



600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 325 | Bismarck ND 58505-0250
701-328-7068 | 800-755-2604 | 711 (TTY) | [HHS Website](#)

September 18, 2026

Dear Tribal Partners:

This letter is regarding the Tribal Consultation between the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services and the North Dakota Indian Tribes. The consultation process was established to ensure Tribal governments are included in the decision-making processes when proposed changes in the Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program(s) will directly impact the North Dakota Tribes and/or their Tribal members.

North Dakota Medicaid is proposing the following changes.

- Eligibility. Effective Oct. 1, 2026, ND Medicaid will update eligibility requirements for individuals based on citizenship and immigration status. You may qualify for Medicaid based on immigration status if you are a U.S. citizen or U.S. national, a lawful permanent resident (green card holders), a Cuban or Haitian entrant, a citizen of the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, or Palau living in the U.S. under the Compacts of Free Association (COFA). You will not qualify for Medicaid if you are not a qualified non-citizen.
 - Impact to Tribes: American Indians born in Canada who may freely enter and reside in the United States are considered to be lawfully admitted for permanent residence if they have at least one-half American Indian blood and have the appropriate Code of Admission (COA) on their INS Form 1-551. American Indians born in the U.S. will not be impacted by this change.

North Dakota Medicaid follows the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Edits. These edits were developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Correct Procedure Terminology Manual, national and local policies and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practices and a review of current coding practices. CMS annually updates the Medicaid NCCI Policy Manual and the Medicaid NCCI Technical Guidance Manual. For more information on the Medicaid National Correct Coding Initiative, visit the [CMS website](#).

Please send comments, questions or concerns about the proposed State Plan Amendments or waivers to:

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
Attn: Janice Tweet
Medical Services Division
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325
Bismarck, ND 58505
Fax: 701-328-1544
E-mail: jtweet@nd.gov

Input will be accepted through 5 a.m. Central Time, October 19, 2026.

The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with Tribal partners to support health and advance the foundations of well-being for North Dakota Medicaid members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Fremming". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Fremming, Interim Director
Medical Services Division
North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services