

**NOTICE OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
TRIBAL COMMENT PERIOD FOR
IOWA HEALTH AND WELLNESS PLAN EXTENSION**

Notice is hereby given to all federally recognized tribes, Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations within the State of Iowa that the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will be submitting a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to extend the §1115 Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Demonstration (Demonstration), which is set to expire December 31, 2024. HHS is proposing to extend the Demonstration for an additional five years pursuant to §1115(a) and §1915(h)(2) of the Social Security Act.

PROPOSAL

The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan is a Medicaid program that was created to provide comprehensive health care coverage to low-income, uninsured Iowans ages 19 to 64. HHS is seeking to extend the Demonstration for another five years with no substantive changes.

TRIBAL IMPACT

American Indian and Alaskan Native (AI/AN) populations located in the State of Iowa will continue to receive services through the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan and will be able to voluntarily enroll in the managed care delivery system. Dental benefits will continue to be delivered to Demonstration enrollees through a prepaid ambulatory health plan (PAHP). Additionally, AI/AN enrollees will continue to have coverage with no cost sharing or premium obligation. To address AI/AN members and providers who voluntarily elect to participate in managed care, HHS contracts with participating MCOs and PAHPs include protections for Indian health care providers participating in Medicaid as required pursuant to Section 5006(d) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (AARA).

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

A copy of the Demonstration extension request and relevant attachments are included with this notice. Written comments may be addressed to Christy Casey, Department of Health and Human Services, Iowa Medicaid, 1305 East Walnut, Des Moines, IA 50319-0114. Comments may also be sent via electronic mail to ccasey@dhs.state.ia.us. HHS would be happy to schedule a phone or in-person consultation to discuss the amendments in further detail. All comments must be received by May 17, 2024, at 4:30pm CST.

Submitted by:

Elizabeth Matney
Medicaid Director
Iowa Department of Health and Human Services