



## Department of Health

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

**HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.**  
Commissioner

**SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.**  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

Mr. Michael Melendez  
Associate Regional Administrator  
Department of Health & Human Services  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
New York Regional Office  
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations  
26 Federal Plaza - Room 37-100 North  
New York, New York 10278

SEP 22 2017

RE: SPA #17-0055  
Non-Institutional Services

Dear Mr. Melendez:


The State requests approval of the enclosed amendment #17-0055 to the Title XIX (Medicaid) State Plan for non-institutional services to be effective July 1, 2017 (Appendix I). This amendment is being submitted based on State regulation. A summary of the plan amendment is provided in Appendix II.

The State of New York reimburses these services through the use of rates that are consistent with and promote efficiency, economy, and quality of care and are sufficient to enlist enough providers so that care and services are available under the plan at least to the extent that such care and services are available to the general population in the geographic area as required by §1902(a)(30) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR §447.204.

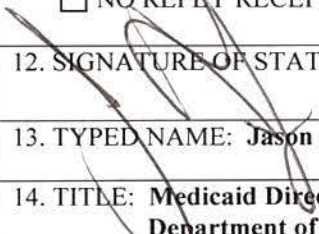
Copies of pertinent sections of State regulations are enclosed for your information (Appendix III). A copy of the public notice of this plan amendment, which was given in the New York State Register on June 28, 2017, is also enclosed for your information (Appendix IV). In addition, responses to the five standard funding questions and standard access questions are also enclosed (Appendix V and Appendix VI, respectively).

If you have any questions regarding this State Plan Amendment submission, please do not hesitate to contact John E. Ulberg, Jr., Medicaid Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance and Rate Setting, Office of Health Insurance Programs at (518) 474-6350.

Sincerely,

  
Jason A. Helgeson  
Medicaid Director  
Office of Health Insurance Programs

Enclosures

<b>TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL</b>  <b>FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION</b>		1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: <b>17-0055</b>	2. STATE <b>New York</b>
		3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: <b>TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)</b>	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE <b>July 1, 2017</b>	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL ( <i>Check One</i> ):  <input type="checkbox"/> NEW STATE PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT ( <i>Separate Transmittal for each amendment</i> )			
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: <b>§1902(a) of the Social Security Act, and 42 CFR 447</b>		7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: ( <i>in thousands</i> ) <b>a. FFY 07/01/17-09/30/17 \$( 620.25)</b> <b>b. FFY 10/01/17-09/30/18 \$(2,481.00)</b>	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:  <b>Att 4.19-B: Pages 1(e)(2), 1(e)(2.1), 1(e)(2.2), 1(i)</b>		9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT ( <i>If Applicable</i> ):  <b>Att 4.19-B: Pages 1(e)(2), 1(e)(2.1), 1(e)(2.2), 1(i)</b>	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: <b>July 2017 Hospital OP APG Updates (FMAP = 50%)</b>			
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW ( <i>Check One</i> ): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED <input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL			
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 		16. RETURN TO: <b>New York State Department of Health Bureau of Federal Relations &amp; Provider Assessments 99 Washington Ave – One Commerce Plaza Suite 1432 Albany, NY 12210</b>	
13. TYPED NAME: <b>Jason A. Helgerson</b>			
14. TITLE: <b>Medicaid Director Department of Health</b>			
15. DATE SUBMITTED: <b>SEP 22 2017</b>			
<b>FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY</b>			
17. DATE RECEIVED:		18. DATE APPROVED:	
<b>PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED</b>			
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:		20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:	
21. TYPED NAME:		22. TITLE:	
23. REMARKS:			

**Appendix I**  
**2017 Title XIX State Plan**  
**Third Quarter Amendment**  
**Amended SPA Pages**



New York  
1(e)(2.1)

**Carve-outs; updated as of 10/01/12:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Carve Outs."

**Coding Improvement Factors (CIF); updated as of 07/01/12:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "CIFs by Rate Period."

**If Stand Alone, Do Not Pay APGs; updated as of 01/01/15:**

[http://www.health.state.ny.us/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "If Stand Alone, Do Not Pay APGs."

**If Stand Alone, Do Not Pay Procedures; updated as of 07/01/14:**

[http://www.health.state.ny.us/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "If Stand Alone, Do Not Pay Procedures."

