

# NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## *Abbreviated Public Notice for Renewal Request of North Carolina's Medicaid Reform Section 1115 Demonstration*

Release Date: August 21, 2023

**PUBLIC NOTICE.** *This abbreviated public notice provides information of public interest regarding a proposed request to renew North Carolina's Medicaid Reform Section 1115 Demonstration.*

North Carolina is seeking to renew its Medicaid Reform Demonstration for another five-year period (November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2029).

During the first demonstration period, North Carolina began its transition to managed care and invested in novel programs to better respond to the diverse needs of North Carolinians enrolled in Medicaid. North Carolina is now ready to build on early successes and lessons learned to continue this progress over the next five years. The State's overarching goal for the demonstration is to improve health and well-being for all North Carolinians through a whole-person, well-coordinated system of care that addresses both medical and non-medical drivers of health and advances health access by reducing disparities for historically marginalized populations.

The 1115 demonstration renewal will advance this overarching goal through the following specific objectives and related initiatives:

**Objective 1:** Support a continued, smooth transition to managed care with a focus on improving care for enrollees with the most complex needs:

- **Initiative 1a.** Provide integrated whole-person, well-coordinated care for Medicaid enrollees through continued implementation of Standard Plans.
- **Initiative 1b.** Provide integrated care for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI), serious emotional disturbance (SED), severe substance use disorders (SUD), intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), and/or traumatic brain injury (TBI) through the launch of Tailored Plans.
- **Initiative 1c.** Provide integrated care to address the complex needs of youth and families served by the child welfare system through the implementation of the Children and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP).

**Objective 2:** Strengthen access to a person-centered and well-coordinated system of care which addresses both medical and non-medical drivers of health:

- **Initiative 2a.** Build on the Healthy Opportunities Pilot (HOP) infrastructure and experience to expand health-related social needs services to North Carolinians across the state.
- **Initiative 2b.** Promote continuity of care by offering continuous enrollment in Medicaid to children and former foster care youth.

- **Initiative 2c.** Improve health outcomes and support reentry into the community for justice-involved individuals by providing targeted pre-release Medicaid services.

**Objective 3:** Strengthen the behavioral health and I/DD delivery system:

- **Initiative 3a.** Reduce incidence of opioid use disorder (OUD)/SUD by providing Medicaid coverage for individuals obtaining short-term residential services for SUD in an institution for mental diseases (IMD).
- **Initiative 3b.** Improve the coordinated system of care for people with behavioral health and I/DD needs through targeted new investments in technology.
- **Initiative 3c.** Bolster the behavioral health and long-term services and supports (LTSS) workforce.
- **Initiative 3d.** Expand access to critical supports offered under the 1915(i) authority.

Electronic copies of this abbreviated public and the full public notice and proposed renewal request are available on the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid website at [medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetings-notices/proposed-program-design/nc-section-1115-demonstration-waiver](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetings-notices/proposed-program-design/nc-section-1115-demonstration-waiver).

### **Opportunities for Public Comment**

North Carolina invites public comments on the North Carolina Medicaid Reform Demonstration renewal application from August 21, 2023 through September 20, 2023.

To be assured consideration prior to submission of this demonstration renewal request, comments must be received by 5 p.m. (Eastern Time) on September 20, 2023.

Electronic copies of this public notice, the full proposed extension request, and the summary of comments received during this State public comment period upon submission to CMS will be available on the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Medicaid website at [medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetings-notices/proposed-program-design/nc-section-1115-demonstration-waiver](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetings-notices/proposed-program-design/nc-section-1115-demonstration-waiver)

You may also request a copy of the proposed renewal request, notices, and/or a copy of submitted public comments, once available, related to the Medicaid Reform Section 1115 Demonstration renewal by requesting it in writing to the mailing or email addresses listed in this notice.

Written comments may be sent to the following address (please indicate “NC Section 1115 Waiver” in the written message):

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
NC Medicaid Section 1115 Waiver Team  
1950 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1950

Comments may also be emailed to [Medicaid.NCEngagement@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Medicaid.NCEngagement@dhhs.nc.gov). Please indicate “NC Section 1115 Waiver” in the subject line of the email message.

North Carolina will host five public hearings to seek input regarding the waiver extension request. To ask questions about accessibility or request accommodations, please email [Medicaid.NCEngagement@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Medicaid.NCEngagement@dhhs.nc.gov). At least two weeks' advance notice will help us to provide seamless access.

**First Public Hearing** (in person)

Sept. 5 from 9:30-11:00 a.m. EST  
Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC)  
Blue Ridge A & B in the Education Building  
121 Hendersonville Road, Asheville NC 28803

**Second Public Hearing** (in person)

Sept. 6 from 9:30 -11:00 a.m. EST  
McKimmon Conference & Training Center  
NC State University, 1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh NC 27606

**Third Public Hearing**

Sept. 6 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. EST  
Virtual via Microsoft Teams Join on your computer, mobile app or room device  
[Click here to join the meeting](#)  
Call in (audio only)  
[+1 984-204-1487, 902948880#](tel:+19842041487) United States, Raleigh  
Phone Conference ID: 902 948 880#

**Fourth Public Hearing** (in person)

Sept. 7 from 2:30-4:00 p.m. EST  
Greenville Convention Center  
303 SW Greenville Blvd., Greenville NC 27834

**Fifth Public Hearing**

Sept. 15 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., EST during the Medical Care Advisory Committee Meeting (MCAC)  
Virtual via Microsoft Teams Join on your computer, mobile app or room device  
[Click here to join the meeting](#)  
Call in (audio only)  
[+1 984-204-1487, 412615457#](tel:+19842041487) United States, Raleigh  
Phone Conference ID: 412 615 457#

Interested parties will also have the opportunity to officially comment on the demonstration renewal application during the federal public comment period; the submitted application will be available for comment on the CMS website at [medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demonstrations/index.html](https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demonstrations/index.html).

For more information about NC Medicaid Managed Care transformation, visit [medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation](https://www.medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation).