

February 26, 2025

Dear Tribal Partners:

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.

1915i State Plan Renewal

North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting a five-year renewal of the 1915(i) State Plan Amendment effective October 1, 2025. The 1915(i) provides in-home and community-based behavioral health services and supports for qualifying individuals with behavioral health conditions. This renewal is being done to update language to better align with behavioral health best practices and implement improved quality measurements that support quality services and supports for members enrolled in the program. The renewal will allow continued coverage of these services.

Traditional Healthcare Services

North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting a State Plan Amendment effective July 1, 2025 to provide coverage for traditional healthcare practices received through Indian Health Service (IHS) or Tribal health programs by Medicaid beneficiaries who are able to receive services delivered by or through these facilities. The proposed change would allow IHS and Tribal Health Programs to bill ND Medicaid for traditional healthcare practices provided to ND Medicaid members.

Medicaid Expansion / Fee for Services for 19-20 Year Old's Only

The Affordable Care Act amended Section 1937 of the Social Security Act, to require that Alternative Benefit Plans (ABP) coverage meet Essential Health Benefit Standards. Regulatory changes to the EHB standards that impact Medicaid ABPs require States to update existing ABPs to reflect these changes. Effective on or after July 1, 2025, North

MEDICAL SERVICES

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

Dakota Medicaid will be submitting an amendment to the North Dakota Medicaid Expansion Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) to align the ABP with the Traditional Healthcare Services described in other sections of this letter for members under the age of 21.

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.medicaid.gov/medicaid/program-integrity/national-correct-coding-initiative-medicaid/index.html>

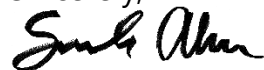
Please send comments, questions or concerns about the proposed State Plan Amendments or waivers to:

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
Attn: Monique Runnels
Medical Services Division
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325
Bismarck, ND 58505
Fax: 701-328-1544
E-mail: mrunchels@nd.gov

Input will be accepted through 12 PM, Central Time, Friday, March 28, 2025.

The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with tribal partners to support health and advance the foundations of well-being for North Dakota Medicaid members.

Sincerely,



Sarah Aker
Executive Director
Medical Services Division
North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services