**Modifiers; updated as of 01/01/15:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Modifiers."

**Never Pay APGs; updated as of [01/01/16] 07/01/17:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Never Pay APGs."

**Never Pay Procedures; updated as of [01/01/17] 07/01/17:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Never Pay Procedures."

**No-Blend APGs; updated as of 04/01/10:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "No Blend APGs."

**No-Blend Procedures; updated as of 01/01/11:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "No Blend Procedures."

TN \_\_\_\_\_ #17-0055 \_\_\_\_\_

Supersedes TN \_\_\_\_\_ #17-0021 \_\_\_\_\_

Approval Date \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

New York  
1(e)(2.2)

**No Capital Add-on APGs; updated as of 07/01/13:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "No Capital Add-on APGs."

**No Capital Add-on Procedures; updated as of [04/01/12 and 07/01/12] 07/01/17:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "No Capital Add-on Procedures."

**Non-50% Discounting APG List; updated as of 07/01/15:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Non-50% Discounting APG List."

**Rate Codes Carved Out of APGs; updated as of 01/01/15:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Rate Codes Carved Out of APGs for Article 28 facilities."

**Rate Codes Subsumed by APGs; updated as of 10/01/12:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Rate Codes Subsumed by APGs – Hospital Article 28."

**Statewide Base Rate APGs; updated as of 01/01/14:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Statewide Base Rate APGs."

**Packaged Ancillaries in APGs; updated as of 01/01/12:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/rates/methodology/index.htm) Click on "Uniform Packaging APGs."

TN \_\_\_\_\_ #17-0055 \_\_\_\_\_

Approval Date \_\_\_\_\_

Supersedes TN \_\_\_\_\_ #16-0043 \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Appendix II**  
**2017 Title XIX State Plan**  
**Third Quarter Amendment**  
**Summary**



**SUMMARY**  
**SPA #17-0055**

This State Plan Amendment proposes to revise the Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) methodology for hospital-based clinic and ambulatory surgery services, including emergency room services, to reflect the recalculated weights with component updates to become effective July 1, 2017. The reweighting requirement using updated Medicaid claims data is being revised from no less frequently than every five years to no less frequently than every six years.

**Appendix III**  
**2017 Title XIX State Plan**  
**Third Quarter Amendment**  
**Authorizing Provisions**

PHL §2807(2-a)(e):

(e) (i) notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of this subdivision, the commissioner shall promulgate regulations establishing, subject to the approval of the state director of the budget, methodologies for determining rates of payment for the services described in this subdivision. Such regulations shall reflect utilization of the ambulatory patient group (APG) methodology, in which patients are grouped based on their diagnosis, the intensity of the services provided and the medical procedures performed, and with each APG assigned a weight reflecting the projected utilization of resources. Such regulations shall provide for the development of one or more base rates and the multiplication of such base rates by the assigned weight for each APG to establish the appropriate payment level for each such APG. Such regulations may also utilize bundling, packaging and discounting mechanisms.

If the commissioner determines that the use of the APG methodology is not, or is not yet, appropriate or practical for specified services, the commissioner may utilize existing payment methodologies for such services or may promulgate regulations, and may promulgate emergency regulations, establishing alternative payment methodologies for such services.

(ii) Notwithstanding this subdivision and any other contrary provision of law, the commissioner may incorporate within the payment methodology described in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph payment for services provided by facilities pursuant to licensure under the mental hygiene law, provided, however, that such APG payment methodology may be phased into effect in accordance with a schedule or schedules as jointly determined by the commissioner, the commissioner of mental health, the commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse services, and the commissioner of mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

(iii) Regulations issued pursuant to this paragraph may incorporate quality related measures limiting or excluding reimbursement related to potentially preventable conditions and complications; provided however, such quality related measures shall not include any preventable conditions and complications not identified for Medicare nonpayment or limited payment.

