




NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Health Benefits

ROY COOPER • Governor
KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary
JAY LUDLAM • Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid

SIGNATURE REQUEST MEMORANDUM

TO: Jay Ludlam 

FROM: Betty J. Staton, SPA Manager

RE: State Plan Amendment

Title XIX, Social Security Act
Transmittal #2023-0038

Purpose

Attached for your review and signature is a Medicaid State Plan amendment, Indian Health Service (IHS) Facility Tribal Notification summarized below, and submitted on October 20, 2023, with a due date of November 1, 2023.

Clearance

This amendment has been reviewed for both accuracy and completeness by:

Betty J. Staton, Emma Sandoe, Melanie Bush, Lotta Crabtree, Adam Levinson

Background and Summary of Request

It is recommended that you sign this State Plan Amendment submission per Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) protocol as head of the Single State Agency administering the Medicaid program.

Please find attached a State Plan Amendment (SPA) that adds language to the state plan to establish an approach for consistent consultation with Indian Health Program and Urban Indian Organizations regarding Medicaid/CHIP updates, including any updates proposed through SPAs, waivers, or policy changes. In addition to notification to IHS of any pending or proposed changes, the SPA proposes options for meeting with NC Medicaid leadership to discuss any details, concerns, or questions relevant to the updates. While these modify the nature of meetings and consultation, they do not in any way change the utilization, cost, or type of services, nor do they have any enrollment impact. As such they have no cost associated.

The proposed effective date is October 01, 2023.

Your approval of this State Plan Amendment is requested. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (919) 538-3215.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State: North Carolina**Tribal Consultation**

North Carolina will use the process identified in this section to seek advice on a regular, ongoing basis from Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations on matters related to Medicaid and CHIP programs and for consultation on all State Plan Amendments (SPA), waiver proposals, waiver extensions, waiver amendments, waiver renewals and proposals for demonstration projects prior to submission to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

To meet the requirements for timely notification of Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities in North Carolina for SPA/Waiver submissions or other policy changes that arise between MCAC Quarterly meetings the Medicaid Agency will notify IHS facilities in writing of these pending changes. The State will use this combined approach to seek IHS facilities' advice and input on matters related to the changes to Medicaid and CHIP programs. This approach will be applicable to IHS facilities that are not previously included in other areas of the State Plan or by other SPA pages.

a) If requested by the facility, in follow up to these notifications, the State will meet quarterly or as needed via conference calls with representatives of IHS facilities and Division of Health Benefits key leadership staff to discuss any items of importance to the parties. These discussions may include provision of additional information or IHS facilities' input on pending changes, update on current status of ongoing initiatives, and ongoing assessment of the consultation process to assure efficiency and effectiveness of the consultative activities. These meetings will provide a forum for IHS facilities to share and discuss concerns regarding policy and the consultation process with the decision-makers in the Medicaid Agency.

b) Appoint Medicaid primary contacts responsible for assuring notification of all pending SPA/Waiver or policy changes. If a SPA or waiver submission to CMS will occur outside of the scheduled MCAC quarterly meeting timeframe, DHB will notify the IHS facility in writing prior to submission to CMS.

c) Invite, on a routine basis, the Senior Health Official of a/an IHS facility or their designee to participate in policy planning (SPA, NC Administrative Code, Clinical Coverage), waiver development, program planning, and development workgroups and initiatives.

TN: 23-0038

Supersedes

TN: NEW

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 10/01/2023