

Community And Employment Supports (CES) Agency Standards – Zoom Public Hearing - 01/24/2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Mac Golden: Good morning everyone and welcome to our public hearing on a proposed rule regrading Community and Employment Support Waiver Standards. Thomas Tarpley Interim Director Division of Developmental Disabilities will read the notice or rule making. Then we will open floor for public comments. Please utilize the right-hand feature via zoom if you would like to make a comment on the record. Please remember this not a question-and-answer section. All official responses to the public comments will appear on DHS Proposed Rule and Notice website after the public comment period concludes. If you have any question or need a copy of the proposed rule, notice or any other information please email ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov or my office at 501.534.4138. Mr. Tarpley will not read the notice or rule making.

Thomas Tarpley: The Department of Human Services (DHS) announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§ 20-76-201, 20-77-107, and 25-10-129.

The Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services proposes a new rule that for community providers delivering services to beneficiaries enrolled in the Arkansas 1915(c) home and community-based waiver number, which is known as the Community and Employment Support Waiver (CES Waiver). The standards contained in the new rule manual establishes a uniform set of standards and provides Provider-led Arkansas Shared Savings Entities and providers with certainty in the requirements and expectations when delivering CES Waiver services to beneficiaries. The proposed effective date of the rule is April 1, 2024, and there is no fiscal impact.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 23-02, DHS repeals the following two rules as part of this promulgation: (1) Arkansas Refugee Resettlement Program State Plan, and (2) DHS Policy3007, Options Counseling.

The proposed rule is 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 rule at ar.gov/dhs-proposed-rules. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov. All public comments must be received by DHS no later than February 12, 2024. 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.

A public hearing by remote access only through a Zoom webinar will be held on January 24, 2024, at 10:00am and public comments may be submitted at the hearing. Individuals can access this public hearing at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84368376054> The webinar ID is 843 6837 6054. If you would like the electronic link, "one-tap" mobile information, listening only dial-in phone numbers, or international phone numbers, please contact ORP at ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-320-6428.

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.

Mac Golden: Thank you, Mr. Tarpley. Please let the record reflect that we have nine attendees for today's public hearing. If any attendees would like to make a public comment at this time, please utilize the raise hand feature via zoom. I will pause for a moment to give you an opportunity.

It does not appear that any attendee wishes to make a public comment today, we thank you for attending. If you wish to make a public comment at a later time, please email ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov. We will now consider this public hearing close and go off the record. Thank you.