North Dakota Medicaid Program

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, 2019 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.

As of January 1, 2020, per Senate Bill 2012 of the 2019 ND Legislative Assembly, the Managed Care Organization will continue to administer and manage medical benefits to those individuals eligible for ND Medicaid Expansion; however, the pharmacy benefits for the ND Medicaid Expansion population will be administered and managed by the Department through a fee-for-service Medicaid administration. This change will be noted within the 1915(b) Waiver Renewal Application.

No other changes to the program, benefits, or operations are proposed with the 1915(b) waiver renewal. 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 county social service office, or individuals may contact the ND Medicaid Program at 1-800-755-2604 or 711 (TTY).

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