Welcome!

We will begin shortly. All lines have been automatically muted.

Please mute your phone AND computer microphone to avoid feedback.
Please do not put us on hold during today’s meeting.
Please hold questions until the Q & A portion of the meeting.

If you are joining via web, there are two ways to ask questions:
1. Utilizing the chat feature
2. Raise your hand to be unmuted
Raising Your Hand

Use the ‘Raise Hand’ button in the ‘Participants’ panel to ask/answer a question:

• Remember to unraise your hand when you are done addressing your comment/question
Use Chat

Use the chat window to chat with the host, panelists:
Where do I find the latest information about COVID-19?

• AHCCCS updates the FAQ document daily to reflect the latest guidance for providers, members and plans.
• Please find guidance at: https://azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/AboutUs/covid19FAQ.html
• These are in English and Spanish.
COVID-19 Information

AHCCCS is responding to an outbreak of respiratory illness, called COVID-19, caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. Health officials urge good hand washing hygiene, covering coughs, and staying home if you are sick.

On March 11, Governor Doug Ducey issued a Declaration of Emergency and an Executive Order regarding the COVID-19 outbreak in Arizona, and subsequent Executive Orders with further administrative actions.

On March 17, 2020, AHCCCS submitted a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to waive certain Medicaid and KidsCare requirements in order to ensure ongoing access to care over the course of the COVID-19 outbreak. As of March 23, AHCCCS has received federal approval to implement programmatic changes to help ensure access to health care for vulnerable Arizonans.

To address Medicaid-related questions from providers and contractors about COVID-19, AHCCCS has developed a list of Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), updated regularly as more information becomes available.


If you are an AHCCCS member who is experiencing flu-like symptoms, please call the 24-hour Nurse Line for your health plan (listed below):

24-Hour Nurse Line Numbers by Health Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Plan</th>
<th>Nurse Line Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

[Image of AHCCCS logo]
COVID-19 Federal Emergency Authorities Request

On March 17 and March 24, 2020, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) submitted requests to the Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to waive certain Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) requirements to enable the State to combat the continued spread of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). AHCCCS is seeking a broad range of emergency authorities to:

- Strengthen the provider workforce and remove barriers to care for AHCCCS members
- Enhance Medicaid services and support for vulnerable members during the duration of the emergency period
- Remove cost sharing and other administrative requirements to support continued access to services

Arizona’s request to CMS is posted below:

- Letter to CMS Administrator on COVID-19 Flexibilities (Submitted March 17, 2020)
- Summary of Additional COVID-19 Flexibility Requests (Submitted March 24, 2020)
- Summary of Additional COVID-19 Flexibility Requests (Submitted April 17, 2020)
- Status of AHCCCS Emergency Authority Requests (Updated May 27, 2020)

CMS approved components of Arizona’s request under the 1115 Waiver Appendix K and State Plan:

- CMS 1115 Waiver Approval Letter for COVID-19 Flexibilities (Submitted March 23, 2020)
- CMS Medical Disaster Relief State Plan Amendment (SPA) Approval (Received April 1, 2020)
- CMS 1115 Waiver Appendix K Approval Letter (Received April 6, 2020)
- CMS 1115 Waiver Appendix K Document (Received April 6, 2020)
- CMS Medical Disaster Relief State Plan Amendment (SPA) Approval, #2 (Received April 8, 2020)
- CMS CHIP Disaster Relief State Plan Amendment (SPA) Approval (Received April 24, 2020)
- CMS 1115 Waiver Approval Letter for COVID-19 Flexibilities (Received May 6, 2020)

The allowances from CMS grant broad authority to Arizona to tailor changes to best serve its citizens. AHCCCS will make decisions about how and when these changes will be implemented in the coming days. The agency awaits direction from CMS regarding additional requested flexibilities.
COVID-19 Timeline

**March 11**
Governor Doug Ducey issued a Declaration of Emergency

**March 17**
AHCCCS submitted first request to Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services to waive certain Medicaid and KidsCare requirements

**March 23**
AHCCCS received federal approval to implement programmatic changes to the 1135 waiver

**April 1**
AHCCCS received CMS partial approval for the Medicaid Disaster Relief SPA (partial)

**April 6**
AHCCCS received CMS approval for the 1115 Appendix K

**April 9**
AHCCCS received CMS approval for the remainder of Medicaid Disaster Relief SPA requests

**April 17**
AHCCCS submitted further requests to Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services to waive certain Medicaid and KidsCare requirements

**April 24**
AHCCCS received CMS approval for the Medicaid Disaster Relief SPA submitted 4/17

**May 6**
AHCCCS received CMS approval for the 1135 waiver submitted 4/17

**May 13**
AHCCCS submitted an additional SPA requesting that CMS waive certain Medicaid requirements

**May 22**
AHCCCS received CMS approval for the Medicaid Disaster relief SPA submitted May 13...
Key Flexibilities Offered During the Public Health Emergency

• Streamline provider enrollment
• Amend prior and continued authorization processes
• Suspend PASRR assessments (pre-admission and annual resident review)
• Provide continuous eligibility
• Waive premiums and copays
• Coverage for COVID testing
• Expand respite limit
• Electronic method for services (telehealth and telephonic)

**For a complete list see the table on the AHCCCS website**
AHCCCS Financial Relief

**Payments made April 13, 2020**
Offered $5.3 million in additional payments to Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)

**Payments made mid-to-late April 2020**
Made $6 million in additional supplemental payments to Nursing Facilities (NFs).

**Payments to begin in May 2020**
Initiated the provision of retention payments to ALTCS providers who serve individuals who are elderly or have physical disabilities and offer attendant care and/or personal care services. Process initiated in April 2020.

