NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OPPORTUNITIES FOR OHIOANS WITH DISABILITIES (OOD) AGENCY

Date: Monday, August 5, 2024

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: OOD and Microsoft Teams videoconference

150 E. Campus View Boulevard, 3rd Floor,

Conference Room 0306 Columbus, Ohio 43235

The Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Agency will conduct a public hearing forthe purpose of soliciting comments regarding proposed changes to rule Ohio Administrative Code 3304-2-52 (Least cost, use of comparable benefits, participant contributions, and fees for services) and the appendices.

The public hearing will be conducted on Monday, August 5, 2024 beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the 0306 conference room located at 150 E. Campus View Boulevard, 3rd Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43235 and continue until all those attending have had an opportunity to be heard. You may also join the public hearing via Microsoft Teams videoconference. If you would like to attend virtually, or if you would like to request reasonable accommodation to participate in the hearing, please notify ood.administrativerules@ood.ohio.gov to make arrangements.

This notice of public hearing announces OOD's intention to file Ohio Administrative Code 3304-2-52 (Least cost, use of comparable benefits, participant contributions, and fees for services). The proposed changes increase rates for services, expand services, and simplifies language in the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Fee Schedule.

Ohio Administrative Code 3304-2-52 (Least cost, use of comparable benefits, participant contributions, and fees for services) requires OOD to provide services to an individual with a disability at the least cost consistent with the individual's disability and rehabilitation needs. The rule describes when OOD is and is not expected to pay for goods and services, with contributions from the individual taken into account. OOD is required to use comparable benefits to pay for services, unless doing so would lead to an interruption or delay in certain situations. The rule is amended to adopt a Medical, Psychological, and Dental fee schedule and clarify that OOD must pay cancellation rates for American Sign Language and international language interpreting services. Two appendices to the rule are also provided. Appendix A contains the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Fee Schedule adopted by the rule and is amended to add clarifying language, increase rates for services, expand services, and propose additional services. Appendix B is new and contains the Medical, Psychological, and Dental Fee Schedule adopted by the rule.

The purpose of this hearing is to provide the opportunity for any interested person to give testimony for or against the proposed Ohio Administrative Code rule. Testimony for the proposal or against the proposal may be made at the public hearing, or written comments maybe emailed to the Executive Director at ood.ohio.gov. Written comments will be accepted until the start of the hearing.

Please find the proposed rule and appendices on OOD's website using the following link: <u>OOD Proposed Rules</u>. If you would like to receive a copy of the rules in a special format (e.g., Microsoft Word format, regular or large print), please email <u>ood.administrativerules@ood.ohio.gov</u>.

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