



Section 1115 WASP Demonstration Waiver Post Award Forum (November 29, 2022)

Waiver Summary:

Waiver for Additional Services and Populations (WASP) is a Montana Medicaid Waiver Program administered by the Department of Public Health and Human Services. WASP is a program that provides supplementary Montana Medicaid services to three separate populations who would otherwise not qualify for the fuller level of service. The current waiver expires December 31, 2022. An application to extend the WASP for an additional 5 years is currently under CMS consideration, however, Montana expects approval by the end of November 2022.

WASP Populations Covered:

- 1) Individuals aged 18 or older, with Severe Disabling Mental Illness (SDMI) but are otherwise ineligible for Medicaid benefits and either:
 - a. Have income 0 - 138% of the Federal Poverty Level and are eligible for or enrolled in Medicare;
OR
 - b. Have income 139 – 150% of the Federal Poverty Level regardless of Medicare status (they can be covered or not covered by Medicare and be eligible).
- 2) Individuals determined categorically eligible for Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) for dental treatment services above the \$1,125 State Plan dental treatment cap.

Non-Expansion Medicaid covered individuals, also known as parent and caretaker relatives (PCR), whose eligibility is based on MAGI. The only benefit this population receives under the WASP is a 12-month continuous eligibility period for their existing Standard Medicaid benefit. This singular benefit will end when the federal public health emergency (PHE) ends.

WASP Covered Services:

- The MHSP Waiver population receives the Standard Medicaid benefit
- The categorically eligible for Standard Medicaid ABD population will have their dental treatment services above the \$1,125 State Plan cap covered by the WASP.
- The PCR population will temporarily continue to receive 12-month continuous eligibility period for their existing Standard Medicaid benefit until the end of the federal PHE.

Goal of the WASP:

- The goal of the Waiver for Additional Services and Populations (WASP) Demonstration mirrors the state's Medicaid goal, that is to assure medically necessary medical care is available to all eligible Montanans within available funding resources.



Enrollment:

Enrollment for the programs have remained stable in the past year.

- WASP (MHSP) enrollment is 985 as of October 1, 2022. The WASP allows a maximum of 3,000 (MHSP) enrollees to be served.
- The total number of members categorically eligible for Standard Medicaid ABD population as of October 2022 is 26,858. The dental treatment cap of \$1,125 does not apply to these members.
- All of the PCR population will continue to receive 12-month continuous eligibility period for their existing Standard Medicaid benefit until the end of the federal PHE.

WASP 2021/2022 Updates:

- January 13, 2021, Montana submitted a new evaluation design for the demonstration, applicable to the period 1/1/2018 through 12/31/2022. This design was approved April 5, 2021. Baseline data is drawn from claims and other information relevant to calendar year 2019. An Interim Evaluation Report, using calendar year 2020 as the comparison year, is included with the June 2022 WASP Extension/Renewal application information found here: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/medicaid/2022waspwaiver>. Annual updates to this report will occur each year and be included in the WASP Annual Report, posted on the WASP webpage: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/medicaid/Medicaid1115Waiver/index> beginning with the 2022 Annual Report, posting in April of 2023.
- September 3, 2021, Montana submitted an amendment to remove cost sharing and copayments for all demonstration enrollees and remove 12-month continuous eligibility for the PCR population. This amendment was approved March 30, 2022 and effective at the end of the continuous enrollment requirement under section 6008(b)(3) of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). The amendment approval essentially removes the PCR population from the WASP (at applicable date) as 12-month continuous eligibility is the only benefit provided to this population under the WASP.
- Minor revisions to the above-mentioned new evaluation design will be necessary due to the approved amendment removing the PCR population. In May of 2022, CMS directed Montana to delay these revisions until early in calendar year 2023.
- June 30, 2022, Montana submitted a 5-year extension/renewal application, (with effective date of January 1, 2023). This request is currently awaiting CMS approval. No changes are purposed in the waiver extension/renewal request. Information about the extension/renewal is available here: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/medicaid/2022waspwaiver>.



Information:

Eligibility or Benefit questions regarding the MHSP Waiver population:

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Apply at:

<https://apply.mt.gov/>

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<http://dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/officeofpublicassistance>

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Member Services: 1-800-362-8312

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WASP Webpage

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/medicaid/Medicaid1115Waiver/index>

