

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16  
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850



**Children and Adults Health Programs Group**

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January 17, 2024

Emily Zalkovsky  
Medicaid Director  
State of Texas, Health and Human Services Commission  
4601 W. Guadalupe St.  
Austin, TX 78751

Dear Director Zalkovsky:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) number TX-23-0029, submitted on October 20, 2023, with additional information submitted on January 12, 2024, has been approved. Through this SPA, Texas provides 12 months of continuous postpartum coverage to individuals enrolled in its separate CHIP, pursuant to section 9822 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). This SPA has an effective date of March 1, 2024, and is a companion to the Medicaid continuous postpartum coverage TX-23-0028.

Section 9822 of the ARP added section 2107(e)(1)(J) to the Social Security Act (the Act), which requires states to provide continuous eligibility throughout an individual's pregnancy and 12-month postpartum period in CHIP if the state has elected this option in Medicaid. In Texas this provision applies to targeted low-income children who are pregnant.

In addition to 12-months of continuous postpartum coverage, the same SPA template is used to describe the state's continuous eligibility policies for children in its separate CHIP. Section 5112 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA, 2023) amended section 1902(e)(12) and added a new paragraph (K) to section 2017(e)(1) of the Social Security Act (the Act) to require that states provide 12 months of continuous eligibility for children under the age of 19 in Medicaid and CHIP effective January 1, 2024. Texas' state plan currently describes that it provides 12-month continuous eligibility for children up to 185 percent of the Federal poverty level (FPL) and six-month continuous eligibility for children from 185 to 200 percent of the FPL under its separate CHIP.

Texas has confirmed that it came into compliance with section 2107(e)(1) of the Act to provide 12 months of continuous eligibility to all children on January 1, 2024. As you are aware, the state has until the end of its fiscal year to submit a CHIP SPA demonstrating compliance with section 2107(e)(1) of the Act.

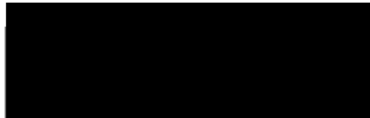
Your Project Officer is Abbie Walsh. She is available to answer your questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related matters. Her contact information is as follows:

Page 2 – Director Zalkovsky

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If you have additional questions, please contact Meg Barry, Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (443) 934-2064. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,



Sarah deLone  
Director