

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

September 9, 2024

Emily Zalkovsky
Medicaid Director, Medicaid/CHIP Division
Medical and Social Services
State of Texas, Health and Human Services Commission
4900 Lamar Boulevard
Austin, TX 78751

Dear Director Zalkovsky:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) number TX-24-0015, submitted on August 30, 2024, has been approved. Through this SPA, Texas has demonstrated compliance with both the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Section 11405(b)(1) and the longstanding requirement in regulations at 42 CFR § 457.410(b)(2) and 457.520(b)(4) to cover age-appropriate vaccines. This SPA has an effective date of October 1, 2023.

Section 11405(b)(1) of the IRA requires states with separate CHIPs that include coverage for adults to provide coverage and payment for approved adult vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and their administration, without cost sharing. Current regulations at 42 CFR § 457.410(b)(2) and 457.520(b)(4) require states to cover age-appropriate vaccines and their administration in accordance with the recommendations of the ACIP without cost sharing. The state provided the necessary assurances to demonstrate compliance with both requirements.

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:

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If you have additional questions, please contact Meg Barry, Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (410) 786-1536. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,



Sarah deLone
Director

Model Application Template for the State Children's Health Insurance Program

- ❑ 2021 – Approved, Effective January 1, 2023.
- ❑ CHIP Postpartum Continuous Eligibility related to House Bill 12, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023 – Effective March 1, 2024.
- ❑ CHIP updates to comply with vaccine coverage in Section 11405 of the Inflation Reduction Act, effective October 1, 2023.

1.4-TC Tribal Consultation (Section 2107 (c)(1)(C)) Describe the consultation process that occurred specifically for the development and submission of this State Plan Amendment, when it occurred and who was involved.

Tribal consultation was not required for this CHIP State Plan Amendment.
TN: 24-0015 Approval Date: Effective Date: October 1, 2023.

Availability of Plan Information

6.2.7- MHPAEA The State must provide beneficiaries, potential enrollees, and providers with information related to medical necessity criteria and denials of payment or reimbursement for mental health or substance use disorder services (42 CFR 457.496(e)) in addition to existing notice requirements at 42 CFR 457.1180.

6.2.7.1- MHPAEA Medical necessity criteria determinations must be made available to any current or potential enrollee or contracting provider, upon request. The state attests that the following entities provide this information:

- State
- Managed Care entities
- Both
- Other

Guidance: If other is selected, please specify the entity.

6.2.7.2- MHPAEA Reason for any denial for reimbursement or payment for mental health or substance use disorder benefits must be made available to the enrollee by the health plan or the State. The state attests that the following entities provide denial information:

- State
- Managed Care entities
- Both
- Other

6.5-Vaccine coverages

Guidance: States are required to provide coverage for age-appropriate vaccines and their administration, without cost sharing. States that elect to cover children under the State plan (indicated in Section 4.1) should check box 6.5.1. States that elect to cover pregnant individuals under the State plan should also check box 6.5.2. States that elect to cover the from-conception-to-end-of-pregnancy population (previously referred to as the “unborn”) option under the State plan should also check box 6.5.3.

6.5.1- Vaccine coverage for targeted-low-income children. The State provides coverage for age-appropriate vaccines and their administration in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP),

without cost sharing. (Section 2103(c)(1)(D)) (42CFR 457.410(b)(2) and 457.520(b)(4)).

6.5.2- Vaccine coverage for targeted-low-income pregnant individuals. The State provides coverage for approved adult vaccines recommended by the ACIP, and their administration, without cost sharing. (SHO # 23-003, issued June 27, 2023); (Section 2103(c)(12)).

6.5.3-Vaccine coverage for from-conception-to-end-of-pregnancy population option. The state provides coverage for age appropriate (child or adult) vaccines and their administration in accordance with the recommendations of the ACIP, without cost-sharing, to benefit the unborn child.

CHIP Perinatal Program: Covered, medically necessary immunization services for the unborn child are limited to prenatal and postpartum care and/or the delivery of the unborn child until birth.