




TO: OPWDD Providers

FROM: Kevin M. Valenchis 
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Enterprise Solutions

DATE: February 24, 2021

SUBJECT: Local Assistance Payment Withhold – Update

In a memorandum dated August 21, 2020, the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) informed you that, pursuant to authority set forth in Chapter 53 of the Laws of 2020, 20% of payments otherwise planned to be made for certain non-Medicaid Local Assistance programs were being withheld to accommodate the reported \$1.2 billion revenue decline in General Fund receipts from revenue estimates made earlier in the year.

This memorandum updates that guidance to inform you that, effective immediately, OPWDD will cease the withholding of 20% of non-Medicaid Local Assistance payments planned to be made in the current state fiscal year. Additionally, OPWDD will begin to process full repayment of funds withheld to date.

Please note that the proposed Budget for next year still contemplates the implementation of a permanent reduction in funding of 5%, effective April 1, 2021, for payments that were subject to the withhold. Although this action is subject to change based upon the level of federal aid made available to New York State, your organization should continue to plan for the 5% reduction to be implemented.

Any questions regarding this clarification should be posed to: ATL_Withholds@opwdd.ny.gov.

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