

January 11, 2023

Dear Tribal Consultation Members:

This letter is regarding the Tribal Consultation between the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services and the North Dakota Indian Tribes. The consultation process was established to ensure Tribal governments are included in the decision-making processes when proposed changes in the Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program(s) will directly impact the North Dakota Tribes and/or their Tribal members.

1915(i) Behavioral Health Home and Community Based Services

Effective on or after April 1, 2023, North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting a 1915(i) state plan amendment to increase the rates for the following 1915(i) services: peer support, family peer support, training and supports for unpaid caregivers. Other revisions include modifications to the training requirements of care coordinators and expanding the individual provider qualifications for the housing supports services to allow any associate degree.

Pharmacy Provider Documentation

North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting a state plan amendment to clarify that pharmacy provider documentation of counseling, or refusal of counseling, is not required during the Public Health Emergency (PHE).

NEW Customer Support Center to Simplify Access to Help

HHS and our human service zone partners want to inform you about upcoming customer service changes that make it easier for North Dakotans to apply for and participate in SNAP and other financial help programs and Medicaid. Starting Feb. 13, there will be one **Customer Support Center phone number to call state-wide** to talk to zone workers about questions, to report changes and get help applying. There will also be one place to send documents by either mail, email or fax.

IMPORTANT: The Customer Support Center phone number, email and mailing addresses and fax number will be shared Feb. 13, when they go LIVE. Watch for details at hhs.nd.gov/eligibility-redesign.

The statewide human service zone eligibility team is still here to support people every step of the way, so they get the help they need. People can, if they wish, still walk into a local human service zone office for in-person help.

In a related change, HHS has updated the online self-service portal. It's now easier to use from a cell phone or computer. Learn more at hhs.nd.gov/applyforhelp/ssp-help.

MEDICAL SERVICES

600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 325 | Bismarck ND 58505-0250

Correct Coding Initiative

North Dakota Medicaid follows the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Edits. These edits were developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMCS) based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Correct Procedure Terminology Manual, national and local polices and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practices and a review of current coding practices. CMS annually updates the Medicaid NCCI Policy Manual and the Medicaid NCCI Technical Guidance Manual. For more information go to <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/program-integrity/national-correct-coding-initiative-medicare/index.html>

Please send comments, questions or concerns about the proposed State Plan Amendments or waivers to Medical Services, Attention: Tribal Consultation; 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325, Bismarck, ND 58505. You may also send information via e-mail to ndmedicaid@nd.gov.

The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with you to achieve the Department's mission, which is, "To provide quality, efficient, and effective human services, which improve the lives of people."

Sincerely,



Krista Fremming, Interim Director
Medical Services Division