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State/Territory Name: Texas

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 23-0004

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



February 23, 2024

Emily Zalkovsky
State Medicaid Director
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
Mail Code: H100
P.O. Box 13247
Austin, TX 78711-3247

Re: Texas State Plan Amendment (SPA) 23-0004

Dear Director Zalkovsky:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed the proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) and accompanying section 1135 waivers submitted on April 5, 2023, under transmittal number (TN) 23-0004. This amendment proposes to document coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and administration of the vaccines for children under the age of 21.

Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Social Security Act (Act), for the period of the public health emergency, CMS is modifying the requirement at 42 C.F.R. §430.20 that the state submit SPAs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency by the final day of the quarter, to obtain a SPA effective date during the quarter, enabling SPAs submitted after the last day of the quarter to have an effective date in a previous quarter, but no earlier than the effective date of the public health emergency.

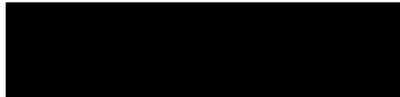
The State of Texas also requested a waiver to modify the public notice requirements applicable to the SPA submission process. Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, CMS is modifying public notice requirements applicable to the SPA submission process. Public notice for SPAs is required under 42 C.F.R. §447.205 for changes in statewide methods and standards for setting Medicaid payment rates, 42 C.F.R. §447.57 for changes to premiums and cost sharing, and 42 C.F.R. §440.386 for changes to Alternative Benefit Plans (ABPs). Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, CMS is approving the state's request to modify these notice requirements otherwise applicable to SPA submissions.

The State of Texas also requested a waiver to modify the tribal consultation timeline applicable to this SPA submission process. Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, CMS is also allowing states to modify the timeframes associated with tribal consultation required under section 1902(a)(73) of the Act, including shortening the number of days before submission or conducting consultation after submission of the SPA.

CMS conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Act and implementing regulations. This letter is to inform you that Texas's Medicaid SPA Transmittal Number 23-0004 is approved effective March 11, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Ford Blunt at 214-767-6381 or via email at Ford.Blunt@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Courtney Miller
On Behalf of Anne Marie Costello, Deputy Director
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

Enclosures

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

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER 2 3_ 0 0 0 4 | 2. STATE T X |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE ___ OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

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

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
March 11, 2021

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
§1905(a)(4)(-F-) (E) of the Social Security Act

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY 2021 \$ 23,542,073
b. FFY 2022 \$ 76,641,752

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT
7.7-A COVID-19 Vaccine and Vaccine Administration Template

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)
N/A


9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

The proposed amendment documents coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and administration of the vaccines for children under the age of 21.

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: Sent to Governor's Office this date. Comments, if any, will be forwarded upon receipt.

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL


12. TYPED NAME
Emily Zalkovsky

13. TITLE
Deputy State Medicaid Director
(signing on behalf of Stephanie Stephens, State Medicaid Director)

14. DATE SUBMITTED
April 5, 2023

15. RETURN TO

**Stephanie Stephens
State Medicaid Director
Post Office Box 13247, MC: H-100
Austin, Texas 78711**

FOR CMS USE ONLY

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 16. DATE RECEIVED April 5, 2023 | 17. DATE APPROVED February 23, 2024 |
|------------------------------------|--|

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL
March 11, 2021

19. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
Courtney Miller

20. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
On Behalf of Anne Marie Costello, Deputy Director
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

22. REMARKS

Box 5: CMS made a pen and ink change to correct the statutory citation per email to state dated 2/21/24.

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):

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:

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates for COVID-19 vaccines and administration of the vaccines are the same for both governmental and private providers as documented on Page 1a.3 of Attachment 4.19-B. All rates are published <http://public.tmph.com/FeeSchedules/Default.aspx>.

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 :

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:

_X_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.

_X_The state’s rate is as follows and the state’s fee schedule is published in the following location :

PRA

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates for COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21 are the same for both governmental and private providers as documented on Page 1a.3 of Attachment 4.19-B. All rates are published <http://public.tmhp.com/FeeSchedules/Default.aspx>.

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.