



**Department
of Health**

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Commissioner

MEGAN E. BALDWIN
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 31, 2023

James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

RE: SPA #21-0072
Disaster Relief

Dear Mr. Scott:

The State requests approval of the enclosed amendment #21-0072 to the Title XIX (Medicaid) State Plan December 1, 2021.

This amendment is being sent to you for your review and approval based on the current global pandemic, COVID-19.

If you have any questions regarding this State Plan Amendment submission, please do not hesitate to contact Regina Deyette, Medicaid State Plan Coordinator, Division of Finance and Rate Setting, Office of Health Insurance Programs at (518) 473-3658.

Sincerely,



Amir Bassiri
Medicaid Director
Office of Health Insurance Programs

Enclosures

Medicaid Section 1135 Waiver of SPA Submission Requirements

A state or territory may request a Section 1135 SPA process waiver(s) if the President has declared a major disaster or an emergency under the Stafford Act, or an emergency under the National Emergencies Act, and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services has declared a public health emergency. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will review the state's request to determine whether the section 1135 waiver request will help the state or territory ensure that sufficient health care items and services are available to meet the needs of individuals enrolled in the Medicaid program.

Note: State Medicaid Agencies must request separate section 1135 waiver authority for each Emergency Relief SPA submitted. Agencies may not request section 1135 waiver authority for a SPA that includes any changes that restrict or limit payment, services, or eligibility, or otherwise burden beneficiaries and providers.

State: **New York**

SPA Number: **21-0072**

The agency seeks the following under section 1135(b)(5) of the Social Security Act (check all that apply):

- Submission Deadlines:** Pursuant to section 1135 (b)(5) of the Act, allows modification of the requirement to submit the SPA by the last day of a quarter, in order to obtain a SPA effective date during that quarter (applicable only for quarters in which the emergency or disaster declaration is in effect) - 42 C.F.R. § 430.20
- Public notice requirements:** Pursuant to section 1135 (b)(5) of the Act, allows a modification of public notice requirements that would otherwise be applicable to SPA submissions. These requirements may include those specified in 42 C.F.R. § 440.386 (Alternative Benefit Plans), 42 C.F.R. § 447.57(c) (premiums and cost sharing), and 42 C.F.R. § 447.205 (public notice of changes in statewide methods and standards for setting payment rates). Requested modifications are as follows:

New York requests waiving this requirement for this Disaster SPA submission.

- Tribal Consultation:** Pursuant to section 1135 (b)(5) of the Act, allows modification of the required Tribal consultation timelines specified in the Medicaid state plan per section 1902(a)(73) of the Act. Requested modifications are as follows:

New York will reduce the tribal consultation to zero days before submission to CMS. Tribal consultation will still be completed and mailed as per guidelines in New York's approved state plan.

PRA Disclosure Statement Under the Privacy Act of 1974 any personally identifying information obtained will be kept private to the extent of the law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0938-1148 (CMS-10398 # 75). Public burden for all of the collection of information requirements under this control number is estimated to take up to 1 hour per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Vaccine and Vaccine Administration at Section 1905(a)(4)(E) of the Social Security Act

During the period starting March 11, 2021, and ending on the last day of the first calendar quarter that begins one year after the last day of the emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act):

Coverage

The state assures coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and administration of the vaccines.¹

The state assures that such coverage:

1. Is provided to all eligibility groups covered by the state, including the optional Individuals Eligible for Family Planning Services, Individuals with Tuberculosis, and COVID-19 groups if applicable, with the exception of the Medicare Savings Program groups and the COBRA Continuation Coverage group for which medical assistance consists only of payment of premiums; and
2. Is provided to beneficiaries without cost sharing pursuant to section 1916(a)(2)(H) and section 1916A(b)(3)(B)(xii) of the Act; reimbursement to qualified providers for such coverage is not reduced by any cost sharing that would otherwise be applicable under the state plan.

Applies to the state's approved Alternative Benefit Plans, without any deduction, cost sharing or similar charge, pursuant to section 1937(b)(8)(A) of the Act.

The state provides coverage for any medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21 pursuant to §§1902(a)(11), 1902(a)(43), and 1905(hh) of the Act.

