

JUSTIN M. SENIOR SECRETARY

September 1, 2017

Ms. Robin Magwood Division of State Demonstrations & Waivers State Demonstration Group Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16 Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Ms. Magwood:

Enclosed for your review is a request to close Florida's 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver (Project Number 11-W-00205/4) and move the expenditure authorities and eligibility criteria under Florida's 1115 Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) Waiver (Project Number 11-W-00206/4), effective January 1, 2018.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and your efforts in working with our staff on this request. Should you have any questions, please contact Chantelle Carter-Jones of my staff at (850) 412-4238. We look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,

Beth Kidder

Deputy Secretary for Medicaid

cc: Adam Goldman BK/kq



# **Florida MEDS-AD Waiver**

1115 Research and Demonstration Waiver (Project Number 11-W-00205/4)

# Amendment Request 9/1/2017

Agency for Health Care Administration



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# **Table of Contents**

INTRODUCTION	2
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE	<u>,</u>
BACKGROUND/HISTORY	,
TRANSITION OBJECTIVES	ł
EFFECT ON RECIPIENTS	
Public Notice	ŝ
PUBLIC NOTICE PROCESS	;
Public Notice Process	
Public Notice Materials	
Consultation with Indian Health Programs	
Public Meetings	
Submitting Written Comments	1
Summary of Public Comments	3
ATTACHMENT I TRIBAL NOTIFICATION	•

# Statement of Purpose

The State of Florida is seeking federal authority to transition authority for the 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver (Project No. 11-W-00205/4) under the authority of Florida's 1115 Managed Medical Assistance Waiver, effective January 1, 2018. The State is currently operating the MEDS-AD Waiver under a temporary extension from the Centers from Medicare and Medicaid Services until December 31, 2017.

# Background/History

In 2005, State legislation (Chapter 2005-60, Laws of Florida) directed the Agency to discontinue coverage of certain aged and disabled individuals with incomes up to 88 percent of the federal poverty level (an optional Medicaid eligibility group) under the Medicaid state plan. However, concerned that this population was at risk for costly adverse events, the Florida Legislature directed the Agency to seek a federal waiver to continue to provide benefits to a subset of the individuals in this eligibility group.

The current Florida MEDS-AD Research and Demonstration Waiver began operations in January 2006 and provides Florida Medicaid coverage for aged or disabled residents of the State of Florida with incomes at or below 88 percent of the federal poverty level and assets at or below \$5,000 for an individual or \$6,000 for a couple. This waiver was designed to delay or prevent the need for institutionalization of these vulnerable individuals by maintaining their level of care in the community longer through the provision of:

- Access to health care services
- High-intensity pharmacy case management services for non-institutionalized individuals and individuals not enrolled in managed care (also referred to as the Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program)

The continued coverage is designed to avoid costs of preventable hospitalizations or institutional placement that would otherwise occur had these vulnerable individuals not had access to prescribed drugs and other medical services.

#### Medication Therapy Management Program

The MTM program provides high intensity pharmacy case management to individuals enrolled in the MEDS-AD waiver who are not; Medicare eligible, enrolled in an MMA plan, institutionalized, or in hospice care. The recipients who elect to participate in the MTM program engage in a comprehensive medication review with a pharmacist and receive a Patient Medication Action Plan at the conclusion of the review. The results of the comprehensive medication review, along with the Patient Medication Action Plan, are sent to the recipient's treating practitioner. Quarterly follow up calls are completed with the recipient and recommendations are communicated to the treating practitioner, as necessary. The goal of this process is to maximize opportunities for patient treatment adherence and facilitate use of evidence-based prescribing practices among treating practitioners.

There are currently approximately 50,000 recipients enrolled in the MEDS-AD Waiver. Approximately 91% are currently enrolled in, and receiving their services through, an MMA plan. The MMA plans are required to provide case management/care coordination services and programs that have similar objectives to the MTM program. To avoid duplication, only recipients who are receiving services through the fee-for-service delivery system (approximately 9% of the MEDS-AD population) are potentially eligible to participate in the MTM program. As a result, the total population that is eligible to participate in the MTM program is small and continues to diminish as more individuals elect to enroll in an MMA plan. To recruit the minimum number of MTM participants (100), the evaluation team historically has had to contact up to three times this number of individuals. Consequently, maintaining the integrity of the MTM program has become increasingly difficult given the declining eligible population, reduced interest, and the attrition rate from the waiver whereby individuals participating in the MTM program.

