

townhall.virginia.gov

Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	DEPT OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES	
Virginia Administrative Code	12 VAC 30 -120-70 through 30-120-120 REPEALED	
(VAC) citation	12 VAC 30-120-1700 et. seq.	
Regulation title	Waivered Services	
Action title	Technology Assisted Waiver Update	
Date this document prepared		

This information is required for executive branch review and the Virginia Registrar of Regulations, pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), Executive Orders 14 (2010) and 58 (1999), and the Virginia Register *Form, Style, and Procedure Manual.*

Brief summary

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 2 short paragraphs) of the proposed new regulation, proposed amendments to the existing regulation, or the regulation proposed to be repealed. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation. Also, please include a brief description of changes to the regulation from publication of the proposed regulation to the final regulation.

The Department of Medical Assistance Services is repealing the existing Technology Assisted Waiver regulations (12 VAC 30-120-70 through 12 VAC 30-120-120) and promulgating new regulations (at 12VAC 30-120-1700 *et seq.*) in response to changes in the affected industry and to achieve greater consistency and clarity in content and format with the other DMAS' waiver programs. These waiver program regulations have not been substantially revised since 2000.

The following changes are addressed in this final stage action: i) definitions have been expanded and modified to provide for person centered planning, to incorporate the new acronym for Intermediate Care Facilities for Intellectually Disabled, and to incorporate the agency's new terminology for service authorization; ii) waiver participant eligibility requirements are being updated for clarification of institutional deeming rules and for consistency and clarity in the use of a Uniform Assessment Instrument for eligibility determination; iii) provider participation standards and staff qualifications are being updated consistent with current industry standards; iv) clarification of DMAS direct oversight for this waiver and authorization of services; v) update and clarification of all waiver services and provider service delivery standards to the current industry standards; vi) clarification that assistive technology that is available through the State Plan for Medical Assistance will not be covered through the waiver; vii) inclusion and expansion on waiver participant rights and responsibilities, and; viii) update to current industry practices for the waiver individuals' right to file grievances, participate in the planning and scheduling of their own care, and exercise their appeal rights.

In response to comments received during the comment period, the changes being made in the final stage are: (i) the making up of authorized private duty nursing care within the same week is permitted; (ii) 21 days of absence from the Commonwealth is permitted; (iii) provisions that the primary caregiver has the right to participate in scheduling providers and services, and; (iv) repairs to environmental modifications which DMAS has already reimbursed are shown as covered.

DMAS was also directed, by the 2013 General Assembly, to modify the unit of service for skilled private duty nursing (*2013 Acts of the Assembly*, Item 307 QQQQ) from the current one hour to one-quarter of an hour. This change has also been incorporated into this final stage.

Other requested changes (such as covering private duty nursing for 20 hours a day) cannot be made. To do so would result in individuals' costs of care exceeding, in the aggregate, the comparable costs of institutional care in violation of federal law. The Commonwealth's receipt of federal funds is contingent upon the waiver's aggregate costs being less than the costs of comparable institutional care. Other changes are technical and editorial in nature and are made to improve clarity and readability.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency or board taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

I hereby approve the foregoing Regulatory Review Summary with the attached amended regulations entitled Waiver Services: Technology Assisted Waiver Update (12 VAC 30-120-1700 et seq.), Repealing 12 VAC 30-120-70 through 12 VAC 30-120-120 and adopt the action stated therein. I certify that this final regulatory action has completed all the requirements of the *Code of Virginia* § 2.2-4012, of the Administrative Process Act.

Date

Cynthia B. Jones, Director

Dept. of Medical Assistance Services

Legal basis

Please identify the state and/or federal legal authority to promulgate this proposed regulation, including (1) the most relevant citations to the Code of Virginia or General Assembly chapter number(s), if applicable, and (2) promulgating entity, i.e., agency, board, or person. Your citation should include a specific provision authorizing the promulgating entity to regulate this specific subject or program, as well as a reference to the agency/board/person's overall regulatory authority.

