

Interim Procedures for Contract Compliance for Residential and Day/Employment Services:

DDSN has been receiving a variety of questions from providers on maintaining contract compliance during the COVID-19 State of Emergency inasmuch as staff will likely be continually stretched to address this crisis situation. DDSN has provided specific guidance in a number of areas to adjust requirements to ease service delivery and compliance requirements, and will continue to do so as specific situations arise. However, to reduce any general stress on contract compliance issues during this State of Emergency, DDSN is providing the below interim procedures:

- DDSN instructs providers to continue normal operations in compliance with requirements to the extent possible during this State of Emergency.
- Particular emphasis is placed on maintaining current plans in all service categories, which are foundational to maintain Medicaid reimbursements.
 - Latitude has been given on documenting proper signatures on service plans through attestation with actual signatures being obtained at the next available opportunity.
 - Plan meetings are not required as the gathering of pertinent information can be done telephonically.
- If you need an exception on any compliance issue, please use the below interim guidance:
 - The Executive Director or his/her direct subordinate one-level down can be the approving official; no Board member signature required. Send to Ann Dalton at qualitymanagement@ddsn.sc.gov. Ann has been given latitude in approving waivers during this crisis.
 - If during this crisis non-compliance occurs without requesting a waiver, DDSN will accept waiver requests after State of Emergency for non-compliance and consider retroactive approval of the waiver request.
 - During future Alliant reviews covering the State of Emergency time frame, DDSN will develop specific review guidance to Alliant reviewers permitting latitude consistent with the stretched resource conditions providers endured during the State of Emergency.

Let's maintain normal operations and be diligent to the extent possible meeting compliance requirements, but when stretched, consumers' and staff's health, safety, and welfare come first in accomplishing the mission.