**Appendix IV**  
**2017 Title XIX State Plan**  
**Third Quarter Amendment**  
**Public Notice**

exemption qualifications of 575.8(a)(4). Individual cultivar assessments are available upon request. Therefore, a person may legally possess, sell, import, purchase, transport, or introduce the following plant cultivars and no labeling requirements apply:

**Prohibited Species**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Cultivar Name	Trademark Name	Accession Number	Patent	Status
Japanese Barberry	Berberis thunbergii	'Aurea'				Conditionally Exempt
Japanese Barberry	Berberis thunbergii	'UCONNBTC4N'	Crimson Cutie		PPAF	Conditionally Exempt
Japanese Barberry	Berberis thunbergii	'UCONNB113'	Lemon Cutie		PPAF	Conditionally Exempt
Japanese Barberry	Berberis thunbergii	'UCONNB048'	Lemon Glow		PPAF	Conditionally Exempt

**Regulated Species**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Cultivar Name	Trademark Name	Accession Number	Patent	Status
Chinese Silvergrass	Miscanthus sinensis	'NCMS1'	My Fair Maiden	H2008-091-004	PPAF	Conditionally Exempt
Chinese Silvergrass	Miscanthus sinensis	'Tift M77'	Scout		PPAF	Conditionally Exempt
Winter Creeper	Euonymus fortunei	'Kewensis'				Conditionally Exempt
Winter Creeper	Euonymus fortunei	'Vanilla Frosting'				Conditionally Exempt

Conditionally Exempt – Cultivars exempt from Part 575 Prohibited and Regulated requirements, subject to periodic re-evaluation.

Questions should be directed to: Department of Environmental Conservation, Lands and Forests, Invasive Species Coordination Unit, Dave Adams at (518) 402-9425, or isinfo@dec.ny.gov

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Department of Health

Pursuant to 42 CFR Section 447.205, the Department of Health hereby gives public notice of the following:

The Department of Health proposes to amend the Title XIX (Medicaid) State Plan for non-institutional services to revise provisions of the Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) reimbursement methodology on and after July 1, 2017. The following changes are proposed:

The Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) reimbursement methodology is revised to include recalculated weight and component updates that will become effective on and after July 1, 2017.

The estimated annual net aggregate decrease in gross Medicaid expenditures attributable to this initiative contained in the budget for state fiscal year 2017/2018 is (\$3.84) million.

The public is invited to review and comment on this proposed State Plan Amendment. Copies of which will be available for public review on the Department's website at [http://www.health.ny.gov/regulations/state\\_plans/status](http://www.health.ny.gov/regulations/state_plans/status).

Copies of the proposed State Plan Amendments will be on file in each local (county) social services district and available for public review.

For the New York City district, copies will be available at the following places:

New York County  
250 Church Street  
New York, New York 10018

Queens County, Queens Center  
3220 Northern Boulevard  
Long Island City, New York 11101

Kings County, Fulton Center  
114 Willoughby Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201  
Bronx County, Tremont Center  
1916 Monterey Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10457

Richmond County, Richmond Center  
95 Central Avenue, St. George  
Staten Island, New York 10301

For further information and to review and comment, please contact: Department of Health, Division of Finance and Rate Setting, Office of Health Insurance Programs, 99 Washington Ave., One Commerce Plaza, Suite 1432, Albany, NY 12210, (518) 408-6657, [spa\\_inquiries@health.state.ny.us](mailto:spa_inquiries@health.state.ny.us)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Department of Health

Pursuant to 42 CFR Section 447.205, the Department of Health hereby gives public notice of the following:

The Department of Health proposes to amend the Title XIX (Medicaid) State Plan for non-institutional services to comply with enacted statutory provisions. The following changes are proposed:

**Non-Institutional Services**

Effective on or after July 1, 2017 in accordance with Sections 368-d and 368-e of the Social Services Law, the Department of Health proposes to a) increase interim encounter-based fee rates and b) to utilize certified public expenditures (CPEs) reimbursement methodology through June 30, 2020.

The estimated annual net aggregate increase in gross Medicaid expenditures attributable to this initiative for state fiscal year 2017/2018 is \$250 million.

The public is invited to review and comment on this proposed State Plan Amendment, a copy of which will be available for public review on the Department's website at [http://www.health.ny.gov/regulations/state\\_plans/status](http://www.health.ny.gov/regulations/state_plans/status). In addition, approved SPA's beginning in 2011, are also available for viewing on this website.

Copies of the proposed State Plan Amendments will be on file in each local (county) social services district and available for public review.

