

## **Table of Contents**

**State/Territory Name:** Maryland

**State Plan Amendment (SPA) #:** 22-0004

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 3) 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

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June 15, 2022

Ms. Tricia Roddy  
Maryland Department of Health  
201 W. Preston St., 5th Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Re: Maryland (MD) State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0004

Dear Ms. Roddy:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 22-0004. This amendment proposes to implement coverage for doula services including continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to the birthing parent during the prenatal, labor & delivery, and postpartum periods. Services will be provided by qualified individuals with doula certifications from programs approved by Maryland Medicaid.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security Act and implementing regulations 42 C.F.R. §440.130(c). This letter is to inform you that Maryland Medicaid SPA 22-0004 was approved on June 15, 2022, with an effective date of January 1, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Talbatha Myatt at 215-861-4259 or via email at [Talbatha.Myatt@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Talbatha.Myatt@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Ruth A. Hughes.

Ruth A. Hughes, Acting Director  
Division of Program Operations

cc: Alison Donley, Medicaid Provider Services Administration  
Tyler Colomb, Medicaid Provider Services Administration  
Nina McHugh, Medicaid Provider Services Administration

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

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2 2 — 0 0 0 4

2. STATE

MD

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

January 1, 2022

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

42 CFR §440.210

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)

a. FFY 2022 \$ 524,744

b. FFY 2023 \$ 174,914

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Attachment 3.1A, pg. 29L 1 (22-0004) (NEW)

Attachment 4.19B, pg. 62 (22-0004) (NEW)

Attachment 3.1A p. 29C-B & B-1 (NEW)

Attachment 4.19B p. 2 & 2A (NEW)

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION

ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Maryland Medicaid proposes implementing coverage for doula services including continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to the birthing parent during the prenatal, labor & delivery, and postpartum periods. Services will be provided by qualified individuals with doula certifications from programs approved by Maryland Medicaid.

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, AS SPECIFIED:

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

12. TYPED NAME

Tricia Roddy

13. TITLE

Deputy Medicaid Director

14. DATE SUBMITTED

March 21, 2022

15. RETURN TO

Steven Schuh  
Medicaid Director  
Maryland Department of Health  
201 W. Preston St., 5th Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201

**FOR CMS USE ONLY**

16. DATE RECEIVED

**03/21/2022**

17. DATE APPROVED

**06/15/2022**

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

**01/01/2022**

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

**Ruth A. Hughes**

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

**Acting Director, Division of Program Operations**

22. REMARKS

5-18-22 state requested pen & ink change to update box 7 to reflect correct pages 3.1A p. 29C-B & B-1 and 4.19B p. 2 & 2A  
6-13-22 state requested pen & ink change to box 5 to correct Federal citation/statute to reflect 42 C.F.R. 440.130(c)

## STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

13. Other diagnostic, screening, preventive, and rehabilitative services, i.e., other than those provided elsewhere in the plan.

### Preventive Services

#### A. Doula Services

##### General Description:

Doula services will be used to provide support for pregnant individuals throughout the perinatal period, which may improve birth-related outcomes. Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. Section 440.130(c), doula services are provided as preventive services and must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within his or her scope of practice under state law to prevent perinatal complications and/or promote the physical and mental health of the beneficiary.

##### Covered Services:

The Program shall cover doula services from the date of confirmed conception through the postpartum period, contingent on the client maintaining Medicaid eligibility.

Doula services means continuous physical, emotional, and informational support provided to the birthing parent throughout the prenatal period, labor and delivery, and postpartum periods, by a certified doula, including:

1. Information about the childbirth process;
2. Emotional and physical support provided at perinatal visits, and during labor and delivery which may include:
  - a. Prenatal coaching;
  - b. Person-centered care that honors cultural and family traditions; and
  - c. Teaching and advocating on behalf of the birthing parent during appointment visits, hospitalization, and delivery;
3. Evidence-based information on general health practices pertaining to pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum care, newborn health, and family dynamics;
4. Emotional support, physical comfort measures, and information to the birthing parent to enable the birthing parent to make informed decisions pertaining to childbirth and postpartum care, and other issues throughout the perinatal period;
5. Support for the whole birth team including a birthing parent's partner, family members, and other support persons;
6. Evidence-based information on infant feeding to supplement, but not in lieu of, the services of a lactation consultant;
7. General breastfeeding guidance and resources;
8. Infant soothing and coping skills for the new parents; and

9. Facilitation of access to community or other resources that can improve birth-related outcomes such as ongoing home visiting services; transportation; housing; alcohol, tobacco and drug cessation; WIC, SNAP, and intimate partner violence resources.

**Qualified Provider Specifications:**

Doula services shall be provided by qualified individuals who:

1. Are at least 18 years of age;
2. Maintain up to date certification through a doula certification program approved by Maryland Medicaid; and
3. Have and maintain adequate liability insurance.

**STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT****METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES FOR NON  
INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES****Reimbursement for Preventive Services: Doula Services****General Description:**

Doula services will be used to provide support for pregnant individuals throughout the perinatal period, which may improve birth-related outcomes. Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. Section 440.130(c), doula services are provided as preventive services and must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within his or her scope of practice under state law to prevent perinatal complications and/or promote the physical and mental health of the beneficiary.

The Program covers up to eight perinatal visits and one labor and delivery service rendered during a birthing parent's prenatal period, labor and delivery, and postpartum period.

Each perinatal service visit will be billed for and reimbursed separately.

1. Prenatal visits are reimbursed at 15 minute increments.
2. Postpartum visits are reimbursed at 15 minute increments.
3. Both prenatal and postpartum visits have a maximum capacity of four (4) units per visit.
4. Reimbursement for attendance during delivery is set at a flat rate.

All doula providers are reimbursed pursuant to the same HCPCS codes and minimum rates found in the Maryland Provider fee schedule. A link to the published fee schedule can be found by going to the "Billing Guidance, Fee Schedules, and Preauthorization Information" section of Maryland Medicaid Provider Information page at <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Provider-Information.aspx> and selecting the "Professional Services Fee Schedule" for the most recent year.

**Limitations**

1. One of the following providers shall be present while doula services are provided during the delivery:
  - a. An obstetrician-gynecologist;
  - b. A family medicine practitioner; or
  - c. A certified nurse midwife.
2. The Maryland Medical Assistance Program will not cover;
  - a. Expenses including:
    - i. Administrative overhead; or
    - ii. Ongoing certification, training, or consultation.

**Reimbursement for Preventive Services: Doula Services**

- b. Doula services rendered during labor and delivery as a telehealth visit; and
- c. Services that are not medically necessary.