

Health and Safety Waiver Fact Sheet



Overview

Welfare & Institutions Code sections 4681.6, 4648.4(b), 4681.5, 4684.55, 4689.8, 4691.6 and 4691.9, authorize the Department of Developmental Services (Department) to approve exemptions to rate freezes for the purpose of mitigating risks to consumer (individual) health and safety. The Budget Act of 2021, allocated funding to facilitate the application for Health and Safety Waivers for non-English speaking individuals that may have unaddressed needs.

The objective of the above guidelines is to lessen the health and safety risk of the individuals we serve, who are in great need of enhanced services beyond what is available.

Health and Safety Waiver Exemptions Applicable Services

The H&S Waiver eligible services listed are including, among other services, ...

- Alternative Residential Model rate homes – level changes only
- Adaptive skills trainer (training)
- Behavior intervention training
- Mobile day programs
- Supported living services
- Transportation, including travel reimbursement

Health and Safety Waiver Process:



Request of H&S Waiver exemption must be discussed by the Individual I.D. Team at the IPP meeting, quarterly review or informal meeting.



Upon regional center agreement of the exemption, the vendor must submit a formal writing request

- The formal written request must be in the form of a letter address to the Supervisor overseeing the case(s)
- The letter must address the individual(s) health and safety risk and reflect Person Centered practices, such as, Important To and Important For, including strengths and barriers.
- The vendor must complete the DDS budget worksheet and submit for ELARC review.

Health and Safety Waiver Budget Worksheet Process:



Regional center internal team will review the DDS budget worksheet. The H&S Initiative Specialist and/or Community Services Liaison to collaborate with the vendor to address any related inquiries.



H&S Initiative Specialist to submit the H&S Waiver request to DDS for approval and follow-up on any related correspondence.



Upon DDS approval of the exemption, the vendor will receive notification from the regional center and the Community Services Liaison will issue a contract or payment agreement reflecting the rate adjustment.