



**NOTICE 0921704**

DATE: September 9, 2021

TO: AAA Directors; AAA Public Information Officers; Ombudsman Directors; PASSPORT Site Directors

FROM: Karen Boester, Interim Chief, Division for Community Living

RE: Public Comment Period on PASSPORT and Assisted Living Medicaid Waiver Amendments

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Ohio will post for public comment proposed amendments to the PASSPORT Medicaid Waiver and to the Assisted Living Medicaid Waiver, which will be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review. The period for public comment on the proposed PASSPORT and Assisted Living Medicaid Waiver Amendments will run from **September 1, 2021, through September 30, 2021.**

The public comment period is a requirement under the January 16, 2014, CMS Home and Community- Based Services (HCBS) Settings Final Rule (*CMS 2249-F/2296-F*), which sets forth the actions Ohio will take to operate all applicable HCBS programs in compliance with the final rule. States are required to give notice and to provide a 30-day public comment period.

During the public comment period, ODA requests the following of the PASSPORT Administrative Agencies (PAAs):

- In an area at the PAA where visitors are most likely to see them, print and post both *Public Notice and Request for Comment* documents as well as the *Public Notice Summaries*, all of which accompany this NOTICE.
- In order to provide public access to the proposed PASSPORT and Assisted Living Amendments and to facilitate public comment, create a link from the PAA website to the Ohio Department of Medicaid website page posting the documents, located at the following:

<https://medicaid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/medicaid/about-us/notices/public-notices>

- Please make hard copies of the PASSPORT and Assisted Living Waiver Amendments available upon request.

***Fostering sound public policy, research, and initiatives that benefit older Ohioans.***

- During the public comment period on the proposed PASSPORT and Assisted Living Medicaid Waiver Amendments, conversations between PASSPORT Administrative Agency (PAA) Case Managers and any individuals served on the Medicaid waivers, their family members, or anyone who may be interested in the Medicaid waivers, will include information on the opportunity to provide public comment on the proposed Medicaid Waiver Amendments.

ODA values the input of individuals interested in or impacted by changes to ODA Medicaid waivers, and appreciates the contribution by the PAAs to this important process.

Once the public comment period has concluded the PAA may remove the public notice announcements and the link to the proposed PASSPORT and Assisted Living Waiver Amendments from the PAA's website.

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Attachments