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State/Territory Name: New York

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: NY-23-0036

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June 13, 2023

Gabrielle Armenia
Director, Division of Coverage and Enrollment
Office of Health Insurance Programs
State of New York Department of Health
Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237-0004

Dear Ms. Armenia:

Your title XXI Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) number NY-23-0036-CHIP, submitted on March 9, 2023, has been approved. Through this SPA, New York 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, 2023 and is a companion to the Medicaid continuous postpartum coverage Medicaid SPA, NY-23-0006.

Section 9822 of the ARP added section 2107(e)(1)(J) to the Social Security 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 New York, this provision applies to targeted low-income children who are pregnant.

In addition, the state has implemented a manual process on May 1, 2023 to phase out all state-specific exceptions to the continuous eligibility period for children to be consistent with CHIP regulations at 42 CFR 457.342. No later than September 2024, the state plans to transition to an automated process.

Although the state plan template indicates that the state option to provide 12 months of continuous postpartum coverage to individuals enrolled in its separate CHIP sunsets on March 31, 2027, section 5113 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 eliminated the sunset date and made the option permanent. If the state would like to eliminate extended postpartum coverage in the future, it should submit a new state plan amendment.
Your Project Officer is Shakia Singleton. She is available to answer your questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related matters. Ms. Singleton’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: (410) 786-3413  
E-mail: Shakia.Singleton@cms.hhs.gov

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,

/Signed by Sarah deLone/

Sarah deLone  
Director
## Separate Child Health Insurance Program

### General Eligibility - Continuous Eligibility

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2105(a)(4)(A) of the SSA and 42 CFR 457.342 and 435.926; 2107(e)(1)(J) and 1902(e)(16) of the SSA

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<th>Mandatory 12-Month Postpartum Continuous Eligibility in CHIP for States Electing This Option in Medicaid</th>
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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 **Yes**

The 12-month postpartum continuous eligibility applies for the period beginning on the effective date of this SPA (no earlier than April 1, 2022) and is available through March 31, 2027.

- The state assures the extended postpartum period available to pregnant targeted low-income children or targeted low-income pregnant women under section 2107(e)(1)(J) of the SSA is provided consistent with the following provisions:

  - Individuals who, while pregnant, were eligible and received services under the state child health plan or waiver shall remain eligible throughout the duration of the pregnancy (including any period of retroactive eligibility) and the 12-month postpartum period, beginning on the day the pregnancy ends and ending on the last day of the 12th month consistent with paragraphs (5) and (16) of section 1902(e) of the SSA.

  - Continuous eligibility is provided to targeted low income children who are pregnant or targeted low-income pregnant women (if applicable) who are eligible for and enrolled under the state child health plan through the end of the 12-month postpartum period who would otherwise lose eligibility because of a change in circumstances, unless:

    - The individual or representative requests voluntary disenrollment.

    - The individual 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 the individual.

    - The individual dies.

Unlike continuous eligibility for children, states providing the 12-month postpartum period may not end an individual’s continuous eligibility due to non-payment of premiums or becoming eligible for Medicaid.

- Consistent with section 2107(e)(1)(J) of the SSA, the state assures that continuous eligibility is provided through an individual’s pregnancy and 12-month postpartum period regardless of non-payment of premiums, or an individual becoming eligible for Medicaid.

- Benefits provided during the 12-month postpartum period must be the same scope of comprehensive services consistent with the benefit package elected by the state under section 2103(a) of the SSA that is available to targeted low income children and/or targeted low-income pregnant women and may include additional benefits as described in Section 6 of the CHIP state plan.
Optional Continuous Eligibility for Children

The CHIP Agency may provide that children who have been determined eligible under the state plan shall remain eligible, regardless of any changes in the family’s circumstances, during a continuous eligibility period up to 12 months, or until the time the child reaches an age specified by the state (not to exceed age 19), whichever is earlier.

The CHIP Agency elects to provide continuous eligibility to children under this provision.  

☐ For children up to age 19

☐ For children up to age  

The continuous eligibility period begins on the effective date of the child's most recent determination or redetermination of eligibility, and ends:

☐ At the end of the 12 months continuous eligibility period.

The state assures that a child’s eligibility is not terminated during a continuous eligibility period, regardless of any changes in circumstances, unless:

☐ The child attains the age specified by the state Agency or 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

☐ There is a failure to pay required premiums or enrollment fees on behalf of a child, as provided for in the state plan.

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