## ARKANSAS REGISTER



## **Proposed Rule Cover Sheet**

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Name of Department
Agency or Division Name
Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable
Previous Agency Name, If Applicable
Contact Person_
Contact E-mail
Contact Phone_
Name of Rule
Newspaper Name
Date of Publishing
Final Date for Public Comment
Location and Time of Public Meeting

## NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services of the Department of Human Services announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rules under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§ 20-48-101 et seq, 20-48-601 et seq, 20-48-1001 et seq and 25-10-129.

## Effective July 1, 2021:

The Director of the Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) is establishing temporary rules and suspending current rules due to the continuing declaration of a National Public Health Emergency. The suspension of current rules implements one or more portions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), Public Law No. 116-127, including the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP), and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law No. 116-136

Suspending these rules allow providers to render maximum assistance to the citizens of Arkansas and provide uninterrupted services. These suspensions shall automatically end December 31, 2021. DDS allows nursing services to be provided outside of Early Intervention Day Treatment Clinic and Adult Developmental Day Treatment Clinic settings. DDS is allowing extensions on re-evaluations and treatment prescriptions for certain therapies. Well Check services are allowed if the beneficiary is unable to attend the clinic setting. Requirements and billing information is outlined for each of the previously mentioned rules. DDS modifies provider types to all Qualified Behavioral Health Paraprofessionals employed by Outpatient Behavioral Health Service Agencies to provide Supportive Living Services. DDS also allows the extension of reassessments and re-evaluations for up to one year past the due date and allows for virtual person-centered planning meetings instead of face-to-face.

The proposed rules are available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rules at <a href="https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/do-business-with-dhs/proposed\_rules/">https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/do-business-with-dhs/proposed\_rules/</a>. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: <a href="https://organize.org/ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov">ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov</a>. All public comments must be received by DHS no later than May 10, 2021. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-396-6428.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin.

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Melissa Stone, Director

Division of Developmental Disability Services