

PUBLIC NOTICE

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

State Plan Amendment regarding an Alternative Benefit Plan for a New Medicaid Expansion Eligibility Group

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services provides notice of its intent to submit a State Plan Amendment to define the Alternative Benefit Plan that will be used to implement certain requirements for a new North Carolina Medicaid Expansion eligibility group as required by North Carolina [SL 2023-7](#). The Act allows for the inclusion of Medicaid eligibility to individuals aged 19-64 with incomes at or below 133% of the federal poverty level who are not enrolled in or eligible for Medicare, consistent with the new adult group eligibility criteria as defined by the Affordable Care Act. This Alternative Benefit Plan will be applicable to individuals eligible through the Medicaid Expansion eligibility group. Pending final authority by the North Carolina General Assembly and approval by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services expects individuals in Medicaid Expansion eligibility group to be eligible to receive services on October 1, 2023.

The Medicaid Expansion eligibility group will provide eligible individuals with access to the federally mandated Essential Health Benefits. These Essential Health Benefits include the following services:

- Ambulatory patient services
- Emergency services
- Hospitalization
- Maternity and newborn care
- Mental health and substance use disorder services, including behavioral health treatment
- Prescription drugs
- Rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices
- Laboratory services
- Preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management
- Pediatric services, including oral and vision care

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services will be provided to those individuals in the Medicaid Expansion eligibility group who are under the age of 21 as required by law and regulation and as consistent with current state policy regarding the

delivery of these services. Other covered services include those required by state or federal law, regulation, or policy.

Consistent with federal law and the North Carolina Medicaid State Plan (the State Plan), the State's Medicaid liaison to the North Carolina tribes provided written notice regarding the proposed State Plan Amendment to the appropriate tribal contacts on July 24, 2023. In accordance with the State Plan, additional information regarding the proposed changes will be provided to the tribal contacts upon request, and consultation will occur as requested or as otherwise appropriate.

Any comments regarding the proposed State Plan Amendment covered by this public notice, or requests for a written copy, may be submitted in writing to Jay Ludlam at 820 S Boylan Ave, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603 or submitted via email to MedicaidRulesComments@dhhs.nc.gov. A copy of the proposed State Plan Amendment will also be available at <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetings-notices/medicaid-state-plan-public-notices>. Written comments may be reviewed by the public at 820 S Boylan Ave, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603. Comments will be accepted until August 15, 2023. There is no public hearing scheduled.