

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850



Children and Adults Health Programs Group

April 22, 2022

Cindy Olson
Director
Eligibility and Enrollment Services Division
Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Ms. Olson:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) number VA-22-0010, submitted on April 11, 2022, has been approved. Through this SPA, Virginia has demonstrated compliance with the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). This SPA has an effective date of March 11, 2021 and extends through the last day of the first calendar quarter that begins one year after the last day of the COVID-19 emergency period, as described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act).

Section 9821 of the ARP amended sections 2103(c)(11)(B) and 2103(e)(2) of the Act to mandate coverage of COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccines and their administration without cost-sharing or amount, duration, or scope limitations. Sections 2103(c)(11)(B) and 2103(e)(2) of the Act also require states to cover, without cost sharing, the treatment of conditions that may seriously complicate COVID-19 treatment, during the period when a beneficiary is diagnosed with or is presumed to have COVID-19. The state provided the necessary assurances to demonstrate compliance with the ARP in accordance with the requirements of sections 2103(c)(11)(B) and 2103(e)(2) of the Act.

Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, for the period of the public health emergency, CMS is modifying the requirement at 42 C.F.R. 457.65 that the state submit SPAs that are related to the COVID-19 public health emergency by the end of the state fiscal year in which they take effect. CMS is allowing states that submit SPAs after the last day of the state fiscal year to have an effective date in the prior state fiscal year, but no earlier than the effective date of the public health emergency. Virginia requested a waiver to obtain an earlier effective date of March 11, 2021.

Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, CMS is also allowing states to modify the timeframes associated with tribal consultation required under section 2107(e)(1)(f) of the Act, including shortening the number of days before submission or conducting consultation after submission of

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the SPA. Virginia requested a waiver to modify the tribal consultation timeline by completing tribal consultation after the effective date of the SPA.

This letter approves Virginia's request for a March 11, 2021 effective date and provides the state with the authority to modify the tribal consultation timeline.

Your Project Officer is Ticia Jones. She is available to answer your questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related matters. Her contact information is as follows:

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Telephone: 410-786-8145
E-mail: Ticia.Jones@cms.hhs.gov

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Meg Barry, Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (410) 786-1536. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,



Amy Lutzky
Deputy Director
On Behalf of Anne Marie Costello, Deputy Director
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

cc: Courtney Miller, Director, Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group
Jackie Glaze, Deputy Director, Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group