The *Code of Virginia* (1950) as amended, § 32.1-325, grants to the Board of Medical Assistance Services the authority to administer and amend the Plan for Medical Assistance. The *Code of Virginia* (1950) as amended, § 32.1-324, authorizes the Director of DMAS to administer and amend the Plan for Medical Assistance according to the Board's requirements. The Medicaid authority as established by § 1902 (a) of the *Social Security Act* [42 U.S.C. 1396a] provides governing authority for payments for services.

DMAS' Technology Assisted Waiver operates under the authority of §1915 (c) of the *Social Security Act* and 42 CFR §§ 435.211, 435.17, and 435.230 which permit the waiver of certain State Plan requirements (such as comparability of services and sufficiency of the amount, duration, and scope of services). These cited federal statutory and regulatory provisions permit the establishment of Medicaid waivers to afford the states greater flexibility to devise different approaches, as alternatives to institutionalization, in the provision of long term care services. This waiver authority permits DMAS to target specific services to eligible individuals on the basis of their diagnoses.

This particular waiver provides Medicaid individuals, who require complex medical care and substantial and ongoing skilled nursing care, with numerous supportive services thereby enabling them to remain in their homes and communities at lower costs, as opposed to being institutionalized in nursing facilities or long stay hospitals. Pursuant to federal statute, the costs of these services in the community are prohibited from costing, in the aggregate, more than the comparable institutional costs. DMAS has determined that the maximum number of private duty nursing hours that can be authorized, and remain within this aggregate limit, is 16 hours in a 24-hour period.

Purpose

Please explain the need for the new or amended regulation. Describe the rationale or justification of the proposed regulatory action. Detail the specific reasons it is essential to protect the health, safety or welfare of citizens. Discuss the goals of the proposal and the problems the proposal is intended to solve.

The waiver originally became effective in 1988 primarily for ventilator-dependant children and was approved by CMS and funded by the General Assembly. In 1997, CMS approved the addition of adults to this waiver. The impetus for the inclusion of adults derived largely from the fact that children, who had been cared for for years through this waiver, were aging out of the waiver services and had no alternative other than institutional care for their required medical care.

Advances in pediatric medicine are enabling the long term survival of severely compromised children who, just 20 years ago, would not have survived very long after birth. These regulatory changes are needed to ensure that the ongoing changes in medical technology and industry practices continue to support the health, safety, and welfare of this waiver's fragile population. DMAS anticipates that these modifications and updates will allow for provider agencies and their staff and the waiver individuals, while complying with applicable federal requirements, to continue to participate in this important and vital waiver program.

The Technology Assisted Waiver is responsible for and provides direct care coordination currently for 313 individuals who require complicated healthcare because they are chronically ill or severely impaired and dependent on sophisticated technology to sustain their lives. This population includes 219 (70%) children and 94 (30%) adults. Of the pediatric population, 137 (63%) require a tracheostomy to sustain life and 50 of them (36%) are also ventilator dependant. Of the adult population, 79 (84%) require a ventilator to sustain life. Some of the common diagnoses found for this waiver population are Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Respiratory Failure, and Cerebral Palsy.

Substance

Please identify and explain the new substantive provisions, the substantive changes to existing sections, or both where appropriate. A more detailed discussion is required under the "All changes made in this regulatory action" section.

The state regulations that are affected by this action are the Technology Assisted Waiver regulations located at 12 VAC30-120-70 through 12 VAC30-120-120 which are being repealed. New regulations are being promulgated at 12 VAC 30-120-1700 et seq.

All of DMAS waiver programs contained different definitions for the same/similar terms which caused unnecessary confusion among providers, especially for those providers who participated in more than one waiver. The existing Technology Assisted Waiver regulations contained limited requirements for individual screenings and individual eligibility requirements in regard to pre-admission screenings. There was a lack of clear criteria for alternate institutional placement as related to the age of the individual seeking consideration for waiver enrollment.

The existing regulations contained the general requirements for providers of waiver services but did not include personal care aide qualifications; training or mandated provider oversight (i.e.: providers' responsibility for documentation and record maintenance); provision for criminal record and sex offender registry checks; restrictions from hiring persons convicted of barrier crimes, and; the assurance of dignity and quality of life for waiver individuals.

