



Children and Adults Health Programs Group

May 7, 2020

Lynnette R. Rhodes, Esq.
Executive Director, Medical Assistance Plans
Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree Street, 36th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Ms. Rhodes:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) state plan amendment (SPA) GA-20-0029, submitted on April 10, 2020, has been approved. This amendment provides temporary adjustments to the state's enrollment and redetermination policies and cost sharing requirements in response to disaster events. This amendment has an effective date of March 1, 2020.

This amendment, as it applies to the COVID-19 public health emergency, makes the following changes effective March 1, 2020 through the duration of the emergency declaration, unless otherwise noted below:

- Waive requirements related to timely processing of applications;
- Waive requirements related to timely processing of renewals;
- Delay acting on changes in circumstances affecting eligibility, other than changes related to residency, death, voluntary termination of coverage, erroneous eligibility determinations, and becoming eligible for Medicaid;
- Waive all premiums and premium balances;
- Waive copayments for any in vitro diagnostic product described in section 2103(c)(10) of the Social Security Act and any other COVID-19 testing-related services, effective March 18, 2020; and
- Waive copayments for all other services, effective May 1, 2020.

In the event of a future disaster, this SPA provides Georgia with the authority to implement the approved, temporary policy adjustments by simply notifying CMS of its intent, the effective date and duration of the provision, and a list of applicable Governor or federally-declared disaster or emergency areas. While the state must provide notice to CMS, this option provides an administratively streamlined pathway for the state to effectively respond to an evolving disaster event.

Your title XXI project officer is Jack Mirabella. They are available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related issues. Their contact information is as follows:

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Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop: S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
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E-mail: holly.mirabella@cms.hhs.gov

If you have any questions, please contact Meg Barry, Acting Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (410) 786-1536. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Lutzky", written over a thin horizontal line.

Amy Lutzky
Acting Deputy Director