

WSC ADVISORY #2021-006
QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS AND WSC RULE HEARING

INFORMATIONAL - RULE HEARING NOTICE

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) is committed to a successful implementation of chapter 2020-71, Laws of Florida, effective July 1, 2021. To ensure success, APD will be communicating with Waiver Support Coordinators (WSCs) throughout the implementation process. This WSC Advisory is intended to inform WSCs of and encourage attendance/participation in an upcoming rule hearing for chapter 65G-14, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The purpose of chapter 65G-14, F.A.C., is to implement a portion of the statutory changes adopted by chapter 2020-71.

APD held rule workshops on July 30 and November 18, 2020 and a rule hearing on January 20th, 2021 to receive public input for development of proposed rules relating to Qualified Organizations. Significant feedback, comments, important topics, concerns, and ideas were shared with APD. These comments have been thoroughly reviewed and considered during the development of APD's proposed rule language for Qualified Organizations, chapter 65G-14, F.A.C.

A Notice of Change was made to the proposed rule and was published in Vol. 47, No. 20, February 1, 2021 issue of the Florida Administrative Register. Because of this Notice of Change, APD has scheduled a subsequent rule hearing on February 15, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon EST.

Attendees may register for the hearing at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8874588669460504848>. After registering, a confirmation email will be received containing information about joining the webinar. There will be opportunities to offer comments and questions about the proposed changes during the hearing.

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: The Agency will consider comments related to the Notice of Change published in the Volume 47, Number 20 issue of the Florida Administrative Register, which clarifies that Support Coordinators must be employees of a Qualified Organization and not independent contractors.

We encourage you to log into the webinar a few minutes early to ensure there are no technical issues. Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise APD at least 48 hours before the hearing/meeting by contacting Danielle Thompson at (850) 922-4556 or Danielle.Thompson@apdcares.org. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech impairment, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).