



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

**LME-MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # JCB 375**

Date: September 22, 2020

To: Local Management Entities-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs)

From: Deb Goda, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, NC Medicaid  
Renee Rader, Assistant Director for Policy and Programs, DMH/DD/SAS

Subject: NC Innovations – Respite during Remote Learning

NC Medicaid has received federal approval of additional flexibilities during the COVID-19 pandemic for the NC Innovations Waiver, for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

During federally declared emergencies, states can submit requests to ease certain waiver requirements through an Appendix K. NC Medicaid received approval of Appendix Ks for all four of our waivers from our federal partners at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), effective March 13, 2020, to March 12, 2021.

NC Medicaid submitted a third Appendix K for the NC Innovations to CMS. The following modification in scope and coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic was approved effective August 17, 2020, to March 13, 2021:

- The following language is additive to the state's current approved waiver definition for this service: Respite may be utilized during school hours for sickness, injury, when a student is suspended or expelled, or School hours during the public health emergency that necessitates remote learning.

If you have any questions, please contact Kenneth Bausell at [Kenneth.Bausell@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Bausell@dhhs.nc.gov)

Previous bulletins can be accessed at:

[www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins)

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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