

## **Table of Contents**

**State/Territory Name: North Dakota**

**State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 25-0026**

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) Form CMS 179
- 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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January 22, 2026

Krista Fremming  
Director  
Medical Services Division  
North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services  
600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept 325  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

Re: North Dakota State Plan Amendment (SPA) 25-0026

Dear Director Fremming:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 25-0026. This amendment proposes coverage for Community Paramedic and Emergency Medical Technician services.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in section 1905(a)(13) of the Social Security Act and CFR 440.130(c). This letter informs you that North Dakota's Medicaid SPA TN 25-0026 was approved on January 21, 2026, with an effective date of October 1, 2025.

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

If you have any questions, please contact Tyson Christensen at (816) 426-6440 or via email at [Tyson.Christensen@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Tyson.Christensen@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Wendy E. Hill Petras  
Acting Director, Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc: LeeAnn Thiel

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

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR  
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER <u>2 5</u> — <u>0 0 2 6</u>	2. STATE <u>ND</u>
3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT <input checked="" type="radio"/> XIX <input type="radio"/> XXI	

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION  
1905(a)(13) of the Act and 42 CFR 440.130(c)

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE  
October 1, 2025

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)  
a. FFY 2025 \$ 5,097  
b. FFY 2026 \$ 2,099

Attachment to Page 6 of Attachment 3.1-A, pages 1-2  
Attachment to Page 5 of Attachment 3.1-B, pages 1-2

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

Attachment to Page 6 of Attachment 3.1-A, pages 1-2 (TN 25-0025), Attachment to Page 5 of Attachment 3.1-B, pages 1-2 (TN 25-0025)

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Amends the State Plan to provide coverage for Community Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians Services.

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:

Sarah Aker, Director  
Medical Services Division

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

15. RETURN TO

12. TYPED NAME  
Sarah Aker

Sarah Aker, Director  
Medical Services Division  
ND Department of Health and Human Services  
600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept 325  
Bismarck ND 58505-0250

13. TITLE  
Medical Services Director

14. DATE SUBMITTED  
October 28, 2025

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED

October 28, 2025

17. DATE APPROVED

January 21, 2026

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

October 1, 2025

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

Wendy E. Hill Petras

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

Acting Director, Division of Program Operations

22. REMARKS

### 13.c Preventive Services

North Dakota Medicaid assures coverage for approved adult vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the vaccine administration. North Dakota Medicaid also assures that changes to ACIP recommendations will be incorporated into coverage and billing codes as necessary.

#### Community Health Workers

Coverage of community health workers (CHWs) is added as a preventive service as defined in 1905(a)(13) of the Act and 42 CFR 440.130(c). CHWs are frontline public health workers who serve as liaisons, links or intermediaries between ND Medicaid individuals and health care and social service systems. CHWs can help engage individuals with necessary care and increase individual health knowledge/literacy and self-sufficiency resulting in healthier individuals.

This includes teaching individuals how to effectively self-manage their chronic condition or delay development of a chronic condition.

The following component services are covered when performed by CHWs to prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; to prolong life; and to promote physical and mental health and efficiency within the scope of their practice:

- Health system navigation and resource coordination includes:
  - Helping to engage, re-engage, or ensure member-led follow-up in primary care, routine, preventive care, adherence to treatment plans, and/or self-management of chronic conditions, including assisting beneficiaries to access covered services and other community resources necessary to promote health, address health care barriers, and health-related social needs.
- Health promotion and coaching:
  - Providing information and training to members that enables them to make positive contributions to their health status, such as screening for health-related social needs, setting goals and creating an action plan, and providing information and/or coaching.
- Health education and training:
  - Training and/or increasing the member's awareness of methods and measures that have been proven effective in avoiding illness and/or lessening its effects. The content of education must be consistent with established or recognized healthcare standards.

Community health workers must be certified by the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services by meeting the requirements as outlined in North Dakota Administrative Code.

CHW services must be recommended by a physician or Other Licensed Practitioner within their scope of practice according to state law. A referring practitioner may establish a standing order or protocol for recommending CHW services.

### Community Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians

Coverage of Community Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians is added as a preventive service as defined in 1905(a)(13) of the Act and 42 CFR 440.130(c), to prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; to prolong life; and to promote physical and mental health and efficiency. Community paramedics and emergency medical technicians are recognized as distinct licensure levels and are able to provide public health, primary, and preventive care services within an individual's home or community. Community paramedics and emergency medical technicians must be licensed by the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services and meet the requirements as outlined in North Dakota Administrative Code.

The following component services are covered when performed by community paramedics and emergency medical technicians within the scope of their practice:

- In-home health assessments to evaluate a member's physical, mental, social, and environmental health in their home to identify health risks and needs to create a care plan to address medical issues.
- Chronic disease monitoring, prevention and education including:
  - Reducing the risk of developing long-term illnesses
  - Monitoring the ongoing, systematic tracking of a person's health status when they have a long-term condition such as diabetes, hypertension, asthma, or heart disease, and
  - Teaching individuals, families, and communities about long-term conditions so they can manage or prevent them effectively.
- Immunization administration
- Laboratory specimen collection and point of care lab tests
- Minor medical procedures within the scope of practice of community paramedic or EMT in accordance with North Dakota Administrative Code.
- Post-hospital discharge follow-ups to evaluate a member's recovery, ensure they are following discharge instructions, and manage their ongoing care to prevent readmission.
- Medication compliance checks, including the development of a comprehensive list of all current prescriptions, confirming medications and dosages are appropriate, and making necessary adjustments to the list to ensure no errors, duplications, or omissions.
- Referrals to social and mental health services
- Preventive care and health education including:
  - Providing care to avoid disease, detect health problems early, and maintain overall well-being before illness becomes severe, and
  - Providing members with information, skills, and support so they can make informed decisions about their health.
- Home safety assessment

Services must be recommended by a physician or Other Licensed Practitioner within their scope of practice according to state law. A referring practitioner may establish a standing order or protocol for recommending community paramedic and emergency medical technician services.

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