

November 15, 2024

RE: 1915(c) Medicaid waiver amendment

Dear Tribal Partners:

This letter is regarding Tribal Consultation established between the North Dakota Health and Human Services (HHS) and the North Dakota Indian Tribes. This consultation process was established to ensure Tribal governments are included in the decision-making processes when changes in the Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program(s) are requested.

This letter provides the opportunity for consultation on one waiver amendment.

Proposed amendment to Medicaid Waiver for Traditional IID/DD Home and Community Based Services (HCBS):

HHS's Development Disability Section proposes to amend the 1915(c) Medicaid waiver. This waiver includes an array of home and community-based services in the least restrictive environment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Proposed changes to this waiver amendment include adding remote monitoring as a stand-alone service. This service is currently included in equipment and supplies; this change is being requested by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The proposed amendment also includes adding clarifying language to environmental modifications and small group employment, and the addition of a HCBS ongoing monitoring section.

The proposed changes in the amendment are expected impact to tribal members by continuing to offer remote monitoring supports as a waiver service option. Language was clarified that environmental modifications must be provided in the participant's primary setting and clarified that small group employment cannot be provided at a DD licensed facility. Licensed DD providers will now have additional accreditation options, allowing providers flexibility in selecting an accreditation option that meets the needs of their agency.

You may view the entire draft waiver amendment at hhs.nd.gov/dd. Copies can be mailed upon request.

The anticipated effective date of the proposed amendment is expected to be April 1, 2025.

Comments will be accepted in the following ways:

Email: hzander@nd.gov

Phone: (701) 328-8945 or ND Relay TTY (text telephone) (800)-366-6888 or 711

Mail: Attn: Heidi Zander
Developmental Disability Section
Department of Health and Human Services
1237 West Divide Avenue Suite 1A
Bismarck, ND 58501

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns about the proposed waiver amendment, please contact:

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
Medical Services
Attn: Monique Runnels, Medicaid Tribal Liaison
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325, Bismarck, ND 58505
Fax: 701-328-1544
Email: mrunnel@nd.gov

Or

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
Development Disabilities Section
Heidi Zander, Developmental Disabilities Waiver Administrator
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325, Bismarck, ND 58505
Email: hzander@nd.gov
Phone: (701) 328-8945

Comments and public input on the proposed changes will be accepted starting **November 15, 2024 until 8am CST on December 16, 2024**

The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with you to support quality outcomes for Tribal Members

Sincerely,



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