



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER – Governor
RUSSELL S. BARRON – Director

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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DIVISION OF MEDICAID
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November 2, 2017

Dear Tribal Representative:

In accordance with section 1902(a)(73)(A) of the Social Security Act regarding the solicitation of advice prior to the submission of any Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) or waiver likely to have a direct effect on Indians, Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) Division of Medicaid (Idaho Medicaid) provides notice on the following matter.

Purpose

Idaho Medicaid intends to submit a waiver amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on or before January 1, 2018 to revise the reimbursement methodology for the following services on the Aged and Disabled (A&D) waiver in order to establish new reimbursement rates: Attendant Care, Homemaker, Chore Service, Companion Services, and Respite.

Idaho Medicaid initiated a cost survey which concluded in March 2017 to obtain the necessary information to develop new service rates and, as a result, identified a need to increase reimbursement rates to Personal Assistance Agencies. In order to do so, the A&D waiver must be amended to reflect the updated methodology used to derive reimbursement rates and to reflect anticipated changes to the aggregate annual expenditures. The proposed update to the methodology includes four cost components: direct care staff costs, employment related expenditures, program related costs, and indirect general and administrative costs.

Anticipated Impact on Indians/Indian Health Program/Urban Indian Organizations

Indians receiving waiver services may be impacted by these changes. There is no anticipated impact on Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations.

Availability for Review

Idaho Medicaid will post the draft waiver amendment on the Medicaid webpage, located at <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Medical/Medicaid/tabid/123/Default.aspx> on or before November 8, 2017.

Comments and Questions

The tribal comment period will begin Wednesday, November 8, 2017 and continue through the close of business on Friday, December 8, 2017.

If you have any questions or wish to submit comments on the proposed waiver amendment, you may email Idaho Medicaid at HCBSWaivers@dhw.idaho.gov or call Alexandra (Ali) Fernández at (208) 287-1179.

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Idaho Medicaid's proposed A&D waiver amendment will be reviewed as part of the Policy Update at the next quarterly Tribal meeting.

Sincerely,

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MATT WIMMER
Administrator
MW/af