

Section 1115 WASP Demonstration Waiver Post Award Forum June 11, 2025

Waiver Summary:

The Waiver for Additional Services and Populations (WASP) is a Montana Medicaid Waiver Program administered by the Department of Public Health and Human Services. WASP provides supplementary Montana Medicaid services to two separate populations who would otherwise not qualify for the fuller level of service. The current waiver was recently granted a renewal and will be effective thru December 31, 2027.

WASP Populations Covered:

- 1. Individuals aged 18 and older, with Severe Disabling Mental Illness (SDMI) who are otherwise ineligible for Medicaid benefits and either:
 - a. Have income 0-138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and are eligible for or enrolled in Medicare; or
 - b. Have income 139-150% of the FPL 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.

WASP Covered Services:

- The SDMI Waiver population receives the Standard Medicaid benefits.
- The categorically eligible for Standard Medicaid ABD population have their dental treatment services above the \$1,125 State Plan cap covered by the WASP.

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.

Participation Enrollment:

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

- WASP (SDMI) enrollment is at 1,005 members at the end of State Fiscal Year 2024. The WASP allows a maximum of 3,000 (SDMI) enrollees to be served per year.
- The total number of members categorically eligible for Standard Medicaid ABD population at the end of State Fiscal Year 2024 is 24,140. The dental treatment cap of \$1,125 does not apply to these members.



WASP Updates:

- An amendment to WASP requesting the addition of fertility preservation services in accordance with Senate Bill 516 was sent to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). CMS is currently reviewing the amendment.
 - These fertility preservation services will be available to eligible individuals between the ages of 12 and 35 who have been diagnosed by a physician as having an active cancer diagnosis requiring treatment that may cause a substantial risk of sterility or iatrogenic infertility (infertility caused by cancer treatment).
- The WASP SDMI enrollment has decreased by 253 members from 2023 to 2024.
- The WASP ABD enrollment has decreased by 9,159 members from 2023 to 2024.
- The decreases in enrollment for both populations are thought to be an outcome of the unwinding of the 12-month continuous coverage and redeterminations that took place starting in 2023.
- CMS sent notification on November 19, 2024, with the approval of the WASP Evaluation Design for the current approval period with updated Special Terms and Conditions (STCs). CMS also approved the Summative Evaluation Design detailing the previous approval period.

Information:

Eligibility or Benefit questions regarding the SDMI Waiver population:

Tracey Palmerton
Treatment Specialist
(406) 444-3187
Tracey.Palmerton@mt.gov

Other questions or comments about the WASP:

Kial Leach Medicaid Waiver and State Plan Program Officer (406) 444-6868 KLeach@mt.gov

Conduent:

http://medicaidprovider.mt.gov Member Services: 1-800-362-8312 Provider Relations: 1-800-624-3958

WASP Webpage:

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

Apply at:

https://apply.mt.gov/

DPHHS - Office of Public Assistance: http://dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/officeofpublicassistance