

Kansas 1915(c) HCBS Waiver Programs **COVID-19 Guidance**

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020

Time: 3:00 PM

Most recent key revisions colored blue

Recent Releases: 3/17/2020

MFEI/Level of Care (LoC) Assessment; BASIS Assessment; MATLOC TA Waiver Functional Eligibility Assessment; CAFAS Third-Party Review; CAFAS Assessment (SED Waiver); Autism Waiver Functional Eligibility Assessment; Functional Eligibility Assessments; Targeted Case Management

Throughout the COVID-19 emergency period, to encourage social distancing and stop the spread of the pandemic, the agency recommends that assessors/individuals conducting initial functional eligibility assessments, [case management staff](#), and [assessment review staff](#) for any HCBS Waiver follow the procedure below:

1. During the period of the emergency declaration, assessors can conduct assessments using telecommunications (phone), televideo consultations/telemedicine or telehealth services methods that meet the following criteria:
 - a. Comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);
 - b. Such a process must provide interactive audio or video communications, permitting real-time contact between a distant individual who is present and participating in the tele-visit and the individual receiving an assessment or visit.
2. The State is requesting immediate implementation to avoid any adverse effect on participants' health and safety and providers' capacity to deliver services.

The agency suspends the reassessment timeframe requirement (requiring waiver participants to be reassessed for functional eligibility once every 365 days) throughout the COVID-19 emergency period.

1. Functional Eligibility reassessments that are due during the ongoing emergency period may be postponed until the end of the period and completed within six (6) months post-emergency period.

The exception granted through this guidance is good through May 1, 2020, at which time the guidance will be revisited for a potential extension, as necessary.

Amy Penrod
Commissioner
Aging & Disability Community Services & Programs
Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
503 S. Kansas Avenue
Topeka, KS 66603-3404