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State/Territory Name: Hawaii

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 26-0003

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) Additional Companion letter (delete if not if applicable)
- 3) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 4) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

601 E. 12th St., Room 355

Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

September 17, 2026

Meredith Nichols

State of Hawaii Department of Human Services

Office of the Director

PO Box 339

Honolulu, HI 96809-0339

Re: Hawaii State Plan Amendment (SPA) – 26-0003

Dear Director Nichols:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 26-0003. This SPA proposes to amend the Medicaid state plan to provide for mandatory coverage in accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Social Security Act (the Act) for eligible juveniles who are incarcerated in a public institution post-adjudication of charges.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. This letter informs you that Hawaii's Medicaid SPA TN 26-0003 was approved on September 17, 2026, with an effective date of January 1, 2025, and will sunset on December 31, 2026.

Enclosed are copies of Form CMS-179 and approved SPA pages to be incorporated into the Hawaii State Plan.

Please note that accompanying this approval of SPA 26-0003 is a companion letter regarding the need for Hawaii to address identified actions that must be completed by December 31, 2026, to fully implement mandatory coverage in accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. CMS is issuing the companion letter to document these actions and establish a timeframe for their completion.

If you have any questions, please contact Sasha Zolynas at (206) 615-2742 or via email at Sasha.Zolynas@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Megan K. Buck.

Megan K. Buck, Director
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc: Jodeen Enesa
Edie Mayeshiro

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

601 E. 12th St., Room 355

Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

September 17, 2026

Meredith Nichols

State of Hawaii Department of Human Services

Office of the Director

PO Box 339

Honolulu, HI 96809-0339

Re: Hawaii State Plan Amendment (SPA) – 26-0003

Dear Acting Director Nichols:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is sending this companion letter to 26-0003, approved on September 17, 2026. This SPA amends the Medicaid state plan to provide for mandatory coverage in accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Social Security Act (the Act) for eligible juveniles that are incarcerated in a public institution post-adjudication of charges. As noted in the approval letter and state plan, this SPA is effective January 1, 2025, and will sunset on December 31, 2026. The state must complete the actions identified in this letter by the sunset date. Once these actions are completed, the state should submit a SPA to remove the sunset date from the state plan.

Effective January 1, 2025, section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act requires states to have an internal operational plan and, in accordance with such plan, provide for the following for eligible juveniles as defined in section 1902(nn) of the Act (individuals who are under 21 years of age and determined eligible for any Medicaid eligibility group, or individuals determined eligible for the mandatory eligibility group for former foster care children under 42 C.F.R. § 435.150 who are at least age 18 but under age 26) who are within 30 days of their scheduled date of release from a public institution following adjudication:

- In the 30 days prior to release (or not later than one week, or as soon as practicable, after release from the public institution), and in coordination with the public institution, the state must provide any screenings and diagnostic services which meet reasonable standards of medical and dental practice, as determined by the state, or as otherwise indicated as medically necessary, in accordance with the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements, including a behavioral health screening or diagnostic service.
- In the 30 days prior to release and for at least 30 days following release, the state must provide targeted case management services, including referrals to appropriate care and

services available in the geographic region of the home or residence of the eligible juvenile, where feasible, under the Medicaid state plan (or waiver of such plan).

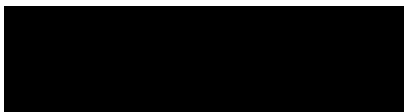
We appreciate the state's efforts to implement this mandatory coverage and recognize the progress that has been made as well as the complexities associated with full implementation. However, during the review of 26-0003, CMS identified actions that must be completed to fully implement mandatory coverage in accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. CMS is issuing this companion letter to document these actions and establish a timeframe for their completion.

The state must complete the following actions by December 31, 2026 to fully implement section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. Once these actions are completed the state should submit a SPA to remove the sunset date from the state plan.

1. Finalize data-sharing agreements and processes between Hawaii Med-QUEST Division and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for eligible juveniles incarcerated in adult prisons and jails.
2. Finalize Med-QUEST Medicaid Eligibility Systems and HPMMIS updates.
3. Implement Medicaid provider enrollment for carceral facility staff providing TCM.
4. Implement health plan credentialing and health plan contracting to bill for services.
5. Conduct provider network capacity building to ensure sufficient capacity to deliver TCM services.
6. Implement billing software and develop capabilities within carceral facilities.
7. Conduct staff training on CAA and TCM service delivery requirements.

