

**Notice of Amendment to Hawaii's Section 1115 Demonstration (11-W-00001/9)
to Cover Young Adults Who Have Aged Out of Foster Care**

The State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services (DHS), hereby notifies the public that it intends to seek approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for an amendment to its Section 1115 demonstration to provide Medicaid coverage for certain young adults who have aged out of foster care.

The QUEST Expanded Program

Section 1115 of the Social Security Act enables States to implement experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects that promote the objectives of the Medicaid program. These demonstrations give States additional flexibility to design and improve their programs. QUEST Expanded is the current version of Hawaii's Section 1115 demonstration to provide comprehensive benefits to its Medicaid enrollees through competitive managed care delivery systems. Further detail on the program is available at <http://www.med-quest.us/>. CMS also offers online resources regarding the QUEST Expanded demonstration, which can be viewed at <http://www.medicare.gov/Medicare-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Waivers/Waivers.html?filterBy=hawaii>.

The Amendment

As part of the State's ongoing efforts to ease the transition for young adults leaving foster care, the State seeks to extend Medicaid coverage to this group of individuals. The Affordable Care Act added Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(IX) to the Social Security Act, which makes the former foster children covered by this amendment eligible for Medicaid effective January 1, 2014. The State would like cover these individuals effective January 1, 2013, subject to CMS approval. Specifically, the State will provide full State plan Medicaid benefits to individuals who: aged out of the foster care program; were enrolled in Medicaid while in the program; are under age 26; have household income up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL); and are not eligible or enrolled under existing Medicaid eligibility groups (or would be eligible but have income that exceeds the upper income eligibility limit for any such group).

The State expects that this amendment will provide coverage to approximately 200 additional individuals, at an approximate annual cost of \$406,000. This amendment will require the State to seek additional expenditure authority, pursuant to Section 1115, to use Medicaid matching funds to cover these young adults. As of January 1, 2014, the State will no longer need that authority.

Public Input and Comments

We invite comments on this proposal. Please submit any comments or questions to Noreen Moon-Ng by mail to PO Box 700190, Kapolei, HI, 96709-0190 or by email at nmoon-ng@medicaid.dhs.state.hi.us. Comments will be accepted for consideration for a period of thirty days following publication of this notice, from September 14, 2012 through October 14, 2012.

A copy of the proposed amendment is available at <http://www.med-quest.us/> and <http://hawaii.gov/dhs/>. A copy is also available for public viewing from the first working day that this public notice appears in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, Hawaii Tribune Herald, West Hawaii Today, The Maui News, and The Garden Island, for a period of thirty days after the publication of this notice, from Monday - Friday, exclusive of State holidays, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the appropriate Med-QUEST Division offices on their respective islands listed below. On Oahu, the proposed changes will be available at 601 Kamokila Boulevard, Room 518, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707, between the hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., from Monday - Friday, exclusive of State holidays.

On Oahu: Department of Human Services
Med-QUEST Division
Policy & Program Development Office
601 Kamokila Blvd., Room 518
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707-2021
Phone: 692-8058

Mailing Address:
Med-QUEST Division
Policy & Program Development Office
PO Box 700190
Kapolei, Hawaii 96709-0190

On Maui: Med-QUEST Division
Maui Section
210 Imi Kala Street, Suite 101
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone: 243-5780

On Kauai: Med-QUEST Division
Kauai Section
4473 Pahee Street, Suite A
Lihue, Hawaii 96766
Phone: 241-3575

On Hawaii: Med-QUEST Division
East Hawaii Section
88 Kanoelehua Ave., Room 107
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: 933-0339

Med-QUEST Division
West Hawaii Section
Lanihau Professional Center
75-5591 Palani Road, Suite 3004
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Phone: 327-4970

Special accommodations (*e.g.*, large print, taped materials, or accessible parking) can be made by calling 692-8132. Neighbor island residents needing special accommodations should contact the Med-QUEST Division sections on the respective islands with their requests.

The State will hold two public hearings to seek public input on this amendment:

Date: Wednesday, September 19, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Kalanimoku State Office Building
1151 Punchbowl Street, Basement
Honolulu, Hawaii

Date: Friday, September 21, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Kakuhihewa State Office Building
601 Kamokila Blvd, Suite 577 A&B
Kapolei, Hawaii

Interested parties may participate by teleconference in the September 21, 2012 meeting. Should you be interested in participating in the teleconference, please call 808-692-8139 by close of business on September 20, 2012.

If you require special assistance or auxiliary aids or services to participate in the public hearings (*e.g.*, sign or foreign language or wheelchair accessibility), please contact:

Oahu - Renee Konen (808) 692-8132
Hawaii - Calvin Unoki (808) 933-0339
Kauai - Iris Venzon (808) 241-3582
Maui - Gail Omura (808) 243-5787

at least 72 hours prior to the hearing for arrangements.

PATRICIA MCMANAMAN, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES