

## **Table of Contents**

**State/Territory Name: Texas**

**State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 23-0001**

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



April 14, 2023

Ms. Stephanie Stephens  
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) 23-0001

Dear Ms. Stephens:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed the proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) and accompanying section 1135 waivers submitted on January 23, 2023 under transmittal number (TN) 23-0001. This amendment proposes to add the new mandatory benefit related to coverage of COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies, to the Medicaid state plan.

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' Medicaid SPA Transmittal Number 23-0001 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](mailto:Ford.Blunt@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Alissa Mooney DeBoy  
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 1**

2. STATE

**T X**

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX 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) of the Social Security Act

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)  
a. FFY **2021** \$ **276,675,180**  
b. FFY **2022** \$ **296,146,751**

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

**7.7 C- COVID-19 Treatment 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 prevention and treatment as benefits in Texas Medicaid, including coverage for conditions that may seriously complicate COVID-19 treatment.

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

**Stephanie Stephens**

Digitally signed by  
Stephanie Stephens  
Date: 2023.01.23  
09:12:55 -0600

15. RETURN TO

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

12. TYPED NAME

**Stephanie Stephens**

13. TITLE

**State Medicaid Director**

14. DATE SUBMITTED

**January 23, 2023**

**FOR CMS USE ONLY**

16. DATE RECEIVED

**January 23, 2023**

17. DATE APPROVED

**April 14, 2023**

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

**March 11, 2021**

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

**Alissa Mooney DeBoy**

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

**On Behalf of Anne Marie Costello, Deputy Director, CMCS**

22. REMARKS

**COVID-19 Treatment at section 1905(a)(4)(F) 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 for the Treatment and Prevention of COVID**

The state assures coverage of COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies (including preventive therapies).

The state assures that such coverage:

1. Includes any non-pharmacological item or service described in section 1905(a) of the Act, that is medically necessary for treatment of COVID-19;
2. Includes any drug or biological that is approved (or licensed) by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) or authorized by the FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to treat or prevent COVID-19, consistent with the applicable authorizations;
3. Is provided without amount, duration or scope limitations that would otherwise apply when covered for purposes other than treatment or prevention of COVID-19;
4. Is provided to all categorically needy eligibility groups covered by the state that receive full Medicaid benefits;
5. Is provided to the optional COVID-19 group, if applicable; and
6. Is provided to beneficiaries without cost sharing pursuant to section 1916(a)(2)(I) and 1916A(b)(3)(B)(xiii) 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)(B) 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.

Additional Information (Optional):

**Coverage for a Condition that May Seriously Complicate the Treatment of COVID**

The state assures coverage of treatment for a condition that may seriously complicate the treatment of COVID-19 during the period when a beneficiary is diagnosed with or is presumed to have COVID-19.

The state assures that such coverage:

1. Includes items and services, including drugs, that were covered by the state as of March 11, 2021;
2. Is provided without amount, duration or scope limitations that would otherwise apply when covered for other purposes;
3. Is provided to all categorically needy eligibility groups covered by the state that receive full Medicaid benefits;
4. Is provided to the optional COVID-19 group, if applicable; and
5. Is provided to beneficiaries without cost sharing pursuant to section 1916(a)(2)(I) and 1916A(b)(3)(B)(xiii) 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)(B) 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.

Additional Information (Optional):

**Reimbursement**

The state assures that it has established state plan rates for COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies (including preventive therapies).

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

**Medical Benefits:**

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates for COVID-19 specialized equipment and therapies are the same for both governmental and private providers as documented on Pages 1, 1a.3, and 3a of Attachment 4.19-B. All rates are published <http://public.tmhp.com/FeeSchedules/Default.aspx>. \*The fee schedule rates for providers are the same for both governmental and nongovernmental providers of the service as documented on Page 1 of Attachment 4.19-B.

**Pharmacy Benefits:**

Rates for COVID treatment provided through pharmacy benefits are published on the Vendor Drug Program website and can be found by using the Product Search at <https://www.txvendordrug.com/formulary/formulary-search>.

   X The state is establishing rates or fee schedule for COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies (including preventive therapies) pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(F) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

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

   X The state's rates or 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:

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Additional Information (Optional):

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***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.

TN: 23-0001Supersedes TN: None - New PagesApproval Date: 04-14-23Effective Date: 03-11-21