

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Abbreviated Public Notice for Section 1115 Waiver Amendment

4/22/2022

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

North Carolina's current waiver approval authorizes significant transformations of North Carolina's Medicaid delivery system through a mandatory managed care program, the Healthy Opportunities Pilots (formerly known as the "Enhanced Case Management and Other Services Pilot Program"), and a waiver of the institution for mental diseases (IMD) exclusion for substance use disorder treatment. The mandatory managed care program offers three types of integrated prepaid health plans including:

- **Standard Plans** targeted to the majority of the Medicaid population, which launched in July 2021;
- **Behavioral Health Intellectual/Development Disability Tailored Plans** (Behavioral Health I/DD Tailored Plans) targeted to individuals with significant behavioral health needs, intellectual/developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries, which is scheduled to launch in 2022; and
- **The Children and Families Specialty Plan** (formerly known as the "Specialized PHP for children in foster care" and also "Specialized Plan for Children in Foster Care and Formerly in Foster Care"), which will launch after obtaining legislative authority.

The State is proposing to amend its 1115 demonstration with the following changes¹:

- Extending Medicaid eligibility to parents² of children/youth in foster care who are making reasonable efforts to comply with a court-ordered plan of reunification, allowing them to maintain coverage while the child/youth is in foster care; and
- Expanding eligibility for the Children and Families Specialty Plan to include certain Medicaid-eligible parents, custodians, and guardians of children/youth in foster care (i.e., those described in the previous bullet); siblings of children/youth in foster care; certain family members receiving Child Protective Services (CPS) In-Home Services; minor children of children/youth in foster care and those receiving adoption assistance; and minor children of former foster youth.

Electronic copies of this public notice, the proposed amendment, and public comments related to the amendment are available on the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid website at medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/more-information. Physical copies of the proposed amendment and copies of public comments related to the amendment are available to the public at:

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Adams Building, Dix Campus
101 Blair Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

¹ Note: this proposed amendment is separate from the proposed amendment submitted in January 2022.

² Section 9D.14 of S.L. 2021-180 authorized ongoing coverage for parents of children in foster care but did not include caretaker relatives. The State is seeking authority in the upcoming legislative session to include caretaker relatives in the ongoing coverage. For purposes of this public notice, "parent" includes caretaker relative, pending legislative authority.

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 . Please indicate “NC Section 1115 Waiver” in the subject line of the email message.

To be assured consideration prior to submission of this amendment, comments must be received by 5 p.m. (ET) on May 23, 2022.

North Carolina will also host two public hearings to seek input regarding the amendment. Hearings will be held virtually on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 2 p.m. (ET) and Monday, May 9, 2022, at 3 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. The public hearings will include presentations describing the proposed changes and opportunities for public testimony.