For the New York City district, copies will be available at the following places:

New York County  
250 Church Street  
New York, New York 10018

Queens County, Queens Center  
3220 Northern Boulevard  
Long Island City, New York 11101

Kings County, Fulton Center  
114 Willoughby Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Bronx County, Tremont Center  
1916 Monterey Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10457

Richmond County, Richmond Center  
95 Central Avenue, St. George  
Staten Island, New York 10301

For further information and to review and comment, please contact: Department of Health, Division of Finance and Rate Setting, 99 Washington Ave., One Commerce Plaza, Suite 1432, Albany, NY 12210, [spa\\_inquiries@health.ny.gov](mailto:spa_inquiries@health.ny.gov)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Department of Health

Pursuant to 42 CFR Section 447.205, the Department of Health hereby gives public notice of the following:

**Appendix V**  
**2017 Title XIX State Plan**  
**Third Quarter Amendment**  
**Responses to Standard Funding Questions**

**NON-INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES  
State Plan Amendment #17-0055**

**CMS Standard Funding Questions**

The following questions are being asked and should be answered in relation to all payments made to all providers reimbursed pursuant to a methodology described in Attachment 4.19-B of this SPA. For SPAs that provide for changes to payments for clinic or outpatient hospital services or for enhanced or supplemental payments to physician or other practitioners, the questions must be answered for all payments made under the state plan for such service.

- 1. Section 1903(a)(1) provides that Federal matching funds are only available for expenditures made by States for services under the approved State plan. Do providers receive and retain the total Medicaid expenditures claimed by the State (includes normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced payments, other) or is any portion of the payments returned to the State, local governmental entity, or any other intermediary organization? If providers are required to return any portion of payments, please provide a full description of the repayment process. Include in your response a full description of the methodology for the return of any of the payments, a complete listing of providers that return a portion of their payments, the amount or percentage of payments that are returned and the disposition and use of the funds once they are returned to the State (i.e., general fund, medical services account, etc.).**

**Response:** Providers do retain the payments made pursuant to this amendment. However, this requirement in no way prohibits the public provider, including county providers, from reimbursing the sponsoring local government for appropriate expenses incurred by the local government on behalf of the public provider. The State does not regulate the financial relationships that exist between public health care providers and their sponsoring governments, which are extremely varied and complex. Local governments may provide direct and/or indirect monetary subsidies to their public providers to cover on-going unreimbursed operational expenses and assure achievement of their mission as primary safety net providers. Examples of appropriate expenses may include payments to the local government which include reimbursement for debt service paid on a provider's behalf, reimbursement for Medicare Part B premiums paid for a provider's retirees, reimbursement for contractually required health benefit fund payments made on a provider's behalf, and payment for overhead expenses as allocated per federal Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 regarding Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments. The existence of such transfers should in no way negate the legitimacy of these facilities' Medicaid payments or result in reduced Medicaid federal financial participation for the State. This position was further supported by CMS in review and approval of SPA 07-07C when an on-site audit of these transactions for New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation was completed with satisfactory results.

2. **Section 1902(a)(2) provides that the lack of adequate funds from local sources will not result in lowering the amount, duration, scope, or quality of care and services available under the plan. Please describe how the state share of each type of Medicaid payment (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) is funded. Please describe whether the state share is from appropriations from the legislature to the Medicaid agency, through intergovernmental transfer agreements (IGTs), certified public expenditures (CPEs), provider taxes, or any other mechanism used by the state to provide state share. Note that, if the appropriation is not to the Medicaid agency, the source of the state share would necessarily be derived through either through an IGT or CPE. In this case, please identify the agency to which the funds are appropriated. Please provide an estimate of total expenditure and State share amounts for each type of Medicaid payment. If any of the non-federal share is being provided using IGTs or CPEs, please fully describe the matching arrangement including when the state agency receives the transferred amounts from the local governmental entity transferring the funds. If CPEs are used, please describe the methodology used by the state to verify that the total expenditures being certified are eligible for Federal matching funds in accordance with 42 CFR 433.51(b). For any payment funded by CPEs or IGTs, please provide the following:**
- (i) a complete list of the names of entities transferring or certifying funds;**
  - (ii) the operational nature of the entity (state, county, city, other);**
  - (iii) the total amounts transferred or certified by each entity;**
  - (iv) clarify whether the certifying or transferring entity has general taxing authority; and,**
  - (v) whether the certifying or transferring entity received appropriations (identify level of appropriations).**