The current regulations did not include waiver individual's rights and responsibilities, a statement of participants' choice of providers of services or protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation or misappropriation of property. The current regulations also did not include current standards of practice for the plan of care and skilled private duty nursing services. These regulations required the use of the DMAS-225 (previously DMAS 122) form by the local departments of social services to communicate to long term care providers relevant information about individuals' eligibility. This form contained patient pay information that was relevant to providers' billing activities. Providers reported problems with obtaining this form in a timely manner to support their billing activities.

In addition to proposing a new uniform format (across all waiver programs) for these regulations, changes were proposed for public comment as follows: (i) definitions were updated to include current industry standards; (ii) preadmission screenings were updated to require the use of the same assessment tool (the Uniform Assessment Instrument) for all individuals seeking waiver services regardless of age; (iii) age specific assessment tools were incorporated into the revised regulations and serve as a guideline for determination of the number of skilled private duty nursing hours which can be authorized for waiver individuals; (iv) specialized care criteria are updated for final determination of waiver criteria; (v) clarification was provided for congregate private duty nursing; (vi) clarification was provided for the limitation of no more than 16 hours of skilled private duty nursing services in a 24-hour period of time and the make-up of missed nursing shifts; (vii) the inclusion of transition services under Money Follows the Person (MFP) was provided; (viii) nursing supervisory assessment visits were clarified; (ix) the plan of care was expanded to include required information elements, signatures, and timeframes; (x) annual eligibility re-determination and quality management reviews were provided; (xi) individuals' rights and responsibilities were included; (xii) protection of individuals from abuse, neglect, exploitation, or misappropriation of property was included; (xiii) providers' responsibilities for documentation and record maintenance; (xiv) provision was made for criminal record and sex offender checks; (xv) limitations were provided on providers' hiring of persons who have been convicted of barrier crimes; (xvi) the assurance of dignity and quality of life for waiver individuals was included, and; (xvii) update for the appeal for denial of coverage for waiver individuals was added.

Providers are now able to access the electronic Automated Response System (ARS) and Medi-Call to obtain information about waiver individuals' eligibility periods, patient pay responsibilities, and whether they have full or limited Medicaid coverage. Providers no longer have to wait for hard copy documents to arrive in the mail in order to complete their billing submissions to DMAS.

Issues

Please identify the issues associated with the proposed regulatory action, including:

1) the primary advantages and disadvantages to the public, such as individual private citizens or businesses, of implementing the new or amended provisions;

2) the primary advantages and disadvantages to the agency or the Commonwealth; and

3) other pertinent matters of interest to the regulated community, government officials, and the public. If there are no disadvantages to the public or the Commonwealth, please indicate.

As discussed above (see *Legal Basis*), DMAS must ensure that individuals' costs of care do not exceed the costs of institutional care in the aggregate for this waiver. To do so would result in federal disapproval of this important waiver and the loss of the related federal funds. DMAS expended, for State Fiscal Years 2010, 2011, and 2012, respectively \$32,219,297; \$32,506,730; \$32,652,309. Half of each expenditure was federal funds so the Commonwealth's loss of such amounts would impair the ability of the Commonwealth to care for these medically fragile individuals.

In 2005 and 2006, providers approached DMAS with multiple issues involving participating in this waiver: (i) variations in the definition of terms and regulatory requirements complicated their participation in multiple waivers; (ii) certain regulatory requirements made it difficult for providers to hire adequate staff for waiver individuals' needs, and; (iii) required forms were not being secured promptly enough to support their monthly billing activities. DMAS worked with these affected entities to arrive at solutions agreeable to these parties.

The advantages to waiver individuals of these changes are the provision of assistance with transitioning out of skilled nursing facilities or long stay hospitals into community care arrangements. The advantage to providers will be the update of program requirements to conform to current industry standards. These regulations are also being formatted consistently with other waiver programs to assist providers who participate in more than one waiver.

The advantage to the agency will be the clarification of provider requirements which are expected to reduce exceptions encountered during provider reviews. Such exceptions can result in DMAS recovering expenditures which for small providers can represent substantial sums of monies to be returned to the program. These recoveries also often result in lengthy and administratively costly provider appeal actions. The reduction of recoveries and appeal actions benefits both these affected providers and the Commonwealth.