The state assures compliance with the HHS COVID-19 PREP Act declarations and authorizations, including all of the amendments to the declaration, with respect to the providers that are considered qualified to prescribe, dispense, administer, deliver and/or distribute COVID-19 vaccines.

Additional Information (Optional):

New York expenditures for medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21 effective 12/1/2021 through the last day of the first quarter that begins one year after the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency, under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP).

¹ The vaccine will be claimed under this benefit once the federal government discontinues purchasing the vaccine.

Reimbursement

The state assures that the state plan has established rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines for all qualified providers pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

List Medicaid state plan references to payment methodologies that describe the rates for COVID-19 vaccines and their administration for each applicable Medicaid benefit:

The state is establishing rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

The state's rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines are consistent with Medicare rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines, including any future Medicare updates at the:

- Medicare national average, OR
 Associated geographically adjusted rate.

The state is establishing a state specific fee schedule for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

The state's rate is as follows and the state's fee schedule is published in the following location:

New York State reimburses qualified Medicaid providers \$40.00 per vaccine administration. New York State rates for COVID-19 vaccines and their administration can be found in the *Physician Fee Schedule: Drugs* located at:
<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Physician/index.aspx>

The state's fee schedule is the same for all governmental and private providers.

The below listed providers are paid differently from the above rate schedules and payment to these providers for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines are described under the benefit payment methodology applicable to the provider type:

___ The payment methodologies for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines for providers listed above are described below:

The state is establishing rates for any medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21 pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E), 1905(r)(1)(B)(v) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

The state's rate is as follows and the state's fee schedule is published in the following location:

Effective 12/1/2021, for the duration of the Public Health Emergency and ending on the last day of the first quarter that begins one year after the last day of the COVID-19 emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the American Rescue Plan Act, New York will reimburse providers \$25.00 per COVID-19 vaccine counseling session. The rate can be found in the *Physician Fee Schedule: Medicine* (CPT 99429 – Unlisted Preventive Medicine Service) located at:

<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Physician/index.aspx>

Effective 12/1/2021, for the duration of the Public Health Emergency and ending on the last day of the first quarter that begins one year after the last day of the COVID-19 emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the American Rescue Plan Act, New York proposes an alternate payment method to reimburse Federal Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) for medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21 as follows:

- a. COVID-19 vaccine counseling service only visit: FQHC reimbursed full PPS rate.
- b. COVID-19 vaccine counseling service and another in-scope FQHC service is provided: FQHC reimbursed full PPS rate and a \$25.00 COVID-19 vaccine counseling service fee.
- c. In-scope FQHC service provided with no COVID-19 vaccine counseling service: FQHC reimbursed full PPS rate.

PRA Disclosure Statement Under the Privacy Act of 1974 any personally identifying information obtained will be kept private to the extent of the law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0938-1148 (CMS-10398 # 75). Public burden for all of the collection of information requirements under this control number is estimated to take up to 1 hour per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER <u>2 1 — 0 0 7 2</u>	2. STATE <u>NY</u>
3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT <input checked="" type="radio"/> XIX <input type="radio"/> XXI	

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
December 1, 2021

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
§ 1905(a)(4)(E), 1905(a)(4)(F), 1905(r)(1)(B)(v), 1902(a)(30)(A)

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY 12/01/21-09/30/22 \$ 15,500,202
b. FFY 10/01/22-09/30/23 \$ 18,600,024

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT
Attachment 7.7-A - Pages 1, 2,3

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)
Attachment 7.7-A - NEW

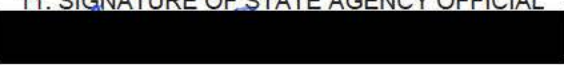
9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Coverage for under 21 population

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL


12. TYPED NAME
Amir Bassiri

13. TITLE
Medicaid Director

14. DATE SUBMITTED
March 31, 2023

15. RETURN TO
New York State Department of Health
Division of Finance and Rate Setting
99 Washington Ave – One Commerce Plaza
Suite 1432
Albany, NY 12210

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED

17. DATE APPROVED

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

22. REMARKS

**NON-INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES
State Plan Amendment #21-0072**

CMS Standard Funding Questions

The following questions are being asked and should be answered in relation to all payments made to all providers reimbursed pursuant to a methodology described in Attachment 4.19-B of the state plan.