**Response:** Payments made to service providers under the provisions of this SPA are funded through a budget appropriation received by the State agency that oversees medical assistance (Medicaid), which is the Department of Health. The source of the appropriation is the Medicaid General Fund Local Assistance Account, which is part of the Global Cap. The Global Cap is funded by General Fund and HCRA resources. There are no additional provider taxes levied and no existing taxes have been modified.

3. **Section 1902(a)(30) requires that payments for services be consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care. Section 1903(a)(1) provides for Federal financial participation to States for expenditures for services under an approved State plan. If supplemental or enhanced payments are made, please provide the total amount for each type of supplemental or enhanced payment made to each provider type.**

**Response:** The payments authorized for this provision are not supplemental or enhanced payments



- 4. For clinic or outpatient hospital services please provide a detailed description of the methodology used by the state to estimate the upper payment limit (UPL) for each class of providers (State owned or operated, non-state government owned or operated, and privately owned or operated). Please provide a current (i.e., applicable to the current rate year) UPL demonstration.**

**Response:** The State and CMS are having ongoing discussions to resolve any issues related to the approval of the 2015 Outpatient UPL, which the current years are contingent upon.

- 5. Does any governmental provider receive payments that in the aggregate (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) exceed their reasonable costs of providing services? If payments exceed the cost of services, do you recoup the excess and return the Federal share of the excess to CMS on the quarterly expenditure report?**

**Response:** The rate methodologies included in the State Plan for outpatient hospital services are either cost-based subject to ceilings or based upon the Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) system. We are unaware of any requirement under current federal law or regulation that limits individual provider's payments to their actual costs.

#### **ACA Assurances:**

- 1. Maintenance of Effort (MOE). Under section 1902(gg) of the Social Security Act (the Act), as amended by the Affordable Care Act, as a condition of receiving any Federal payments under the Medicaid program during the MOE period indicated below, the State shall not have in effect any eligibility standards, methodologies, or procedures in its Medicaid program which are more restrictive than such eligibility provisions as in effect in its Medicaid program on March 10, 2010.**

#### **MOE Period.**

- **Begins on: March 10, 2010, and**
- **Ends on: The date the Secretary of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services determines an Exchange established by a State under the provisions of section 1311 of the Affordable Care Act is fully operational.**

**Response:** This SPA complies with the conditions of the MOE provision of section 1902(gg) of the Act for continued funding under the Medicaid program.

- 2. Section 1905(y) and (z) of the Act provides for increased FMAPs for expenditures made on or after January 1, 2014 for individuals determined eligible under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the Act. Under section 1905(cc) of the Act, the increased FMAP under sections 1905(y) and (z) would not be available for States that require local political subdivisions to**

contribute amounts toward the non-Federal share of the State's expenditures at a greater percentage than would have been required on December 31, 2009.

**Prior to January 1, 2014** States may potentially require contributions by local political subdivisions toward the non-Federal share of the States' expenditures at percentages **greater than** were required on December 31, 2009. **However**, because of the provisions of section 1905(cc) of the Act, it is important to determine and document/flag any SPAs/State plans which have such greater percentages prior to the January 1, 2014 date in order to **anticipate potential violations and/or appropriate corrective actions** by the States and the Federal government.

**Response:** This SPA would [ ] / would not [✓] violate these provisions, if they remained in effect on or after January 1, 2014.

**3. Please indicate whether the State is currently in conformance with the requirements of section 1902(a)(37) of the Act regarding prompt payment of claims.**

**Response:** The State does comply with the requirements of section 1902(a)(37) of the Act regarding prompt payment of claims.

