

Public Notice

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is providing public notice of its submission to the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of a written request to amend its Section 1115 Waiver application and to solicit public input to receive comments on the amendments to the Application.

The State submitted a Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver to CMS in June 2016 outlining plans to transition to a Medicaid managed care program. The State now seeks to amend the June 2016 Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application to strengthen the design of its managed care program to ensure the State's ability to: 1) measurably improve health, 2) maximize value to ensure the sustainability of the program, and 3) increase access to care.

Programmatic features of the amendments to the application have been refined through multiple rounds of robust stakeholder engagement since the original public comment period and waiver submission in June 2016. In 2017, the State released a "Request for Public Input" and a "Proposed Program Design for Medicaid Managed Care," each of which described the State's approach to managed care and highlighted features to strengthen managed care implementation. The State released a summary of public comments on the Proposed Program Design document on the North Carolina Medicaid Transformation website.

The purpose of the waiver application is to transition the Medicaid program from predominantly fee-for-service to managed care in a way that advances high-value care, improves population health, engages and supports providers and establishes a sustainable program with predictable costs. As described in the Proposed Program Design, North Carolina is proposing initiatives to achieve those goals, including designing managed care products tailored for enrollees with high behavioral health needs, strengthening the provider workforce and piloting public-private initiatives in select regions of North Carolina that aim to measurably improve health and lower costs. Additionally, the State now seeks to establish the "Carolina Cares" program, if pending State legislation is enacted. "Carolina Cares" would expand access to Medicaid for certain low-income adults, most of whom would be subject to premium payments and employment activity requirements.

We highlight for stakeholders that financial information related to the amended application was added since the release of the Proposed Program Design. Please refer to Section VI of the Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver application amendment for complete details.

The complete version of the current draft of the Demonstration application will be available for public comment as of Nov. 20, 2017, at ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-transformation.

Public comments on any part of the Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver application amendment, including previously released sections or concepts, may be submitted until 11:59 pm on Dec. 29, 2017. Comments may be submitted by:

Email to Medicaid.Transformation@dhhs.nc.gov

U.S. Mail to Dept. of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits
1950 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-1950

Drop-off to Dept. of Health and Human Services, Dorothea Dix Campus
Adams Building Reception
101 Blair Drive
Raleigh NC

The full version of this public notice document may be found at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-transformation>. For additional information or a hard copy of the Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver application amendment, please contact Debra Farrington, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits, 1950 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1950 or debra.farrington@dhhs.nc.gov.