

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 CFR § 431.408 and 42 CFR § 447.205, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is providing public notice of its plan to submit an amendment to the 1115(a) demonstration waiver. The OHCA currently has an approved 1115(a) waiver for the 2018-2023 demonstration period.

With this amendment request, OHCA seeks approval of the following modifications to the demonstration for the 2018-2023 extension period:

Beginning on or after March 1, 2019, contingent upon CMS approval, the state will implement community engagement requirements for certain individuals related to Oklahoma Medicaid eligibility. As a condition of eligibility for Oklahoma SoonerCare benefits, applicants or existing members, not otherwise exempted, age 19-50 must provide verification of employment or community engagement in specified educational, job training or job search activities for at least 80 hours averaged monthly.

SoonerCare community engagement activities are modeled in accordance with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) currently operational in Oklahoma. Community engagement requirements for new or continued SoonerCare eligibility are set out below:

1. Work an average of twenty (20) hours or more per week, each month. The employment may be paid, in-kind, unpaid, or volunteer work; or
2. Participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program twenty (20) hours or more per week. The individual may participate in at least twenty (20) hours or more per week with the:
 - (a) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program; or
 - (b) The Trade Adjustment Assistance Program; or
 - (c) The SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) Program. Job search or job search training activities, when offered as part of other E&T program components, are acceptable as long as those activities comprise less than half the total required time spent in the components; or
3. Participate in community service programs at least twenty (20) hours or more per week, or 80 hours averaged monthly with religious or community organizations; or
4. Meet any combination of work, participating in work training or volunteering for work, twenty (20) hours or more per week or 80 hours averaged monthly.

Exemptions

Certain individuals may be exempted from the above requirements. For a complete listing of proposed exemptions from the SoonerCare community engagement requirements please refer to the www.okhca.org website and click on the Community Engagement Requirements banner.

It is the intent of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to submit the amendment no later than October 30, 2018 with an effective date of March 1, 2019 pending CMS approval. The initial budget impact for system modifications is estimated at \$700,000 total dollars with \$70,000 of the total being state share. However, additional dollars are anticipated to be expended for the administration of the program but an exact amount is unknown at this time.

The OHCA has conducted several public meetings around the state during the months of July-September. The proposed amendment will be presented at the next scheduled Medical Advisory Committee pursuant to the below:

September 20, 2018

1:00 p.m.

Medical Advisory Committee

Charles Ed McFall Boardroom

Oklahoma Health Care Authority

4345 N. Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The OHCA welcomes comments from the public regarding the amendment to the SoonerCare Choice and Insure Oklahoma 1115(a) Demonstration Waiver program. The application waiver has been posted online at www.okhca.org from July 3, 2018 and ending September 30, 2018.

Comments and questions may be submitted online through the Policy Change Blog or the Native American Consultation Blog at www.okhca.org by clicking the Community Engagement Requirements banner or by contacting the OHCA Federal & State Reporting Unit by telephone at 405-522-7914 or via email at OHCACommunityEngagement@okhca.org or by written comment at 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Comments may also be made at www.medicaid.gov after the amendment has been submitted to CMS.