



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

January 24, 2013

Jennifer Sheer, Project Officer
Division of State Demonstrations & Waivers
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Mailstop S2-01-16, 7500 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Re: Minnesota's Prepaid Medical Assistance Project Plus (PMAP+) §1115 Waiver

Dear Ms. Sheer:

This letter transmits proposed amendments to the waiver and expenditure authorities and special terms and conditions for Minnesota's Prepaid Medical Assistance Project Plus (PMAP+) §1115 waiver. These changes are a result of actions taken by the 2011 and 2012 Minnesota Legislature. The attached revisions include the following:

- The creation of the Healthy Minnesota Contribution Program for adults without children with incomes from 200 percent and up to 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;
- An exception to the cost sharing requirements in the Medicaid State plan that would allow for a copayment of \$20 per visit for nonemergency use of a hospital emergency department;
- A technical amendment to clarify that MinnesotaCare enrollees are subject to the same deductibles as those applied to Medicaid state plan enrollees;
- A technical amendment to conform with e-verify procedures;
- A technical amendment to clarify that mental health targeted case management is included in the benefit set for MinnesotaCare adults without children; and
- A technical change regarding an adjustment to capitation payment rates for graduate medical education rates, which allows this adjustment to be made to all health plans operating in Hennepin County.

The Department of Human Services sent a letter to all Tribal Chairs and Tribal Health Directors on September 14, 2012 requesting comments on the proposed PMAP+ waiver amendments. The letter informed Tribes that a copy of the waiver amendment request would be available on the DHS web site.

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The letter also informed Tribes of the forthcoming *Minnesota State Register* notice providing additional information regarding the proposed amendments and the public input process.

A notice requesting public comment on the proposed PMAP+ waiver amendments was published in the *Minnesota State Register* on October 15, 2012. This notice announced a 30-day comment period on the amendment request and informed the public on how to access an electronic copy or request a hard copy of the amendment request. Instructions on how to submit written comments were provided. In addition, the notice included information about two public hearings scheduled to provide stakeholders and other interested parties the opportunity to comment on the waiver amendment request. The time and location for the two public hearings was provided, along with information about how to arrange to speak at either of the hearings. Finally, the notice provided a link to the State's PMAP+ waiver web page for complete information on the public notice process, the public input process, planned hearings and a copy of the waiver amendment application. The first public hearing on the PMAP+ waiver amendment proposal was attended by four stakeholders, none of whom chose to testify. No stakeholders attended the second public hearing. No written or oral comments were received during the public comment period.

If you have questions or require additional information concerning the proposed amendments, please contact Gretchen Ulbee, of my staff, at (651) 431-2192.

Sincerely,

/s/

Carol Backstrom
Medicaid Director

Attachments

cc: Courtenay Savage