
Table of Contents

State/Territory Name: Colorado

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: CO-26-0047

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) State Plan Pages

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 18, 2026

Adela Flores-Brennan
Medicaid Director
Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
Medicaid & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
303 E. 17th Avenue, Suite 1100
Denver, CO 80203-1818

Dear Director Adela Flores-Brennan:

Your Title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) CO-26-0047, submitted on June 25, 2026, has been approved. The effective date for this SPA is January 1, 2026.

Through CO-26-0047, Colorado demonstrates compliance with section 205 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (CAA, 2024) by modifying CHIP eligibility requirements for the treatment of incarcerated pregnant women. Section 205 of the CAA, 2024, amends section 2102(d)(1)(A) of the Act to expand the prohibition on terminating eligibility to CHIP-enrolled pregnant women solely because an individual is an inmate of a public institution.

Your Project Officer is Janice Adams. She is available to answer your questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related matters and can be reached at janice.adams@cms.hhs.gov.

If you have additional questions, please contact Mary Beth Hance, 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 Jessica Stephens/

Jessica Stephens
Acting Director

continued care with the member’s same health-care provider or health-care facility if the member’s Managed Care Organization (MCO) is changed. The continued care will be provided under the member’s new MCO plan as if the provider or facility is in-network, for up to ninety (90) days if certain conditions exist.

SPA #44

Date Amendment #44 Submitted: June 16, 2025
Date Amendment #44 Approved: April 6, 2026
Date Amendment #44 Effective: January 1, 2025
Date Amendment #44 Implemented:

Adds mandatory coverage, reimbursement, and attestations, for juveniles in a carceral setting, in accordance with Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023.

SPA #45

Date Amendment #45 Submitted: May 20, 2026
Date Amendment #45 Approved:
Date Amendment #45 Effective: January 1, 2026
Date Amendment #45 Implemented:

This SPA includes 4 community HSI programs to improve the lives of targeted low-income children in Colorado. Initiatives selected based on extensive stakeholder input include Home Visiting, Safety Supplies, Food Pantries, and Reach out and Read to be implemented upon approval of the amendment.

SPA #46

Date Amendment #46 Submitted: May 11, 2026
Date Amendment #46 Approved:
Date Amendment #46 Effective: July 1, 2026
Date Amendment #46 Implemented: July 1, 2026

The State added assurance language that no annual, lifetime, or other aggregate dollar limitations are imposed on any medical or dental services covered under the CHIP State Plan consistent with 42 C.F.R. 457.490(a).

SPA #47

Date Amendment #46 Submitted:
Date Amendment #46 Approved:
Date Amendment #46 Effective: January 1, 2026
Date Amendment #46 Implemented:

Adds assurance that the state does not terminate eligibility for pregnant women enrolled in a separate CHIP because the pregnant woman is an inmate of a public institution, in accordance with Section 205 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024.

1.4- TC

Tribal Consultation (Section 2107(e)(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.

The State included consultation on this SPA in the tribal consultation log dated ~~March 25~~May 19, 2026. A copy of the relevant page of the consultation log is attached.

Transmittal Number	SPA Group	PDF #	Description	Superseded Plan Section(s)
July 1, 2015				
CO-16-0025 Approval Date: 09/06/17 Effective Date: January 1, 2016	Eligibility Processing	CS24	Eligibility Process	Supersedes the current section 4.3 and 4.4
CO-17-0026 Approval Date: 10/05/17 Effective Date: July 1, 2017	Non-Financial Eligibility	CS15	MAGI-Based Income Methodologies	Section 4.3: Supersede information on income eligibility and methods in CO-13-0015.
CO-24-0040-0002 Approval Date: 11/15/25 Effective Date: January 1, 2025	Separate Child Health Insurance Program Eligibility and General Eligibility	CS9 CS27	Separate Child Health Insurance Program Eligibility – Coverage From Conception to Birth Separate Child Health Insurance Program General Eligibility – Continuous Eligibility	Supersedes Section 4.1.2.1-PC and 4.19 Supersedes version approved in SPA 22-0039.
CO-25-0044 CO-26-0047 Approval Date: April 6, 2026 Effective Date: January 1, 2025 2026	Incarcerated CHIP Beneficiaries	CS31	Targeted Low-Income Children Who Become Incarcerated Children Determined Eligible for CHIP While Incarcerated <u>Targeted Low-Income Pregnant Women Who Become Incarcerated Eligibility Not Terminated</u>	<u>Supersedes version approved in SPA CO-25-0044</u>