DMAS is aware of some providers' difficulties in employing sufficient qualified nursing staff to meet all of these waiver individuals' needs. Inspite of DMAS' efforts to update these regulations for providers' and families' benefit, provider agencies and families may still encounter problems with hiring and staffing the needed care hours. However, it is outside DMAS' statutory authority to resolve this issue.

Improved efficiencies in this waiver program will reduce administrative expenditures which is more cost effective for the citizens of the Commonwealth. There are no disadvantages to citizens or the Commonwealth in these proposed changes.

Changes made since the proposed stage

Please describe all changes made to the text of the proposed regulation since the publication of the proposed stage. For the Registrar's office, please put an asterisk next to any substantive changes. Editorial changes have been made throughout the regulations to update the previously-named Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) to the currently-used Intermediate Care Facility for the Intellectually Disabled (ICF/ID).

Section	Requirement at	What has changed	Rationale for change
number	proposed stage		
1700	Definition of congregate private duty respite care stated that 240 hours of care was covered per cal- endar year per household. Definition referred to prior authorization in conjunction with service authorization.	Total hours of respite care covered changed to 360. DMAS has changed its terminology to service authorization (from prior authorization (PA)).	At time of drafting the proposed regulations, a budget bill proposal pro- vided for 240 hours of respite care. The General Assembly funded this service at 360 hours. References to PA have
4705 5	Description limited accompany		been removed for con- sistency with operations.
1705 E	Provision limited coverage of waiver services to 14 days per calendar year for travel outside the Com- monwealth.	The 14 days has been changed to 21 with the stipulation that private duty nursing hours cannot exceed the amount that has been author- ized.	Response to public com- ment.
1710 A (9)	Provision requires primary caregiver to be responsible for a minimum of 8 hours of the individual's care in a 24 hour period as well as <u>any</u> hours not provided by a nurse.	<u>Any</u> was changed to <u>all</u> as this was DMAS' intent.	Response to public com- ment.
1710 C (6)	Provision sets out the rights of the individual's family in this waiver.	The legally competent waiver indi- vidual or parent/legal guardian has the right to participate in the care planning, <u>scheduling of services</u> and selection of providers and ser- vices.	Response to public com- ment.
1720 A (5)	Provision sets out the entity responsible for performing prior authorization of ser- vices.	DMAS has changed its terminology for prior authorization to service authorization. Authorization for skilled private duty respite services has been delegated to the agency's service authorization contractor.	Administrative procedure change made by DMAS.
1720 B	Services covered in this waiver are listed.	Personal care for adults-only is added to the list.	Response to public com- ment.
1720 B (1)	Skilled private duty nursing service	Qualifying language added to c(3) that the authorized PDN hours are based on the individuals' technology and nursing scores.	Language clarification for consistency with other requirements.
		Change to c(5) permits making up of missed hours within the week.	Response to public com- ment.
		A unit of skilled private duty nursing is changing from one hour to 15 minutes.	2013 legislative mandate.
1720 B 4	Reference to 12 VAC 30- 120-758.	Reference removed.	Clarity and improved readability.
	Repairs of environmental	Text added.	Response to public com-

	modifications.		ment.
	EM exclusions.	Limits on environmental modifica- tions clarified.	Clarity and improved readability. Declined the public comment on this issue.
1730 A 22	Record retention require- ments for providers.	Waiver defines a child as up through 21 years of age.	Consistency with program policy.
1730 A 27	Providers must obtain 2 references for prospective employees.	A prospective employee who has worked as a personal care aide and for only one employer is permitted to provide 2 personal references. Prospective employer must demon- strate good faith effort to obtain pro- fessional job references for new employees.	Response to public com- ment.
1730 B	Provider requirements ap- plicable to specific ser- vices.	The respite service covered in this waiver is always private duty nurs- ing respite.	Language clarification.

Editorial corrections are being made, where a requirement is mandatory, from the use of the term 'must' to 'shall' consistent with the Registrar's Style Manual.

Public comment

Please summarize all comments received during the public comment period following the publication of the proposed stage, and provide the agency response. If no comment was received, please so indicate.

DMAS' proposed regulations were published in the November 19, 2012, *Virginia Register* (VR 29:6) for their comment period from November 19, 2012, through January 18, 2013. Comments were received from representatives of AmeriCare Plus Personal Care Agency, and 45 individuals via the public comment forum on the Town Hall.

