

## North Dakota Medicaid

The North Dakota (ND) Medicaid Expansion is authorized under section 1915(b) of the Social Security Act (SSA). The 1915(b) Waiver for Managed Care Enrollment of the Medicaid Expansion permits the State to furnish services to those individuals eligible for ND Medicaid Expansion through a Managed Care Organization (MCO). This authority allows mandatory enrollment for individuals, including Native Americans, eligible for Medicaid Expansion into the plan offered by the contracted private carrier (managed care organization).

The Department will be submitting a renewal request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the current Medicaid 1915(b) waiver which was approved as part of the January 1, 2014 implementation of the Medicaid Expansion coverage. The current authority granted by the 1915(b) waiver ends December 31, 2021 and in order to continue to provide coverage to those enrolled with Medicaid Expansion, a renewal request must be submitted to and approved by CMS.

At this time, the Department will be transitioning the 19 and 20 year old Medicaid Expansion enrollees to the Medicaid Fee for Service benefit plan administered by the Department. As part of the change for the 19 and 20 year old enrollees, the Department is changing its benefit plan to ensure compliance for the Mental Health Parity.

The Department has also contracted with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota to administer the managed care benefits to enrollees effective January 1, 2022. The Medicaid Expansion program benefits will remain the same. As part of the renewal request, the Department will submit the 1915(b) Waiver Renewal Application, Cost Effectiveness Report, and Independent Assessment of the program impact, access, and quality.

Copies of the 1915(b) waiver are available upon request. Comments can be sent to and viewed at: Medical Services Division Room 309, ND Department of Human Services, 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250. Questions may be directed to the local Human Service Zone, or individuals may contact the ND Medicaid Program at 1-800-755-2604.

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