- 1. Section 1903(a)(1) provides that Federal matching funds are only available for expenditures made by States for services under the approved State plan. Do providers receive and retain the total Medicaid expenditures claimed by the State (includes normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced payments, other) or is any portion of the payments returned to the State, local governmental entity, or any other intermediary organization? If providers are required to return any portion of payments, please provide a full description of the repayment process. Include in your response a full description of the methodology for the return of any of the amount or percentage of payments that are returned and the disposition and use of the funds once they are returned to the State (i.e., general fund, medical services account, etc.)**

Response: Providers do receive and retain 100 percent of total Medicaid expenditures claimed by the State and the State does not require any provider to return any portion of such payments to the State, local government entities, or any other intermediary organization.

- 2. Section 1902(a)(2) provides that the lack of adequate funds from local sources will not result in lowering the amount, duration, scope, or quality of care and services available under the plan. Please describe how the state share of each type of Medicaid payment (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) is funded. Please describe whether the state share is from appropriations from the legislature to the Medicaid agency, through intergovernmental transfer agreements (IGTs), certified public expenditures (CPEs), provider taxes, or any other mechanism used by the state to provide state share. Note that, if the appropriation is not to the Medicaid agency, the source of the state share would necessarily be derived through either an IGT or CPE. In this case, please identify the agency to which the funds are appropriated. Please provide an estimate of total expenditure and State share amounts for each type of Medicaid payment. If any of the non-federal share is being provided using IGTs or CPEs, please fully describe the matching arrangement including when the state agency receives the transferred amounts from the local government entity transferring the funds. If CPEs are used, please describe the methodology used by the state to verify that the total expenditures being certified are eligible for Federal matching funds in accordance with 42 CFR**

433.51(b). For any payment funded by CPEs or IGTs, please provide the following:

- (i) a complete list of the names of entities transferring or certifying funds;
- (ii) the operational nature of the entity (state, county, city, other);
- (iii) the total amounts transferred or certified by each entity;
- (iv) clarify whether the certifying or transferring entity has general taxing authority: and,
- (v) whether the certifying or transferring entity received appropriations (identify level of appropriations).

Response: Per the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the COVID-19 vaccine counseling session for children under the age of 21 is at %100 FMAP. There is no State share payment for this SPA.

3. **Section 1902(a)(30) requires that payments for services be consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care. Section 1903(a)(1) provides for Federal financial participation to States for expenditures for services under an approved State plan. If supplemental or enhanced payments are made, please provide the total amount for each type of supplemental or enhanced payment made to each provider type.**

Response: The Medicaid payments under this State Plan Amendment are not supplemental payments.

4. **For clinic or outpatient hospital services please provide a detailed description of the methodology used by the state to estimate the upper payment limit (UPL) for each class of providers (state owned or operated, non-state government owned or operated, and privately owned or operated). Please provide a current (i.e., applicable to the current rate year) UPL demonstration. Under regulations at 42 CFR 447.272, States are prohibited from setting payment rates for Medicaid inpatient services that exceed a reasonable estimate of the amount that would be paid under Medicare payment principals.**

Response: The clinic and outpatient UPL demonstrations utilize cost-to-payment methodologies to estimate the upper payment limit for each class of providers. The State and CMS are in the process of reviewing the 2021 clinic and outpatient UPLs as well as the Procedural Manuals which describes the methodology for eligible providers.

5. **Does any governmental provider receive payments that in the aggregate (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) exceed their reasonable costs of providing services? If payments exceed the cost of services, do you recoup the excess and return the Federal share of the excess to CMS on the quarterly expenditure report?**

Response: Providers do not receive payments that in the aggregate exceed their reasonable costs of providing services. If any providers received payments that in the aggregate exceeded their reasonable costs of providing services, the State would recoup the excess and return the Federal share of the excess to CMS on the quarterly expenditure report.