As always, CMS is available to provide technical assistance on any of these actions. If you have any questions, Sasha Zolynas at (206) 615-2742 or via email at sasha.zolynas@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Megan K. Buck, Director
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc: Jodeen Enesa
Edie Mayeshiro

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2 6 — 0 0 0 3

2. STATE

HI

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL

SECURITY ACT

☒ XIX☐ XXI

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR

CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

01/01/2025

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2023 (CAA, 2023)

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)

a. FFY ~~2026~~ **2025** \$ 0b. FFY ~~2027~~ **2026** \$ 0

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Attachment 3.1-M pg. 1-2~~Supplement 1 to Attachment 3.1 A pg. 15-22.~~8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)Attachment 3.1-M pg. 1-2~~Supplement 1 to Attachment 3.1 A pg. 15-22.~~

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

SPA 26-0003 "Section 5121 Mandatory Youth Reentry Services" pre-release services for incarcerated juveniles.

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT



COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED



NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL



OTHER, ASSPECIFIED:

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

15. RETURN TO

State of Hawaii

Department of Human Services

Office of the Director

P.O. Box 339

Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

12. TYPED NAME

Meredith Nichols

13. TITLE

Med-QUEST Division Administrator

14. DATE SUBMITTED

06/22/2026

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED

06/22/2026

17. DATE APPROVED

09/17/2026

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

01/01/2025

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

Megan K. Buck

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

Director, Division of Program Operations
Medicaid & CHIP Operations Group

22. REMARKS

State authorized pen and ink changes to Boxes 7 and 8 on 9/9/26.

State authorized pen and ink changes to Box 6 on 9/14/26.

**Mandatory Coverage for
Eligible Juveniles who are
Inmates of a Public Institution
Post Adjudication of Charges**

State/Territory: Hawaii

General assurances. State must indicate compliance with all four items below with a check.

☒ In accordance with section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Social Security Act, the state has an internal operational plan and, in accordance with such plan, provides for the following for eligible juveniles as defined in 1902(n) (individuals who are under 21 years of age and determined eligible for any Medicaid eligibility group, or individuals determined eligible for the mandatory eligibility group for former foster care children age 18 up to age 26, immediately before becoming an inmate of a public institution or while an inmate of a public institution) who are within 30 days of their scheduled date of release from a public institution following adjudication:

☒ In the 30 days prior to release (or not later than one week, or as soon as practicable, after release from the public institution), and in coordination with the public institution, any screenings and diagnostic services which meet reasonable standards of medical and dental practice, as determined by the state, or as otherwise indicated as medically necessary, in accordance with the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements, including a behavioral health screening or diagnostic service.

☒ In the 30 days prior to release and for at least 30 days following release, targeted case management services, including referrals to appropriate care and services available in the geographic region of the home or residence of the eligible juvenile, where feasible, under the Medicaid state plan (or waiver of such plan).

☒ The state acknowledges that a correctional institution is considered a public institution and may include prisons, jails, detention facilities, or other penal settings (e.g., boot camps or wilderness camps).

PRA Disclosure Statement - This use of this form is mandatory and the information is being collected to assist the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in implementing Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. Under the Privacy Act of 1974, any personally identifying information obtained will be kept private to the extent of the law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0938-1148 (CMS-10398 #85). Public burden for all of the collection of information requirements under this control number is estimated to take about 50 hours per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

TN: HI 26-0003

Supersedes

TN: NEW

Approval Date: 09/17/2026

Effective : 01/01/2025

Additional information provided (optional):

☐ No

☒ Yes [provide below]

The state may determine that it is not feasible to provide the required services during the pre-release period in certain carceral facilities (e.g., identified local jails, youth correctional facilities, and state prisons) and/or under specific circumstances (e.g. unexpected release or short-term stays). The state will maintain clear documentation in its internal operational plan identifying any specific facilities and/or the circumstances in which it determines that providing the required services during the pre-release period is not feasible. This information is available to CMS upon request. Services will be provided post-release, including the mandatory 30-days of targeted case management, screening, and diagnostic services.

The state will maintain clear documentation in its internal operational plan indicating which carceral facility/facilities are furnishing required services during the pre-release period but not enrolling in or billing Medicaid. This information is available to CMS upon request.

The authority to provide for mandatory coverage for eligible juveniles who are inmates of a public institution post adjudication of charges will cease on December 31, 2026.

PRA Disclosure Statement - This use of this form is mandatory and the information is being collected to assist the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in implementing Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. Under the Privacy Act of 1974, any personally identifying information obtained will be kept private to the extent of the law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0938-1148 (CMS-10398 #85). Public burden for all of the collection of information requirements under this control number is estimated to take about 50 hours per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

TN: HI 26-0003

Supersedes

TN: NEW

Approval Date: 09/17/2026

Effective : 01/01/2025