

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT STATE PLAN AND SOLICITATION OF PUBLIC INPUT

The Department of Health and Welfare is giving public notice of an impending change to the Idaho Medicaid State Plan. The Department assures these changes are in compliance with 42 CFR §440.386, 42 CFR§ 440.345 and with the provisions of section 5006(e) of the ARRA of 2009.

Medicaid has solicited input from Idaho's Tribal representatives regarding these changes in compliance with section 5006(e) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and its Tribal Consultation Policy. The Department also assures that individuals under twenty-one (21) years of age, pursuant to EPSDT, may receive additional services if determined medically necessary and prior authorized by the Department.

PROPOSED POLICY CHANGE

The Department intends to submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to support the procedural requirements needed to implement a Fixed Enrollment process for the existing Healthy Connections Program. The existing Healthy Connections enrollment process allows participants to change their Primary Care Provider (PCP) any time they choose.

The new "fixed enrollment process", designates a set period of time where participants are free to change their PCP at will. Once this time-period ends, participants will not be able to change their PCP at will until the next open enrollment period the following year. This ensures the participant is receiving a consistent source of care and provides for better patient outcomes.

There are provisions that allow PCP changes outside of the open enrollment period, for cause, which have been added to meet the requirements of federal law and will be included in the provider handbook. These changes encourage a long-term provider-patient relationship through which a medical home is established.

The effective date of these changes is July 1, 2019. No public hearings have been scheduled at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department is accepting written comments regarding these changes for a period of 30 calendar days. Any person wishing to review the changes, call Cindy Brock at (208) 364-1983, or email the request to email to: BMCPolicyPubliccomment@dhw.idaho.gov.

Written comments may also be sent to and reviewed by the public at the following address:

Bureau of Medical Care
Division of Medicaid
Department of Health and Welfare
3232 Elder Street
Boise, Idaho 83705
Phone (208) 364-1983