A summary of the comments received follows:

Commenter	Comment	Agency Response
AmeriCare Plus Per-	1. Remove the requirement that	Prospective employers are still
sonal Care Agency	prospective employers obtain a profes-	being required to attempt to gath-
	sional reference for a nurse aide applicant	er at least one professional refer-
	who has worked for only one employer.	ence for nurse aides. They will be
	Previous employers are reluctant to pro-	permitted to document their good
	vide any references and the requirement	faith efforts to secure professional
	further restricts an already limited pool of prospective nurse aides. Securing the	references for the purpose of au-
	personal reference should remain.	dits.
	2. Remove the requirement that	This requirement is not included
	nurse aides 'physically attend' 12 hours of	in these regulations.
	in-service education annually. Providers	
	should be permitted to use printed mate-	

	rial and other media as well as having the	
	RN supervisor provide direct instruction in	
	the home specific to each Medicaid indi-	
	vidual.	
	3. Remove requirement that signa-	In addition to other documenta-
	ture times/dates be completed in the rec-	tion, signatures, dates and times
	ord no later than 7 calendar days from the	are required in order to verify that
	last date of service. This standard is diffi-	services were provided as billed.
	cult to comply with and in some cases	DMAS declines to make this
	impossible if the Medicaid individual is	change. If the Medicaid individu-
	hospitalized or travels unexpectedly for	al's departure is believed to be
	long periods. The absence of these signa-	imminent, providers can secure
	tures prevents providers from billing for	more frequent verification signa-
	appropriately rendered services.	tures, even on a daily basis.
40 Individuals	1. Making up or trading any missed	The making up of any missed
	private duty nursing (PDN) shifts, days or	authorized private duty nursing
	hours within 72-hours of the missed	hours is being permitted within
	schedule, but not to exceed 16 hours in a	the same week (Sunday through
	24-hour period, was raised as a concern.	Saturday). The total hours made
	The commenters stated that PDN missed	up may not exceed 16 hours per
	shifts place additional hardships on par-	day for any reason.
	ents/caregivers who can have their own	
	jobs to get to.	DMAQ is a second sting this
	2. Restrictions on the daily allotment	DMAS is accommodating this
	of hours were also raised as a concern.	change within the constraint of no
	Giving families the flexibility to use their	more than 16 hours of private
	PDN hours in a <u>weekly allotment</u> rather	duty nursing per day will be cov-
	than a <u>daily allotment</u> would significantly	ered. Families are permitted to
	benefit families. During the week, there	use their respite benefit for addi-
	can be doctor's appointments, school ac-	tional daily hours (up to the an-
	tivities and other responsibilities which	nual limit of 360 hours) for the
	can drive the need for more PDN hours.	relief of the primary caregiver.
	Weekends typically do not involve as	
	many additional activities. Families still would not exceed their total weekly allot-	
	ment of 112 PDN hours but would greatly	
	benefit from the greater flexibility.	
	3. One of these individuals ex-	DMAS worked with affected pro-
		viders and a representative group
	pressed concern that the agency's regula- tions were developed without input from	to formulate the proposed stage
	families who have children served by this	regulations.
	waiver.	regulations.
Individual	Flexibility of how nursing hours are used	DMAS is accommodating this
manada	should be permitted for families who are	change.
	attending to multiple, sometimes compet-	change.
	ing, responsibilities.	
Individual	The proposed language for nursing hours	DMAS is accommodating this
mainiaal	is very stringent and places unnecessary	change and no more than 16
	hardships on families. It allows for only 16	hours of private duty nursing per
	hours per day (rather than weekly allot-	day will be covered.
	ments) and does not permit families to	ady will be covered.
	make up lost hours when the scheduled	
	nurse does not work the shift. This com-	
	menter also supported the idea of allow-	
	menter dise supported the luca of allow-	1