**Payments made early-May 2020**
Advanced over $41M in scheduled payments to Targeted Investments Program providers, including hospitals, primary care, behavioral health outpatient and justice clinic providers.

**Payments in mid-May 2020**
Accelerated $50 million in payments to hospitals which participated in the Graduate Medical Education program in 2019.
Staying Connected with Stakeholders

- Arizona Council of Human Service Providers - every two weeks
- Tribal Consultation - every two weeks
- MCO meeting - weekly
- Smaller MCO Provider Viability Meeting - weekly
- State Medicaid Advisory Committee - monthly
- OIF A Advisory Council - monthly
- Telehealth Webinars - as needed
- Behavioral Health Taskforce - weekly
- Homeless Strategies - weekly
- MCO CMOs - weekly
- ADHS - Modelling Workgroup - weekly
Next Steps

• Defining which flexibilities we want to maintain
  o Currently receiving recommendations specific to telehealth and telephonic services
• Ongoing conversation with CMS regarding retainer payments
• Ongoing conversation with CMS regarding AHCCCS’ overarching 1115 waiver
• Continuing open dialogue with our stakeholders
• Assessing timelines moving forward
Arizona’s 1115 Waiver Renewal

- **Oct. 1- Nov. 31, 2020**
  - Public Comment Period

- **Oct. 1, 2020**
  - AHCCCS to post draft of the 1115 Waiver

- **Dec. 31, 2020**
  - AHCCCS to submit 1115 Waiver Draft to CMS

- **Oct. 1, 2021**
  - Anticipated GO LIVE date of 1115 Waiver
AHCCCS Enrollment and Application Trends
Enrollment Growth 07/2019 - 6/2020

- **16% Increase**
  Projection of Year-Over-Year Enrollment Increase

Total Enrollment, 1,994,632

- **115,672 Increase** in Enrollment
  3/2020-6/2020
Legislative Update
Session Summary

• Total Bills: 1607
• Bills Signed into Law: 58 (31 awaiting action as of 6/1)
• Adjourned Sine Die: 5/26/20
• General Effective Date: 8/25/20
• Biggest disparity in bills introduced to bills signed into law in state history
• Special Session likely to occur this summer
AHCCCS Related Bills

• HB 2244- Requires AHCCCS to request CMS approval for the provision of dental services beyond current service limitations when provided at IHS/638 facilities which are eligible for 100% FMAP

• HB 2668- Establishes a new hospital assessment which can be used to create a hospital directed payment program, increase practitioner and dental rates, and pay for administrative expenses

• SB 1523-The Mental Health Omnibus bill requires commercial insurers to report on mental health parity, establishes funding to pay for BH services in schools for uninsured/underinsured children, and creates the suicide mortality review team at ADHS
Budget

- AHCCCS was funded at the JLBC baseline (approx. $14B TF)
- $8 million was appropriated for BH in Schools funding for uninsured/underinsured children in the Mental Health Omnibus
- AHCCCS was provided flexibility to offer retainer payments to BH and DD providers from existing appropriation
Feedback Requested

State Plan Amendments and
Whole Person Care Initiative
Fourth COVID-19 Disaster Relief SPA

• AHCCCS will be submitting a SPA to remove the indication that the State covers the optional COVID testing group.
  o On April 1, 2020, CMS approved (SPA) 20-001 which included section A.1 to cover the new optional eligibility group for COVID-19 testing described at section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XXIII) of the Social Security Act.
  o The State made the decision not to implement the new eligibility group due to HRSA funding that was subsequently appropriated through federal legislation, which covers COVID testing and treatment for the uninsured at a higher reimbursement rate for healthcare providers.
  o With the decision not to implement, CMS has directed AHCCCS to remove this group from the SPA pages, but notes that the State may reinstitute the group if the HRSA funding runs out.
Tribal/638 Nursing Facility All-Inclusive Rate

AHCCCS plans to submit a SPA to change the reimbursement for nursing facility services provided to American Indians by facilities owned or operated by the Indian Health or tribes under PL 93-638 to reflect the OMB outpatient all-inclusive rate.

AHCCCS continues to research the best path to accomplish the requested change in reimbursement structure for Tribal ALFs.
Tribal Consultation and Public Comment Process

• The Tribal Consultation/Public Comment portal can be found at: https://comments.azahcccs.gov.
• Public Comments can be submitted through email or mail at the address below:
  o Email: public input@azahcccs.gov; or
  o Mail: AHCCCS Attn: Office of Intergovernmental Relations 801 E. Jefferson St., MD 4200 Phoenix, AZ 85034
AHCCCS Whole Person Care Initiative

Tribal Feedback Needed
Response Deadline Extended

New Deadline: June 30, 2020

1. View video: https://youtu.be/gcBkubUHUMM
3. Survey Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfoRu6dS4FQLkhfD7tDWKhC6Xi53UAtG0XV9y-3SgDzXD9Z7A/viewform
WPCI Points of Contact

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Amanda Bahe
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Resources
AHCCCS COVID-19

- AHCCCS FAQs Regarding COVID-19: https://azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/AboutUs/covid19FAQ.html
- AHCCCS Federal Authorities Request: https://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Federal/Pending Waivers/1135.html
Next Special Tribal Consultation:

June 18, 2020 at 2 pm (AZ time)

Please check AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Webpage for meeting information.

*Please send any agenda item recommendations to Amanda.Bahe@azahcccs.gov by June 11, 2020.
Please take the survey. Surveys help us better tailor meetings to your needs.