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State/Territory Name: Washington

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 20-0015

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 AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850



Financial Management Group

August 31, 2020

MaryAnne Lindeblad
Medicaid Director
Washington State Health Care Authority
P.O. Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

RE: Washington State Plan Amendment (SPA) 20-0015

Dear Ms. Lindeblad:

We have reviewed the proposed amendment to Attachment 4.19-A of your Medicaid state plan submitted under transmittal number (TN) 20-0015 effective for services on or after July 1, 2020. The purpose of this SPA is to extend the provisions for rate enhancement for low volume, small rural hospitals.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to the statutory requirements at sections 1902(a)(2), 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30), 1903(a), and 1923 of the Social Security Act and the regulations at 42 CFR 447 Subpart C. We hereby inform you that Medicaid State plan amendment 20-0015 is approved effective July 1, 2020. We are enclosing the CMS-179 and the amended plan pages.

If you have any questions, please call Tom Caughey, (517) 487-8598.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

For
Rory Howe
Acting Director

Enclosure

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:
20-0015

2. STATE
Washington

FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
July 1, 2020

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (*Check One*):

NEW STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (*Separate Transmittal for each amendment*)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:
1902(a) of the Social Security Act

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:
a. FFY 2020 \$1,033,000
b. FFY 2021 \$3,099,000

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 4.19-A page 26b

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (*If Applicable*):

Attachment 4.19-A page 26b

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:

Hospital Rates

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (*Check One*):

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Exempt
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:



16. RETURN TO:

Ann Myers
Rules and Publications
Division of Legal Services
Health Care Authority
626 8th Ave SE MS: 42716
Olympia, WA 98504-2716

13. TYPED NAME:

MaryAnne Lindeblad

14. TITLE:

Director

15. DATE SUBMITTED:

June 10, 2020

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

17. DATE RECEIVED:

18. DATE APPROVED:

8/31/20

PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:

7/1/20

20. 

21. TYPED NAME:

Rory Howe

22. TITLE:

Acting Director, FMG

23. REMARKS:

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING
PAYMENT RATES FOR INPATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES (cont.)**

C. GENERAL REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES (cont.)

22. Rate Enhancement for low volume, small rural hospitals

Effective July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, the agency multiplies an in-state hospital's specific conversion factor and per diem rate by 1.50 if the hospital meets all of the following criteria:

- (a) Has less than seventy (70) -available acute care beds, as reported in the hospitals 2018 DOH year-end report;
- (b) Is not currently designated as a critical access hospital;
- (c) Does not meet the current federal eligibility requirements for designation as a critical access hospital;
- (d) Is not participating in the certified public expenditure full cost reimbursement program; and
- (e) Has combined Medicare and Medicaid inpatient days greater than eighty (80) percent of total days as reported in the hospital's 2018 cost report.

Effective July 1, 2021, the agency will revert to the payment level and methodology for low volume, small rural hospitals' that was in place as of June 30, 2020.

Rates used to pay for services are cost-based using Medicare cost report (CMS form 2552-96) data. The cost report data used for rate setting must include the hospital fiscal year (HFY) data for a complete 12-month period for the hospital. Otherwise, the in-state average RCC is used.

For dates of admission on and after August 1, 2007, the claim estimated cost was calculated based on Medicaid paid claims and the hospital's Medicare Cost Report. The information from the hospital's Medicare cost report for fiscal year 2004 was extracted from the Healthcare Cost Report Information System ("HCRIS") for Washington in-state hospitals.

The database included only in-state, non-critical access hospital Medicaid data. Data for critical access, long term acute care, military, bordering city, critical border, and out-of-state hospitals were not included in the claims database for payment system development.

The Agency applies the same DRG payment method that is applied to in-state hospitals to pay bordering city, critical border, and out-of-state hospitals. However, the payment made to bordering city, critical border and out-of-state hospitals may not exceed the payment amount that would have been paid to in-state hospital for a corresponding service.