



Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group

December 2, 2019

Ms. Lynette Rhodes
Georgia Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 36450
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Ms. Rhodes:

I am writing to inform you that CMS is granting approval of Georgia's electronic visit verification (EVV) good faith effort exemption request. CMS has determined that your state's request is in accordance with section 1903(1)(4)(B) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 12006(a) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act). Specifically, your state has made a good faith effort to comply with EVV requirements by conducting an environmental scan, issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an EVV vendor, and selecting an EVV vendor. The state has also conducted several stakeholder engagement activities, including convening stakeholder workgroups with providers and member advocates, facilitating statewide input sessions, and establishing a dedicated EVV website.

In addition, your state has encountered unavoidable delays when implementing its EVV system, including delays in the RFP process due to the need to incorporate a significant level of stakeholder input and delays in the contracting and evaluation process due to other Medicaid initiatives.

Because your state has sufficiently demonstrated it has made a good faith effort to comply with EVV requirements and has encountered unavoidable delays, CMS will not apply federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) reductions in calendar year 2020. Please be advised that the Cures Act provision on good faith effort exemptions does not provide CMS with authority to delay the FMAP reductions for more than one year. Therefore, if the state is not fully compliant by January 1, 2021, FMAP reductions will be applied beginning in the first quarter of 2021 and every quarter thereafter until the state achieves compliance. If you have any questions please email EVV@cms.hhs.gov or contact your CMS Regional Office.

Sincerely,

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Ralph F. Lollar, Director
Division of Long Term Services and Supports