#### Transition Plan for the MEDS-AD Population

With this amendment, the State is seeking federal approval to transition the federal and expenditure authority to serve individuals enrolled in the 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver to the 1115 MMA Waiver. This is a technical amendment request – transitioning the authority to operate the demonstration from one 1115 waiver to another. The eligibility, enrollment, and benefit design elements that are currently approved in the 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver will not substantively change under the authority of the 1115 MMA Waiver.

### Eligible Population

All applicable Florida Medicaid laws or regulations apply to eligibility, and coverage of the population described below, in accordance with the Florida Medicaid state plan. Eligibility under the demonstration is limited to the following individuals not otherwise eligible for Florida Medicaid:

Demonstration Eligible Groups	Qualifying Criteria	
Aged or disabled individuals – Medicaid Only	<ul> <li>Income at or below 88% FPL</li> <li>Assets that do not exceed \$5,000 (individual) or \$6,000 (couple)</li> <li>Medicaid-only eligibles not receiving hospice, HCBS, or institutional care services</li> </ul>	
Aged or disabled individuals – Medicaid Institutional	<ul> <li>Income at or below 88% FPL</li> <li>Assets that do not exceed \$5,000 (individual) or \$6,000 (couple)</li> <li>Medicaid-only eligibles receiving hospice, HCBS, or institutional care services</li> </ul>	

<ul> <li>Aged or disabled individuals – Dual Eligibles</li> <li>Income at or below 88% FPL</li> <li>Assets that do not exceed \$5,000 (individual) or \$6,000 (couple)</li> <li>Medicare Eligible</li> <li>Receiving hospice, HCBS, or institutional care services</li> </ul>
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#### Benefits

Recipients enrolled in the demonstration receive all services offered through the state plan as well as the HCBS provided in the programs identified below in accordance with the specified authority:

- Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, section 1934 of the Social Security Act (SSA)
- Developmental Disabilities Individual Budgeting Waiver, section 1915(c), SSA
- Model Waiver, section 1915(c), SSA
- Long-term Care Waiver, section 1915(b)/(c), SSA

Availability of the home and community-based services is subject to any numeric limitation on enrollment in such programs, and the requirements that the individual meets the eligibility, and level of care criteria required to receive services through these programs.

Recipients enrolled in the demonstration will continue to receive medical/acute care services through an MMA plan, consistent with the mandatory, and voluntary participation requirements currently approved in the 1115 MMA Waiver. Recipients who do not enroll in an MMA plan will receive services through the Florida Medicaid fee-for-service delivery system.

#### MTM Program

The Agency will allow individuals who are currently participating in the MTM program as of July 1, 2017 to complete their term. The Agency will not enroll new participants after the current cohort of participants completes the program. Since the majority of MEDS-AD recipients are receiving services through the MMA program, and are already eligible to receive case management/care coordination through their MMA plan. The Agency believes that the goals and objectives of the MTM program are satisfied by the design and contractual requirements of the SMMC program. As such, the Agency is not requesting authority to continue the MTM program as a unique demonstration component under the 1115 MMA Waiver.

# **Transition Objectives**

The objective of this transition is to ensure continued Medicaid coverage and access to needed health care services for vulnerable populations while also achieving administrative simplifications/efficiencies through the consolidation of federal authorities.

# Effect on Recipients

Individuals enrolled in the MEDS-AD Waiver will continue to be eligible for Florida Medicaid and receive their acute care services in the same manner they do now unless they choose to change MMA plan or their service provider is no longer available.

# **Public Notice**

The State conducted the public comment period from August 1, 2017 – August 30, 2017 to solicit input on the waiver transition/phase-out request. See the "Public Notice Process" section for additional information.

# Public Notice Process

# Public Notice Process

The State conducted a public comment period from August 1, 2017 – August 30, 2017 to solicit input on the waiver amendment request.

