

# COVID-19 Guidance

**Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020**

**Time: 4:00 PM**

## Senior Care Act Services (SCA)

1. Throughout the COVID-19 emergency period, to encourage social distancing and stop the spread of the pandemic, the agency directs that providers and participants limit participation in congregate settings or activities.
2. Area Agencies on Aging: Assessments may be completed using telecommunications (phone), tele video consultations/telemedicine or telehealth services methods that meet the following criteria:
  - a. Comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);
  - b. Such a process must provide interactive audio or video communications, permitting real-time contact between a distant provider, who is present and participating in the visit, and the individual receiving an appointment.
3. Extensions will be granted for completion of assessments when needed. **Please contact SCA Program Manager to request extension of reassessment.**
4. The criteria to have a signature for the customer or customer's representative for the assessments will be waived and verbal consents for all the assessments will be accepted. **However, a Notice of Action (NOA) should be sent to client communicating services and client's right and responsibilities.**
5. **Customers Plan of Care (POC) must reflect any changes on services occurred during COVID-19.**
6. Senior Care Act one-time service, taxonomy "MISC" can be used to assist seniors affected by the implications of COVID-19. Funds are flexible and may be used for a broad range of services identified by case manager.
7. Due to social distancing as a result of COVID-19 CDC recommendations, KDADS is allowing self- directed Attendant Care and Homemaker paid services to be provided by the SCA customer's spouse and/or **durable power of attorney (DPOA)** as a temporary relief. The purpose of this modification is to avoid suspension of services in the case of Providers discontinuing their services in response to COVID-19 spread or in the case customer choose not to allow others to come into their home as a preventative measure. KDADS recommend working on this option on a case by case situation.
8. SCA Program Administration FSM indicates Budget requirements must not exceed 18 % in the category of Administration. KDADS is removing the cap and allowing a maximum expenditure of 35 % under budget Administration.
9. Maintaining proper documentation for future references is recommended.
10. **KDADS will allow the AAAs a onetime exception of bulk purchasing using FY2020 funds in order to spend excess funding due to unexpected COVID 19 limitations to provision of services.**
  - a. **Prior approval of each one-time bulk service must be obtained from the KDADS SCA Program Manager.**
  - b. Prior approval requests must be submitted via e-mail from the AAA. **In the subject line include "One-Time Bulk Services Request".** Format should include provider name, cost of bulk items, specifically list items needing purchased and include price quotes from up to three vendors when applicable.
  - c. Notification of KDADS approval/denial will be provided via email within 24 hours of receipt from the fully completed request excluding weekend days and holidays.

[This guidance shall be in place until rescinded.](#)

New England Building  
503 South Kansas Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66603-3404



Phone: (785) 296-4986  
Fax: (785) 296-0256  
kdads.wwwmail@ks.gov  
www.kdads.ks.gov

---

Laura Howard, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

**Amy Penrod**  
Commissioner  
Aging & Disability Community Services & Programs  
Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services  
503 S. Kansas Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66603-3404