	ing PDN shifts to be allocated on a week- ly basis rather than daily.	
Individual	 All persons covered by this waiv- er should be informed about these pro- posed rules and the comment period should be extended for another 30 days. 	DMAS has observed all of the public comment requirements set out in the <i>Code of Virginia</i> § 2.2-4000 et seq.
	2. The respite program should be more accountable to and for the individual and the hours should be increased (from 240) to 480 hours as in other waiver pro- grams.	The 240 hours of private duty nursing respite care was a budget bill proposal that was never im- plemented. The General Assem- bly funded this benefit at 360 hours per year.
	3. The regulations need to provide for making up of missed hours of skilled PDN.	This change has been incorpo- rated.
	4. There should be a combined maximum of skilled PDN and personal care of 20 hours per day.	Only adults are permitted to re- ceive personal care in this waiver. DMAS covers up to a maximum of 16 hours a day of PDN-only or combined PDN and PC services.
	5. The assistive technology defini- tion should be equipment to meet special- ized medical needs, perform ADLs and/or improve their function. It should not be defined as specialized medical equip- ment.	The agency declines this com- ment as to do so would result in a unique definition for a term com- mon to multiple waivers. The use of 'specialized medical' does not mean that requests for communi- cation devices would automatical- ly be denied coverage when they are found to be medically neces- sary.
	6. Change ADLs to ADLs/IADLs in several places.	This change has been incorpo- rated.
	7. 12 VAC 30-120-1705 E: Change 14 days of absences from the Common- wealth to 21 days per calendar year for vacations.	This change has been incorpo- rated.
	8. 12 VAC 30-120-1710 A(9): Change wording of second sentence to provide that the primary caregiver is re- sponsible for all hours not provided by RNs/LPNs.	This change has been incorpo- rated.
	9. 12 VAC 30-120-1710 C(6): Pro- vide that the primary caregiver has the right to participate in scheduling providers and services.	This change has been incorpo- rated.
	10. 12 VAC 30-120-1710 C(6) add: 'Be provided a monthly report of daily hours and services by the 15 th of the following month'.	Such requested information would be provided by the provider agency or agencies.
	11. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B: add per- sonal care services for adults as a cov- ered service.	This change has been incorpo- rated.
	12. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B(1)(c) add to the end: 'and where 16 scheduled PDN hours are not completed within a 24 hour	This change has been incorpo- rated.

	period, the hours may be re-scheduled	
	and worked within the following 72 hours	
	to support the primary caregiver'.	
	13. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B(1)(c)(8)	This change has been incorpo-
	change 'i.e.' to 'e.g.'	rated.
	14. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B(1)(d) add	The first change has been incor-
	to the end: 'or should be out of the Com-	porated. DMAS covers 360 hours
	monwealth for more than 48 hours' and	of respite services per individual
	change the number of covered respite	annually in this waiver. This
	hours from 240 to 480 (several locations).	change has been made through-
		out these regulations.
	15. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B(3)(a):	DMAS declines the first comment
	Remove 'specialized medical' from first	and has incorporated the second.
	sentence. Add IADLs to ADLs.	·
	16. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B(4)(a):	This change is declined.
	add 'and/or safety' to the end.	
	17. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B(4)(i): Add	This change has been incorpo-
	to the end: 'Repairs of modifications are	rated.
	eligible.'	
	18. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B(4)(k)(1)	DMAS appreciates this comment
	should be deleted because there may be	but elects to retain the prohibition
	times when duplicate EM services could	of duplication of EM services
	be warranted.	within the same residence and
	be warranteu.	the same room of the residence.
	10 12 \/AC 20 120 1720 D (E)(d)(2);	The maximum number of hours
	19. 12 VAC 30-120-1720 B (5)(d)(2):	
	Change 16 to 20 and add the following:	that DMAS will reimburse
	'and where 20 scheduled PDN and PC	(whether PDN only or a combina-
	hours are not completed within a 24 hour	tion of PDN and PC) is 16. This
	period, the hours may be re-scheduled	change concerning the resched-
	and worked within the following 72 hours	uling of missed shifts has been
	to support the primary caregiver'.	incorporated.
	20. 12 VAC 30-120-1750 B(1) and	DMAS appreciates the comment
	(2): Delete or update last sentence as it	but elects to retain the connection
	only pertains to 2011. Add 'as covered	between receiving private duty
	below' to (2).	nursing and assistive technology
		and environmental modifications.
Physician	Suggested that the PDN hours be regu-	This change has been incorpo-
	lated by the week instead of daily.	rated.
Individual	Consider allotting the covered 16 hours of	This change has been incorpo-
	PDN on a weekly basis instead of a daily	rated.
	basis.	
Individual	Consider removing the requirement that	DMAS recognizes the problems
	nurses must have 6 months experience	that some health care agencies
	working with ventilator cases. Home	may have in meeting this stand-
	health agencies have difficulty finding	ard with their new employees.
	nurses with 6 months experience working	However, due to the fragile na-
	with ventilator cases. There also needs to	ture of the health of the individu-
	be provision for emergency nursing care	als served by this waiver, DMAS
	when parents/caregivers encounter their	believes that it could seriously
	own emergencies, such as surgery recu-	endanger the health and safety of
	peration, when more than 240 hours pro-	the waiver individuals to permit
	vided by the respite benefit are required.	agencies to hire staff who lack a
		minimum of 6 months ventilator
		case experience. DMAS covers
		360 hours of respite services for
		Sources for respire services for

