

Section 21: Proposed Rule Changes

Key Message: The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is committed to continuing to support Section 21.

The Department is proposing rule changes to Section 21 that will help to ensure health and safety of members.

Ensuring individual choice: The Person Centered Planning (PCP) process will continue to be the core through which individuals identify their goals and needs.

Ensuring right services are received: The Department is establishing a Clinical Review Team (CRT) to support enhanced quality.

Medical and clinical oversight of services and supports will be provided to ensure that critical individualized needs are met.

Ensuring full staff support: Every person deserves to receive services and supports to the full extent of their needs and as outlined in their Person Centered Plan (PCP).

The Department is proposing to align policy with payment requirements to ensure that all providers are staffing consistently with what they are currently paid based on the PCP.

Ensuring members are safe: DHHS and providers are committed to ensuring the safety of the individuals we serve.

The rule proposes that providers must:

- Conduct background checks every two (2) years
- Include background checks from Child Protective Services (CPS)
- Conduct background checks for adults living in a Shared Living or Family Support Home

All staff will have a grace period of six (6) months to comply.

Providing opportunities for feedback: Throughout the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) rule making process, there are opportunities to formally comment on the proposed rule changes.

These include:

- The public hearing
- The formal Comments Period (once rules are posted)

The Department is required to respond to all comments in writing and post.

