30, 2019. There are no changes to eligibility or rates.

The proposed changes to both the ABI I and ABI II Waivers are as follows:

- A Board Certified Behavioral Analyst credential is being added to the list of authorized providers of cognitive behavioral services;
- An annual training requirement of six hours of continuing education for Independent Living Skills Training (ILST) providers has been added;
- A new provider credential, Certified Adult Day Health Provider, is being added to the list of authorized providers of ABI Group Day Services;
- Credentials to provide ABI Group Day have been expanded to include providers beyond those with a CARF certification or JCAHO accreditation;
- The name of the “Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies” service has been replaced with “Assistive Technology,” which more accurately describes the service being provided. Medically-necessary medical equipment is already covered under the Medicaid state plan;
- The new “Assistive Technology” service will prohibit the replacement of smartphones, tablets or computers at the Department’s expense within a three year period from delivery to the participant. In addition, the \$10,400 per person annual limit for this service will be replaced with a \$15,000 limit over 3 years to align with other Medicaid waiver programs.

The following change is proposed for the ABI II Waiver only:

- 10 reserve slots are being added for current ABI I participants who are unable to self-direct their Personal Care Services and wish to transition to ABI II in order to obtain access to the agency-based Personal Care Services that are available only on ABI II.

A complete text of the waiver renewal and amendment is available, at no cost, upon request to the Community Options Unit, Department of Social Services, 55 Farmington Ave., Hartford, Connecticut 06105; or via email to shirlee.stoute@ct.gov. It is also available on the Department's website, www.ct.gov/dss, under "News and Press," as well as the following direct link: <http://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Health-And-Home-Care/Medicaid-Waiver-Applications/Medicaid-Waiver-Applications>.

Any written comments regarding this waiver renewal and amendment must be submitted by **July 18, 2019** to the Department of Social Services, Community Options Unit, 55 Farmington Ave, Hartford, CT 06105, Attention: Kathy Bruni, Director; or via email to kathy.a.bruni@ct.gov.