North Dakota's 1915(c) Medicaid Autism Spectrum Disorder waiver is being renewed for a five year period. The Autism Spectrum Disorder waiver provides services to children between the ages of birth through eleven who have an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis. The goal of this waiver is to assist families in keeping their child home instead of placing them within a facility to receive needed services.

Proposed changes to this waiver:

- **Diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder**
  - Current: diagnosis accepted from a psychiatrist or psychologist
  - Proposed change: accept diagnosis from physician including psychiatrist, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, licensed independent clinical social worker or licensed professional clinical counselor. Diagnosis would still be accepted from a psychologist.

- **Level of Care**
  - Current: the Level of Care assessment determines the maximum amount of services allowed.
  - Proposed change: The determination of allowed services will be determined through the development of a plan of care. The plan of care is developed in collaboration between the service manager and the family, to ensure services are tailored to the child’s needs.

- **Service Management**
  - Current: service is available to families two, four, or six hours per week.
  - Proposed change: Service available up to 4 hours per week. Up to 6 hours per week may be approved by ND Medicaid staff.

- **Assistive Technology Service**
  - Current: families receive assistance through a third party fiscal agent for assistive technology purchases.
  - Proposed change: families receive assistance through ND Medicaid staff for assistive technology purchases.

- **Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery**
  - Current: service manager visits every 90 days.
  - Proposed change: two home visits per year (at least 180 days apart) with other contacts by phone or telemedicine. If contact generates the need for a plan of care change, an in-person meeting must be scheduled to complete Participant Plan of Care changes.

Comments and public input on this proposed waiver renewal will be accepted from June 19, 2018, and ending at 5 p.m. (Central Time) on July 18, 2018.

Comments will be accepted in the following ways:

Email: dhsautism@nd.gov
Phone: 800-755-2604 or 701-328-8912, or Relay ND TTY (for adaptive text telephone equipment) 800-366-6888 or 711
Fax: 701-328-1544
Mail: North Dakota Department of Human Services Medical Services Division
      Attn: Autism
      600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325
      Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

View the entire draft waiver renewal at http://www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/docs/renewal-application-asd-waiver-thru-age-11.pdf. Copies will also be provided upon request.

**Date Posted:** June 19, 2018