



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH


Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

*Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary*

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Waiver Transition Guideline # 8

To: DDA Coordination of Community Services Providers  
Fiscal Management Service Providers  
Support Brokers

From: Bernard Simons   
Deputy Secretary  
Developmental Disabilities Administration

cc: DDA Licensed Service Providers

Date: August 7, 2015

Re: Most Cost Effective Service

THIS LETTER IS AVAILABLE IN ACCESSIBLE FORMATS. TO REQUEST ANOTHER FORMAT, PLEASE CONTACT [HELPDESK.DDA@MARYLAND.GOV](mailto:HELPDESK.DDA@MARYLAND.GOV).

Some Community Pathways Waiver services have specific limits in terms of the total amount of units a participant can access. For example, both Community Supported Living Arrangement (CSLA) and Personal Supports (PS) are limited to 82 hours per week unless otherwise preauthorized by the DDA. To be approved above this limit, the service must be either the most cost effective or short-term.

Most cost effective means that the service is (1) not available from any other source, (2) is least costly to the State, and (3) reasonably meets the identified need. Short-term means that the services are provided for up to but no more than three months in order to meet identified medical and behavioral needs.

Given that the waiver supports a variety of individuals with unique needs, each request for additional units will be considered on a case by case basis. Factors for consideration include natural supports, generic resources, services available through other programs, Medicaid State Plan services, and then waiver services. When considering waiver services, in home services such as CSLA and PS will be considered before residential habilitation services.

Requests for exceptions to the current services limits shall be submitted using the Request for Service Change process.