

Frequently Asked Questions for OASAS, OMH, OPWDD 2020 Quarter 3 & 4 Withhold

Updated: 10/8/2020

1. Q: What is the difference between a funding Cut and a Withhold?

A: *Withhold* is considered a pre-emptive “hold” on funds. In this case, it was a “hold” Q3 and Q4 advance funds. A *Cut* is permanent reduction in funding. OASAS, OMH, and OPWDD have advised, “if the State receives sufficient Federal relief to address the budget gaps,” provider agencies can “expect to restore these funds through a supplemental payment.”

2. Q: Is this Withhold a permanent cut?

A: No. OASAS, OMH, and OPWDD have noted this is a *Withhold* of the 2020-Q3 payment, not a permanent funding cut at this time.

3. Q: Will the Q3 Withhold continue for Q4?

A: The LGU has received word that this withhold will continue for Q4.

4. Q: Does this Withhold necessitate a change in the existing contract with the County?

A: No. Part 5, Item (c) [page 3] of the 2020 Contract provides for changes in appropriations without need to amend a Contract.

5. Q: Is this Withhold for all funding?

A: No. This *Withhold* is for State Aid funds that pass through the LGU. Programs under direct contract with OASAS, OMH, and OPWDD are not affected by this particular *Withhold*.

6. Q: Can agencies use their own discretion to manage the Withhold?

A: For the 2020-Q3, per the letter from Commissioner Williams (dated 7/10/20), agencies have until Friday, July 17, 2020 at 5:00pm to submit recommendations to the LGU that articulate their recommendations of what is best for programs and the individuals they serve.

A: For the 2020-Q4, per the letter from Commissioner Williams (dated 10/9/20), agencies have until Friday, October 16, 2020 at 5:00pm to submit recommendations to the LGU that articulate their recommendations of what is best for program and the individuals they serve.

7. Q: What happens after the agency submits the plan to the LGU?

A: LGU/DCS will review submissions and reserves the right to request additional information to best meet the needs of the continuum across our System of Care.