

Mississippi Workforce Training Initiative Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration Summary

Background

In December 2017, the Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) submitted the Mississippi Medicaid Workforce Training Initiative 1115 Waiver Demonstration Application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The 1115 waiver proposes to allow the state to include a work requirement as a condition of eligibility for non-disabled adults between 19 and 64 years of age. Mississippi has not expanded Medicaid, and does not expand Medicaid under this waiver. This waiver is currently pending CMS approval.

1115 Waiver Elements

Eligibility

Individuals who are required to have met a work requirement are “non-disabled adults currently covered under traditional Medicaid” (individuals between the ages 19 and 64 years old), including low-income parents and caretakers eligible, and individuals eligible for transitional assistance. Individuals who are exempt from workforce training requirements are Native Americans, pregnant women, or an individual: with disabilities enrolled in 1915(c) waivers; residing in an institution; diagnosed with a mental illness; receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); primary caregiver for a person who cannot care for themselves; physically or mentally unable to work as determined by Disability Determination Services (DDS); receiving or applied for unemployment insurance; taking part in an alcohol or other drug abuse (AODA) treatment program; enrolled at least part-time in an institution of higher learning; high school student age 19 or older, attending at least half-time.

Workforce Training Requirement Fulfillment

Individuals identified as eligible under this demonstration can fulfill workforce training requirements by: working in paid employment at least 20 hours per week; working as a self-employee at least 20 hours a week; participating with the Office of Employment Security; volunteering with approved agencies; participating in an AODA treatment program; or complying with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) work requirements.

Non-Compliance

Individuals will be assessed by the state at the point of application or reassessment to determine if they need to meet the work requirements. Members who fail to participate with the workforce training requirements will be disenrolled on the first day of the month following the identification of non-compliance, and will be able to re-enroll in Medicaid once the individual meets the work requirements.

**Of note, in January 2018, CMS approved the [Mississippi Family Planning Medicaid Section 1115 Waiver Demonstration Application](#), which extends family planning and related services to women and men between the ages of 13 to 44 with income below 194 percent of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL), who are not otherwise enrolled in Medicaid, Medicare, and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). (No program changes were made to this waiver and this is a just an extension of a previous waiver.) This was the first 10 year waiver that was ever approved by CMS and is effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2027.*

Additionally, DOM submitted to CMS the [Healthier Mississippi 1115 Waiver Extension Application](#) on September 28, 2017. This program allows Mississippi to provide all state plan services, other than long-term care, to individuals with income up to 135 percent of the FPL who are aged, blind, or disabled, are not eligible for Medicare, and are not eligible under the Medicaid state plan. Resources for this program are capped at \$4,000 for an individual and \$6,000 for a couple. (No program changes were made to this waiver.) The current program is set to expire on September 30, 2018.