

Home and Community Based Services – Autism Waiver Renewal Public Comment Period (8/28/15-9/28/15)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

November 5, 2015

- Q. Will Autism Specialists be allowed to step in and provide services for children if there is not a service worker available yet or the child’s worker is ill?**
- A. The state of Kansas must ensure that conflict of interest is mitigated for all services provided under the Autism program. This is a federal requirement for all HCBS programs. Therefore, an individual who develops the child’s Individualized Behavior Plan/Plan of Care (IBP/POC) may not deliver services in that same IBP/POC.
- Q. The change in provider qualifications for IIS workers is partially a positive change. But, the requirement of 1,000 hours of experience with a child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is still a large barrier for finding qualified providers.**
- A. Kansas has proposed the change for provider qualification for IIS workers. The following change has been proposed to continue the effort to provide an adequate network of providers for the HCBS-Autism program:

Current approved provider qualifications for service providers of Intensive Individual Supports (IIS):
Sixty (60) college credit hours,

- 1,000 documented hours working with someone with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); diagnosis
- Bachelor’s degree (preferred in Human Services or Education);
- Completion of the state approved curriculum;
- Work under the direction of an Autism Specialist;
- Medicaid enrolled provider; and
- MCO contracted provider

Proposed change to provider qualifications for providers of IIS:

- 1,000 documented hours working with someone with a n ASD;
- High school diploma or equivalent;
- 18 years of age or older;
- Completion of the state approved curriculum;
- Work under the direction of an Autism Specialist;
- Medicaid enrolled provider; and
- MCO contracted provider

Q. Currently Kansas requires Autism Specialists to be Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) or have a Master's Degree and meet all of the training requirements. There is concern for those who are Board Certified Assistance Behavior Analysts (BCABA) and how additional oversight would look for the required supervision of a BCBA.

A. Based on public feedback Kansas did not propose a change to current provider qualifications for Consultative Clinical and Therapeutic Services (Autism Specialist) have been submitted.

Q. How will a family with a child who needs to utilize service delivery through the additional Telemedicine option if a family must provide documentation that they do not have service providers in their area? Who will provide this documentation if no one is in their area to begin with (within 50 mile radius)?

A. Kansas has proposed the change of an additional service delivery option for Autism Specialist, Parent Support and Training (peer to peer) and Family Adjustment counseling based on documentation that there are no service providers who will deliver services face to face based on the location of the family. KDADS has proposed that at least three (3) providers in at least a 75 mile radius provide documentation.

Families should not gather and provide their own documentation. This service delivery option is an exception that must be submitted by the Managed Care Organization (MCO) and will be reviewed by the Program Manager. This exception request is specifically for those families who reside in locations so remote that there are no providers who will deliver services due to their location. If there is no documentation that can be provided, the MCO care coordinator should contact the HCBS-Autism program manager.