CHIP Eligibility

State Name:

OMB Control Number: 0938-1148

Transmittal Number: CO - 26 - 0047

Incarcerated CHIP Beneficiaries

CS31

2102(d) and 2110(b)(7) of the SSA

Targeted Low-Income Children Who Become Incarcerated

- ☒ The state assures that it does not terminate eligibility for children enrolled in a separate CHIP because the child is an inmate of a public institution.

States may either suspend CHIP coverage or continue to provide CHIP state plan (or waiver of such plan) services otherwise not covered by the carceral facility to children who are incarcerated. States that elect to suspend CHIP coverage for the duration of a child's incarceration may implement a benefits or eligibility suspension.

The state elects to suspend CHIP coverage for the duration of a child's incarceration

If yes, then check an option below:

- ☒ Benefits suspension
- ☐ Eligibility suspension
- ☒ The state assures that it redetermines eligibility for any child prior to their release if it has been longer than 12 months since the child's last redetermination and restores coverage for child health assistance to eligible children upon their release.
- Within the 30 days prior to release (or within one week of release, or as soon as practicable after release), the state assures that it
- ☒ provides eligible children with any screenings, diagnostic services, or case management services that would otherwise be available to children under the CHIP state plan (or waiver of such plan).

Additional information regarding implementation of mandatory provisions of section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA, 2023), including providing screenings, diagnostic services, or case management services:

The state may determine that it is not feasible to provide the required services during the prerelease period in certain carceral facilities (e.g., identified local jails, youth correctional facilities, and state prisons) and/or certain circumstances (e.g., unexpected release or short-term stays). The state will maintain clear documentation in its internal operational plan regarding each facility and/or circumstances where the state determines that it is not 

Under section 5122 of the CAA, 2023, states may consider otherwise eligible children who are inmates pending disposition of charges as eligible for CHIP and provide all services covered under the CHIP state plan.

- ☐ The state elects to provide all CHIP state plan benefits (or waiver of such plan) to eligible children who are inmates pending disposition of charges.

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.

V.20260217



CHIP Eligibility

Children Determined Eligible for CHIP While Incarcerated

Generally, children who apply for CHIP when they are in a carceral facility are not eligible because of the eligibility exclusion for inmates of a public institution under section 2110(b) of the Act. However, section 2110(b)(7) of the Act provides an exception to this eligibility exclusion for children who are within 30 days prior to their release.

- ☒ The state assures that they will process any application submitted on behalf of a child and make an eligibility determination for child health assistance upon their release from the institution.
- ☒ Children who apply and are found eligible within 30 days prior to their release will be provided screening and diagnostic services, and case management services that are otherwise available under the CHIP state plan (or waiver of such plan).

Targeted Low-Income Pregnant Women Who Become Incarcerated

- ☒ The state assures that it does not terminate eligibility for pregnant women enrolled in a separate CHIP because the pregnant woman is an inmate of a public institution.

States may either suspend CHIP coverage or continue to provide CHIP state plan (or waiver of such plan) services otherwise not covered by the carceral facility to pregnant women who are incarcerated. States that elect to suspend CHIP coverage for the duration of a pregnant woman's incarceration may implement a benefits or eligibility suspension.

The state elects to suspend CHIP coverage for the duration of a pregnant woman's incarceration

Yes

If yes, then check an option below:

- ☒ Benefits suspension
- ☐ Eligibility suspension

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.

V.20260217