NJ Department of Human Services **Division of Developmental Disabilities**

Information Bulletin

To: DDD/Medicaid-Approved Providers of DDD-funded Services,

Individuals Receiving DDD-funded Services and their Caregivers, Support Coordinators and Support Coordination Supervisors

From: Jonathan Seifried, Assistant Commissioner

Date: September 21, 2023

Subject: Rescinding of Temporary Service Modifications Policy Released During

Public Health Emergency

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) made allowances for <u>Temporary Service Modifications</u>. Those service modifications were put in place to support alternative methods of delivering needed services during the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE). Federal rules allowed these modifications to remain in place for six months after the end of the federal PHE. The federal PHE ended on May 11, 2023, resulting in the Temporary Service Modifications ending on November 7, 2023.

Exceptions to DDD's rescinding of Temporary Service Modifications:

- As described in the DDD <u>Community Care Program Policy Manual</u> and <u>Supports Program Policy Manual</u>, community vendors that provide classes under the service category, <u>Goods & Services</u> are permitted to deliver their services virtually or in person.
- Until further notice, providers of Physical Therapy (PT), Occupational Therapy (OT), and Speech Therapy (ST) are permitted to continue delivering DDD-funded services either virtually or in person. This policy is in alignment with the current Medicaid State Plan practice permitting a virtual option for PT, OT, and ST. Future changes to the State Plan practice related to the virtual option for PT, OT, and ST will affect DDD policy related to the virtual option for DDD-funded PT, OT, and ST.

If you are providing a DDD-funded service virtually that is not listed in the exceptions above, please make sure virtual delivery is discontinued by or before November 7, 2023.

Questions may be sent to DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov.

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