

Published November 19 (Thursday) and November 22, 2015 (Sunday)

On or before 12/31/15, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) will submit a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to update the Medicaid Prescribed Drugs State Plan and Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) (CHIP) State Plan, effective 1/1/16. The Medicaid Prescribed Drugs State Plan and CHIP State Plan are being amended to modify coverage of nonprescription drugs. Effective 1/1/16, folic acid will be a covered over-the-counter medication because preconception folic acid supplementation has the strongest evidence of effect in preventing recurrent neural tube defect. The amendments are budget neutral.

The HMK State Plan will comply with provider screening and enrollment procedures outlined in 42 CFR 457.990(a). The amendment is budget neutral.

Effective 1/1/16, DPHHS will amend the Preventive Services State Plan to add autism treatment as a Medicaid state plan option. Applied Behavior Analysis and evidence-based treatment will be provided for members up to age 21 who have an autism diagnosis or related condition. There will be two levels of services based on medical necessity criteria. Lower intensity members will be eligible for a treatment plan and implementation guidance to coach and educate guardians on implementing the treatment plan. Higher intensity members will be eligible for additional intensive treatment that will be delivered face to face in the member's home or other community environments that are a part of the member's typical day. The estimated total annual state and federal impact of this amendment for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016 is \$1,000,000; and \$1,937,500 for SFY 2017.

We invite your comments and questions on the above State Plan Amendments by midnight on **12/11/15**. You may direct comments to Mary Eve Kulawik, Medicaid State Plan Amendment and Waiver Coordinator, at (406) 444-2584 or mkulawik@mt.gov; or Director's Office, PO Box 4210, Helena, MT 59604-4210.

On 11/15/15, DPHHS submitted a Section 1115 Basic Medicaid Waiver Amendment for approval to CMS with a proposed effective date of 1/1/2016. Two of the populations currently served under the Basic Waiver are covered elsewhere through Medicaid Expansion and no longer require coverage under this vehicle. This amendment will remove: 1) able-bodied adults; and 2) individuals under age 65 with Severe Disabling Mental Illness (SDMI) who are not covered by or eligible for Medicare and who are between 0-138% of the modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) income level. The Basic Waiver will cover individuals age 18 or older, with SDMI who qualify for or are enrolled in the state-financed Mental Health Services Plan (MHSP) or the Basic Medicaid waiver, but are otherwise ineligible for Medicaid benefits and either: 1) have income 0-138% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and are eligible for or enrolled in Medicare; or 2) have income 139-150% of the FPL regardless of Medicare status. The MHSP enrollment cap will be reduced from 6,000 to 3,000. The amendment aligns the Basic Medicaid benefit package with the Standard Medicaid benefit package. Basic Medicaid previously did not cover or had very limited coverage of audiology, dental and denturist, durable medical equipment (DME), eyeglasses, optometry and ophthalmology for routine eye exams, personal care services, and hearing aids. This alignment eliminates the need for the Basic Medicaid emergency services or

the Essential for Employment program. The amendment adopts a 12-month continuous eligibility period for all non-expansion Medicaid-covered individuals whose eligibility is based on modified adjusted gross income (MAGI). Overall, this amendment will re-finance state funds by utilizing federal funds.

Although the Amendment has been submitted, DPHHS will take and consider comment on this proposal. We will amend our proposal as needed based on this comment.

A public meeting will be held for public comments regarding the amendment on 12/2/15, 9:00 a.m., at 1400 Broadway, Room C205, Helena, MT 59601. Members of the public can also attend via webinar by going to the DPHHS website at <http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/BasicMedicaid/BasicMedicaid1115Waiver>. To join the audio portion of the webinar, call 1-877-668-4490, access code 806 629 179. The current waiver, draft waiver application, and public notice details are also located on the DPHHS website.

Public comments on the Basic Medicaid Waiver Amendment may be submitted until midnight on **12/11/15**, by e-mail to [rcorbett@mt.gov](mailto:rcorbett@mt.gov) or by regular mail to: The Department of Public Health and Human Services, Attn: Rebecca Corbett, PO Box 202951, Helena, MT 59620-2951.