The State notified stakeholders of the public comment period using the following methods:

- Published public notice on July 31, 2017 in the Florida Administrative Register (FAR) in compliance with Chapter 120, Florida Statutes
- Emailed individuals and organizations on its interested stakeholders list
- Provider Alert posted on the Agency's website

# Public Notice Materials

The State posted the dates, times, and locations of two public meetings and a link to this public notice document on the Agency's Web site at: <a href="http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/Policy\_and\_Quality/Policy/federal\_authorities/federal\_waiveers/index.shtml">http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/Policy\_and\_Quality/Policy/federal\_authorities/federal\_waiveers/index.shtml</a>

The State provided this link in the FAR notice and email to interested stakeholders.

# Consultation with Indian Health Programs

The State sent written correspondence to the Indian Health Programs located in Florida to solicit input on the waiver amendment request (Attachment I). The State of Florida does not have any Urban Indian Organizations, but has two federally recognized tribes: the Seminole Tribe and Miccosukee Tribe.

# **Public Meetings**

The State held two public meetings during the public comment period. Individuals unable to attend the meetings in person could participate via conference call by using the toll-free number provided. During the meetings, the State provided a brief overview of the 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver amendment request and allowed time for public comment.

MMA/MEDS-AD Amendment Public Meetings					
Location	Date	Time			
Tallahassee Agency for Health Care Administration 2727 Mahan Drive, Building 3 Tallahassee, FL 32308 Conference Line: 1-877-309-2071 Participant Code: 798-884-808	August 9, 2017	11:00 am-12:00 pm			
Tampa Agency for Health Care Administration 6800 N. Dale Mabry Highway, Suite 220 Main Training Conference Room Tampa, FL 33614 Conference Line: 1-877-309-2071 Participant Code: 536-371-224	August 18, 2017	1:00 pm-3:00 pm			

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting was asked to advise the agency at least seven days before the workshop/meeting by contacting Kimberly Quinn at (850) 412-4284 or by email at Kimberly.Quinn@ahca.myflorida.com.

Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired could contact the Agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1 (800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1 (800) 955-8770 (Voice).

# Submitting Written Comments

Written comments on the waiver extension could be submitted via mail or email with the subject "1115 MEDS-AD Amendment – Waiver Consolidation" during the public comment period.

Mail:Agency for Health Care AdministrationBureau of Medicaid Policy2727 Mahan Drive, MS #20Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Email: <u>FLMedicaidWaivers@ahca.myflorida.com</u>

# Summary of Public Comments

The State did not receive any comments specific to the 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver transition.

# Attachment I Tribal Notification



RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR

JUSTIN M. SENIOR SECRETARY

July 31, 2017

Ms. Cassandra Osceola Health Director Miccosukee Tribe of Florida P.O. Box 440021, Tamiami Station Miami, FL 33144

Dear Ms. Osceola:

The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is announcing the start of a 30-day public notice and comment period. The Agency is seeking to amend Florida's 1115 Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) Waiver and 1915(b)/(c) Long-term Care (LTC) Waiver to:

- Transition individuals enrolled in the 1915(c) Adults with Cystic Fibrosis (ACF) Waiver and the 1915(c) Traumatic Brain and Spinal Cord Injury (TBI/SCI) Waiver into the 1915(b)/(c) LTC Waiver in order for them to continue to receive home and communitybased services (HCBS). This change will result in no loss of Medicaid coverage or services for these populations.
- Transition individuals enrolled in the 1915(c) Project AIDS Care (PAC) Waiver who are
  receiving HCBS and who meet nursing facility level of care into the 1915(b)/(c) LTC
  Waiver in order for them to continue to receive HCBS. This change will result in no loss of
  Medicaid coverage or services for the population.
- Establish financial and non-financial eligibility criteria (specified in section 409.904, Florida Statues) in the 1115 MMA Waiver that will enable individuals who are diagnosed with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) to obtain and maintain Medicaid coverage without the need for enrollment in the 1915(c) PAC Waiver. This population does not need HCBS but are at risk for institutionalization without access to necessary medical/acute care services (prescribed drugs, physician services, etc.). This change enables the population to maintain access to needed services and will result in no loss of Medicaid coverage.
- Transition the federal authority to serve individuals enrolled in the 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver to the 1115 MMA Waiver. This is a technical change; the population will continue to have access to all Medicaid covered services.

The vast majority of these individuals are currently enrolled in an MMA plan for receipt of their medical, behavioral health, prescribed drugs, and dental services. The proposed changes will not affect how they receive these services or the plan in which they are enrolled.

