

# Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

## WASP Section 1115 Demonstration Public Hearing

May 19, 2022

May 20, 2022



# Welcome & Zoom Logistics

## Zoom Overview

- Participants are joining by computer and phone
- Everyone will be ***automatically muted*** upon entry

## Closed Captioning

Live closed captioning is ***available*** – you can click the CC box at the bottom of the Zoom box

## Submitting Public Comments

- ***Chat Function.***
  - Use the chat function to submit questions and public comments
  - All information and questions received through the chat function will be recorded as public comments
- ***Spoken.*** Telephone and computer participants will have the opportunity to submit public comments in the last half of the webinar (*more details will be shared with you in the next slide*) & “*unmute*” yourself at that time)

# Agenda

1. Background
2. Proposed Waiver Extension Request for WASP
3. Waiver Evaluation and Monitoring
4. Timeline and Submission of Public Comment

# Objective of Today's Public Hearing

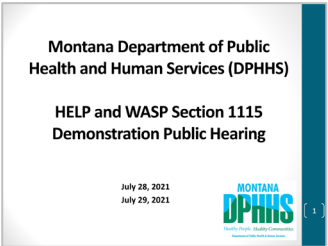
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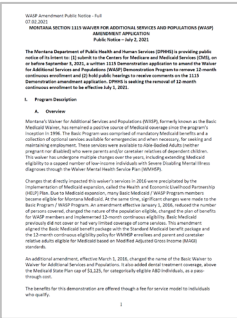
- **Provide an overview of the recently approved WASP Section 1115 Waiver amendment;**
- **Review the WASP Section 1115 Waiver Extension Request; and**
- **Provide an opportunity to submit public comments.**

# Accessing Montana WASP Materials

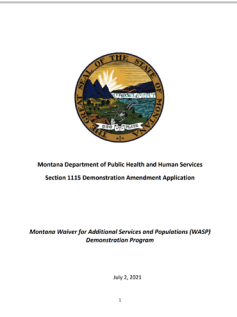
Information on Montana WASP Waiver can be found on the DPHHS web page:  
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/montanahealthcareprograms/medicaid/2022waspwaiver>



## This Presentation



## The Public Notice



## The Montana WASP Waiver Application

# Submitting Public Comments

**The WASP Waiver public comment period is currently ongoing. To be considered prior to CMS submission, public comments must be received by 11:59 pm MT on June 18, 2022.**

**Mail.** Indicate “Medicaid WASP Waiver” in the address line  
Department of Public Health and Human Services  
Director’s Office  
PO Box 4210  
Helena, MT 59604-4210

**Email.** Indicate either “Medicaid WASP Waiver” in email’s subject line  
[dphhscomments@mt.gov](mailto:dphhscomments@mt.gov)

## **Today’s Public Hearing.**

**Chat Function.** All information and questions received through the chat function will be recorded as public comments.

**Spoken.** Participants will have the opportunity to submit public comments in the last half of the webinar.

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# Update on WASP Amendment Removing 12-Month Continuous Coverage for PCR Population

**Montana submitted an amendment to remove 12-month continuous coverage for the Parent and Other Caretaker Relative population from the WASP Waiver.**

- The 1115 Waiver for Additional Services and Populations (WASP) currently provides a 12-month continuous eligibility period for Parents and Other Caretaker Relatives (PCR) whose eligibility is based on section 1931 or 1925 of the Social Security Act and have income 0–24% FPL.
- A WASP amendment was approved March 30, 2022, that removes the expenditure authority for 12-month continuous eligibility for the PCR population.
- The implementation of that change will not be effective until the end of the federal public health emergency.



# Summary of Montana's Current WASP Demonstration

- Montana's WASP Demonstration, formally known as the Basic Medicaid Waiver, has remained a positive source of Medicaid coverage since the program's inception in 1996.
- The WASP offers Standard Medicaid benefits to:
  - Individuals aged 18 or older with SDMI who are otherwise ineligible for Medicaid benefits and either:
    - Have income 0-138% of the FPL and are eligible for or enrolled in Medicare; or
    - Have income 139-150% of the FPL.
  - This population under WASP is limited to 3,000 members at one time.

# Summary of Montana's Current WASP Demonstration

- The Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) population are individuals determined categorically eligible for Medicaid based on their age, blindness and/or disability.
  - This population receives a single limited benefit under WASP in addition to their Standard Medicaid benefit. That benefit is dental treatment services above the \$1,125 State Plan dental treatment cap.
  - There is no membership limit for this population.

# Background On Section 1115 Waiver Authority

- Under Section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services has authority to approve a state's request to waive compliance with provisions of federal Medicaid law
- An 1115 Waiver must be:
  - ✓ An experimental, pilot or demonstration project;
  - ✓ Likely to assist in promoting the objectives of the Medicaid program;
  - ✓ Budget neutral to the federal government; and
  - ✓ Limited in duration to the extent and period necessary to carry out the demonstration
- States must provide a public process for notice and comment on proposed demonstration applications and extensions

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# WASP Eligible Populations

**This extension request does not propose any changes to the current populations served under the WASP Waiver.**

## WASP Waiver

- The extension request will not affect the current populations served by the WASP Program, including:
  - Individuals aged 18 or older with SDMI who are otherwise ineligible for Medicaid benefits and either:
    - Have income 0–138% of the FPL and are eligible for or enrolled in Medicare; or
    - Have income 139–150% of the FPL.
  - The Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) population are individuals determined categorically eligible for Medicaid based on their age, blindness and/or disability.
    - This population receives a single limited benefit under WASP in addition to their Standard Medicaid benefit. That benefit is dental treatment services above the \$1,125 State Plan dental treatment cap.