this waiver.

All changes made in this regulatory action

Please list all changes that are being proposed and the consequences of the proposed changes. Describe new provisions and/or all changes to existing sections.

Current section number	Proposed new section number, if applicable	Current requirement	Proposed change, rationale, and con- sequences
12VAC30- 120-70 th 120		Sets out all of the regula- tory requirements for the Technology Assisted Waiver.	Old waiver regulations are being re- pealed as part of the agency's action to bring more consistency and uni- formity to its multiple waiver pro- grams. The same waiver regulatory format is being adopted across all waiver programs.

12VAC30- 120-1700 12VAC30- 120-1705	Definitions. Waiver de- scription and legal authori- ty	Sets out all of the regula- tory definitions for the Technology Assisted Waiver. New provision over previ- ous old regulations.	Old definitions are being expanded to allow for updates which include cur- rent industry standards, standards of practice and laws. Sets out the federal statutory authority for this waiver as well as federal limi- tations.
12VAC30- 120-1710	Individual eligibility requirements; Preadmission screening	Comparable to the parallel existing 12VAC30-120-80 B and C	Sets out the federal statutory cite for this waiver as well as use of the same assessment tools (the Uniform As- sessment Instrument) for all individu- als seeking waiver services regardless of age and includes all updates for specialized care criteria. Establishes consistency across all waivers for pre- admission screening requirements. Annual eligibility-re-determination and waiver individual's rights and re- sponsibilities are updated.
12VAC30- 120-1720	Covered ser- vices; limits; changes to or termination of services	Comparable to the parallel existing 12VAC30-120-90 A, B and C	Sets out the federal statutory cite for this waiver as well as the clarification of the federal limitations in regards to waiver services, skilled private duty nursing hours and termination from the waiver itself. Reductions in several

12VAC30- 20-1730	General re- quirements for partici- pating pro- viders.	Comparable to the parallel existing 12VAC30-120- 100	specific services (covered respite hours, AT and EM) are resulting from the 2010 Appropriations Act are also proposed. Sets out the general requirements for providers including checking for the commission of barrier crimes and mandated criminal record checks. In- clusion of mandated reporting for sus- pected abuse, neglect, exploitation or misappropriation of property. Inclu- sion of standard freedom of choice provisions, requirement to use person- centered planning, guarantee of provi- sion of civil rights, etc. The federally mandated checks of persons and enti- ties appearing on the List of Excluded Individuals and Entities has been add- ed.
12VAC30- 120-1740	Participation standards for provision of services.	Comparable to the parallel existing 12VAC30-120- 110 A,B and C	Clarifies all required assessments and the development of the Plan of Care.
12VAC30- 120-1750	Payment for services.	Comparable to the parallel existing 12VAC30-120- 100 A, B and D.	Sets out required limits for the pay- ment for these services.
12VAC30- 120-1760	Utilization review; level of care re- views.	Comparable to the parallel existing 12VAC30-120-15 B.	Old regulations are being updated to include Quality Management Re- views.
12VAC30- 120-1780	Appeals.	Comparable to the parallel existing 12VAC30-120- 120 A and B.	Update for the appeal of denied cover- age rights for waiver individuals.