**Tribal Assurance:**

**Section 1902(a)(73) of the Social Security Act the Act requires a State in which one or more Indian Health Programs or Urban Indian Organizations furnish health care services to establish a process for the State Medicaid agency to seek advice on a regular ongoing basis from designees of Indian health programs whether operated by the Indian Health Service HIS Tribes or Tribal organizations under the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act ISDEAA or Urban Indian Organizations under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.**

**IHCIA Section 2107(e)(I) of the Act was also amended to apply these requirements to the Children's Health Insurance Program CHIP. Consultation is required concerning Medicaid and CHIP matters having a direct impact on Indian health programs and Urban Indian organizations.**

- a) Please describe the process the State uses to seek advice on a regular ongoing basis from federally recognized tribes Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations on matters related to Medicaid and CHIP programs and for consultation on State Plan Amendments waiver proposals waiver extensions waiver amendments waiver renewals and proposals for demonstration projects prior to submission to CMS.**
- b) Please include information about the frequency inclusiveness and process for seeking such advice.**
- c) Please describe the consultation process that occurred specifically for the development and submission of this State Plan Amendment when it occurred and who was involved.**

**Response:** Tribal consultation was performed in accordance with the State's tribal consultation policy as approved in SPA 11-06, and documentation of such is included with this submission. To date, no feedback has been received from any tribal representative in response to the proposed change in this SPA.

**Appendix VI**  
**2017 Title XIX State Plan**  
**Third Quarter Amendment**  
**Responses to Standard Access Questions**

**APPENDIX VI  
NON-INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES  
State Plan Amendment #17-0055**

**CMS Standard Access Questions**

The following questions have been asked by CMS and are answered by the State in relation to all payments made to all providers under Attachment 4.19-B of the state plan.

- 1. Specifically, how did the State determine that the Medicaid provider payments that will result from the change in this amendment are sufficient to comply with the requirements of 1902(a)(30)?**

**Response:** This amendment seeks to accurately pay providers for the service they performed. As the impact is insignificant as compared to the Medicaid program and this category of service, this change will not have a great effect on providers.

- 2. How does the State intend to monitor the impact of the new rates and implement a remedy should rates be insufficient to guarantee required access levels?**

**Response:** The State has various ways to ensure that access levels in the Medicaid program are retained and is currently not aware of any access issues, particularly since there is excess bed capacity for both hospitals and nursing homes. Additionally, hospital and nursing home providers must notify and receive approval from the Department's Office of Health Systems Management (OHSM) in order to discontinue services. This Office monitors and considers such requests in the context of access as they approve/deny changes in services. Finally, providers cannot discriminate based on source of payment.

For providers that are not subject to an approval process, the State will continue to monitor provider complaint hotlines to identify geographic areas of concern and/or service type needs. If Medicaid beneficiaries begin to encounter access issues, the Department would expect to see a marked increase in complaints. These complaints will be identified and analyzed in light of the changes proposed in this State Plan Amendment.

Finally, the State ensures that there is sufficient provider capacity for Medicaid Managed Care plans as part of its process to approve managed care rates and plans. Should sufficient access to services be compromised,

the State would be alerted and would take appropriate action to ensure retention of access to such services.

- 3. How were providers, advocates and beneficiaries engaged in the discussion around rate modifications? What were their concerns and how did the State address these concerns?**

**Response:** Any major changes are discussed at a monthly association meeting. This change is due to a review of payments to providers in order to accurately reflect Medicaid policy and is insignificant as compared to the Medicaid program and this category of service.

- 4. What action(s) does the State plan to implement after the rate change takes place to counter any decrease to access if the rate decrease is found to prevent sufficient access to care?**

**Response:** Should any essential community provider experience Medicaid or other revenue issues that would prevent access to needed community services, per usual practice, the State would meet with them to explore the situation and discuss possible solutions, if necessary.

- 5. Is the State modifying anything else in the State Plan which will counterbalance any impact on access that may be caused by the decrease in rates (e.g. increasing scope of services that other provider types may provide or providing care in other settings)?**

**Response:** Over the course of the past three years, the State has undertaken a massive reform initiative to better align reimbursement with care. When fully implemented, the initiative will invest over \$600 million in the State's ambulatory care system (outpatient, ambulatory surgery, emergency department, clinic and physicians) to incentivize care in the most appropriate setting. The State has also increased its physician reimbursement schedule to resemble Medicare payments for similar services, thus ensuring continued access for Medicaid beneficiaries. While some of these initiatives are outside the scope of the State Plan, they represent some of the measures the State is taking to ensure quality care for the State's most vulnerable population.