# Delivery System, Benefits, and Cost Sharing

**This extension request does not propose any changes to the Medicaid health care delivery system, benefits, nor cost sharing for WASP enrollees.**

## WASP Waiver

- **The State does not propose any changes to the Medicaid health care delivery system.**
- Demonstration enrollees will continue to receive services through the State's fee-for-service delivery system.
- Demonstration enrollees will continue to receive the same benefits as they currently receive through the standard Medicaid benefit
- **The State does not propose any changes to benefits for Demonstration enrollees.**
- Montana currently does not apply cost sharing to any of its Medicaid members and therefore **no cost sharing will be imposed under this 1115 extension request**

# Annual Expenditures

**This extension request is seeking to extend the § 1115(a)(2) expenditure without fiscal impact to the WASP Demonstration Program.**

## WASP Waiver

- The estimated total annual fiscal benefit impact for the WASP Demonstration is \$0.00.

# Goals and Objectives

This extension request does not propose any changes to or add additional goals or objectives for WASP.

## WASP Waiver

- This extension request is **seeking to extended the § 1115(a)(2) expenditure authority** and does not propose any future additional goals of the WASP Demonstration Program.



# Legal Authorities

This extension request is seeking to extend § 1115(a)(2) expenditure authority for an additional 5 years and does not propose any additional waiver and expenditure authority changes for WASP.

## WASP Waiver

- This extension request is seeking to extend § 1115(a)(2) expenditure authority for an additional 5 years and **does not propose any additional waiver and expenditure authority changes to the WASP Demonstration Program.**

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# Evaluation and Monitoring

**This extension request does not propose to include additional hypotheses for WASP.**

## WASP Waiver

- This extension request is seeking to extend § 1115(a)(2) expenditure authority for an additional 5 years and **does not propose any additional hypotheses to the WASP Demonstration Program.**

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# Timeline & Next Steps

Milestones	Proposed Timeline
<b><i>Conduct 60-day State public comment</i></b>	<b><i>April 20, 2022 – June 18, 2022</i></b>
Mail Tribal Consultation Letter	April 19, 2022
Public Hearing (1 of 2)	May 19, 2022 (12:00 PM – 2:00 PM MT)
Public Hearing (2 of 2)	May 20, 2022 (12:00 PM – 2:00 PM MT)
Review public comments and finalize documents for CMS submission	May-June 2022
<b><i>Submit WASP Waiver Extension</i></b>	<b><i>By June 30, 2022</i></b>
CMS conducts federal 30-day public comment period	July 2022 – August 2022
Negotiations with CMS	July 2022 - December 2022
<b><i>Effective date of WASP Waiver Extension</i></b>	<b><i>January 1, 2023</i></b>

# Ways To Provide Public Comments

Submit public comments by email, regular mail, or in-person  
until 11:59 pm on June 18, 2022.

A hard copy of the draft waiver extension application and public notice documents  
are available at the DPHHS Director's Office, 111 North Sanders St, Room 301,  
Helena, MT.

<b>By Phone</b>	(406) 444-2584
<b>By Email</b>	<a href="mailto:dphhscomments@mt.gov">dphhscomments@mt.gov</a>
<b>By Regular Mail</b>	Medicaid WASP Extension Director's Office PO Box 4210 Helena, MT 59604-4210
<b>In Person</b>	Public Hearings

# Opportunities To Provide Public Comment: Public Hearing

The Montana DPHHS is holding two virtual public hearings. All public comments should be limited to 2 minutes each.

Registration and additional information can be found on the DPHHS web page:  
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/montanahealthcareprograms/medicaid/2022waspwaiver>

**MAY 19**  
**12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

Public Hearing #1 will be held virtually on Thursday, May 19, 2022, 12pm -2pm

Register for Public Hearing:  
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/montanahealthcareprograms/medicaid/2022waspwaiver>

**MAY 20**  
**12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

Public Hearing #2 will be held virtually on Friday, May 20, 2022, 12pm -2pm

Register for Public Hearing:  
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/montanahealthcareprograms/medicaid/2022waspwaiver>

# Public Comment Process

**DPHHS will listen and collect comments in an organized manner.**

**All comments will be reviewed and considered equally whether they are received as written or verbal comments.**

- **Chat.** All information and questions received through the chat function will be recorded as public comments.
- **Spoken.** Participants must “raise their hand” for Zoom facilitators to unmute the participant to share their public comment.
  - **If you logged on via phone-only**
    - Press “\*9” on your phone to “raise your hand.”
    - Listen for your phone number to be called by moderator.
    - After being selected to share your public comment, please ensure you are “unmuted” on your phone by pressing “\*6.”
  - **If you logged on via Zoom interface**
    - Press “Raise Hand” icon at the bottom of the screen.
    - After being selected to share your public comment, please ensure you are “unmuted” on your audio.