Individuals who are transitioning to the 1915(b)/(c) LTC Waiver will have an opportunity to choose their LTC plan and will continue to have access to HCBS that are comparable to the services they are currently utilizing. In addition, the LTC program offers a more robust benefit package than the 1915(c) TBI/SCI, ACF, and PAC Waivers, including enhanced case management standards and expanded benefits. The LTC program also offers individuals an opportunity to receive care/services through a program with enhanced quality outcome measures.

The Agency is also seeking authority from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to end the 1915(c) TBI/SCI, ACF, and PAC Waivers, and the 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver once all transitions (described above) are complete.

2727 Mahan Drive • Mail Stop #8 Tallahassee, FL 32308 AHCA.MyFlorida.com



Facebook.com/AHCAFlorida Youtube.com/AHCAFlorida Twitter.com/AHCA\_FL SildeShare.net/AHCAFlorida The Agency is seeking federal approval to have all transitions completed by January 1, 2018.

The Agency will conduct a 30-day public comment period from August 1, 2017 through August 30, 2017. The Agency will consider all public comments received during the public notice period regarding the proposed amendments. You may view the full waiver amendment requests on the Agency's Web site at the following link:

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/Policy and Quality/Policy/federal authorities/federal waivers/ind ex.shtml.

The Agency has scheduled two public meetings to solicit meaningful input on the proposed waiver amendments. The meetings will be held in:

- Tallahassee, Florida on August 9, 2017 from 11:00 am 12:00 pm at the Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Drive, Building 3, Conference Room B, Tallahassee, FL 32308. To participate by phone, please call: 1 (877) 309-2071 and enter the participant passcode: 798-884-808. To participate by webinar, please visit: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8495210935345411.
- Tampa, Florida on August 11, 2017 from 1:00 2:00 pm at the Agency for Health Care Administration, 6800 N. Dale Mabry Highway, Suite 220, Main Training Conference Room, Tampa, FL 33614. To participate by phone, please call: 1 (877) 309-2071 and enter the participant passcode: 536-371-224. To participate by webinar, please visit: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3884192334985328387.

When providing comments, please include "Proposed Amendment to 1115 MMA Waiver," "Proposed Amendment to 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver," "Proposed Amendment to 1915(b)/(c) Long-term Care Waiver," or "Proposed Amendment to 1915(c) Project AIDS Care Waiver" in the subject line as appropriate:

- Submit email comments to FLMedicaidWaivers@ahca.myflorida.com
- Submit comments by mail to Bureau of Medicaid Policy, Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Drive, MS 20, Tallahassee, Florida 32308.

If you have any questions about the amendment request or would like to hold a call please contact Kimberly Quinn of my staff via email at <u>Kimberly.Quinn@ahca.myflorida.com</u> or by phone at (850) 412-4284.



BK/kq

JUSTIN M. SENIOR SECRETARY



August 10, 2017

Ms. Cassandra Osceola Health Director Miccosukee Tribe of Florida P.O. Box 440021, Tamiami Station Miami, FL 33144

Dear Ms. Osceola:

The Agency for Health Care Administration sent a letter dated July 31, 2017 regarding proposed amendments to Florida's 1115 Managed Medical Assistance Waiver, 1115 MEDS-AD Waiver, 1915(c) Project AIDS Care Waiver, and 1915(b)/(c) Long-term Care Waiver. Please be advised the Tampa public meeting has been rescheduled as referenced below.

The public meeting is to solicit meaningful input on the proposed waiver amendments. The meeting will be held in Tampa, Florida on August 18, 2017 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

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Sincerely,

Beth Kidder Deputy Secretary for Medicaid

BK/kg

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JUSTIN M. SENIOR SECRETARY

July 31, 2017

Paul Isaacs, MD, CHFP, CHC Executive Director, Health & Human Services Seminole Tribe of Florida 6385 Taft Street, Suite 2004 Hollywood, FL 33024

Dear Dr. Isaacs:

The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is announcing the start of a 30-day public notice and comment period. The Agency is seeking to amend Florida's 1115 Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) Waiver and 1915(b)/(c) Long-term Care (LTC) Waiver to:

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Beth Kidder Deputy Secretary for Medicaid

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