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State/Territory Name: Arkansas

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: AR-24-0009

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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

August 12, 2025

Janet Mann
State Medicaid Director
State of Arkansas, Department of Human Services
112 West 8th Street, Slot S401
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Director Mann:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA), AR-24-0009, submitted on February 29, 2024, with additional information received on August 12, 2025, has been approved. This SPA has an effective date of January 1, 2024.

Through this SPA, Arkansas provides 12 months of continuous eligibility (CE) coverage to individuals enrolled in its separate CHIP, pursuant to section 5112 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA, 2023). Section 5112 of the CAA, amended titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require that states provide 12 months of CE for children under the age of 19 in Medicaid and CHIP. In Arkansas, this provision applies to the targeted low-income children, including the from-conception-to-end-of-pregnancy (FCEP) population. A copy of the approved CS27 state plan page is attached to be incorporated into the state's approved CHIP state plan.

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

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop: S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: 667-290-8863
E-mail: abagail.walsh@cms.hhs.gov

If you have additional questions, please contact Mary Beth Hance, Acting Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (410) 786-4299. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,
/Signed by Sarah deLone/

Sarah deLone
Director



CHIP Eligibility

State Name:

OMB Control Number: 0938-1148

Transmittal Number: AR - 24 - 0009

Separate Child Health Insurance Program General Eligibility - Continuous Eligibility

CS27

2107(e)(1)(K) of the SSA and 42 CFR 457.342 and 435.926; 2107(e)(1)(J) and 1902(e)(16) of the SSA

Mandatory 12-Month Postpartum Continuous Eligibility in CHIP for States Electing This Option in Medicaid

At state option in Medicaid, states may elect to provide continuous eligibility for an individual's 12-month postpartum period consistent with section 1902(e)(16) of the SSA. If elected under Medicaid, states are required to provide the same continuous eligibility and extended postpartum period for pregnant individuals in its separate CHIP. A separate CHIP cannot implement this option if not also elected under the Medicaid state plan.

State elected the Medicaid option to provide continuous eligibility through the 12- month postpartum period

Mandatory Continuous Eligibility for Children

The CHIP Agency must provide that children who have been determined eligible under the state plan shall remain eligible, regardless of any changes in the family's circumstances, for a 12-month continuous eligibility period.

☒ Consistent with section 2107(e)(1)(K) of the SSA, the state assures that continuous eligibility is provided to its targeted low-income children for a duration of 12 months, regardless of any changes in circumstances, unless:

- ☐ The child attains age 19.
- ☐ The child or child's representative requests voluntary disenrollment.
- ☐ The child is no longer a resident of the state.
- ☐ The Agency determines that eligibility was erroneously granted at the most recent determination or renewal of eligibility because of Agency error or fraud, abuse, or perjury attributed to child or child's representative.
- ☐ The child dies.
- ☐ The child becomes eligible for Medicaid.

The state elects to provide coverage to the from-conception-to-end-of-pregnancy (FCEP) population (otherwise known as the "unborn").

☒ The state assures continuous eligibility for the FCEP population is provided in the same manner as continuous eligibility for other targeted low-income children, except for the duration of the continuous eligibility period.

The duration of continuous eligibility for the FCEP population depends on whether a state enrolls the birthing parent into Medicaid for coverage of labor and delivery or pays for the delivery under CHIP. The state conducts at least one of the following actions upon birth of the child:

CHIP pays for labor and delivery and the state screens the child for potential eligibility for Medicaid.



CHIP Eligibility

Emergency Medicaid pays for labor and delivery and the state deems the newborn eligible for Medicaid and ends the continuous eligibility period in CHIP.

No

PRA Disclosure Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1148. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

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