

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

SPA 18-A: Changes to Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Program

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to submit the following Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Changes to Medicaid State Plan

Effective January 1, 2018, SPA 18-A will amend Attachments 3.1-A, 3.1-B, and 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan to reflect changes in the model of providing Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) to Medicaid beneficiaries. DSS will maintain a broker model for the provision of NEMT services, but will change the reimbursement methodology from a fee-for-service approach using a published fee schedule to an at-risk model, using a per member per month (PMPM) rate. Reimbursement for non-emergency ambulance services will be outside of the PMPM rate. Rates for non-emergency ambulance will not change under this SPA. The goal of this change is to engage high quality local transportation providers and use publicly available transportation to enable members who need assistance getting to Medicaid services in the most appropriate, timely manner.

The new transportation model will maintain the traditional modes of fulfilling the NEMT requirement, but will include the addition of Independent-Driver Providers (IDPs). The IDPs will allow the NEMT broker to quickly increase capacity, respond and react to urgent and unanticipated trips. The new model will also incorporate modern technology, including GPS tracking on a driver application available from the new broker.

Fiscal Impact

Based on available information, DSS estimates that this SPA will be cost-neutral and will not have an impact on Medicaid expenditures in state fiscal year (SFY) 2018 and SFY 2019.

Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

This SPA is posted on the DSS web site at the following link: <http://portal.ct.gov/dss>. Scroll down to the bottom of the webpage and click on “Publications” and then click on “Updates.” Then click on “Medicaid State Plan Amendments”. The proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS field office, at the Town of Vernon Social Services Department, or upon request from DSS (see below).

To request a copy of the SPA from DSS or to send comments about the SPA, please email: Public.Comment.DSS@ct.gov or write to: Medical Policy Unit, Department of Social Services, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 (Phone: 860-424-5067). Please reference “SPA 18-A: Changes to Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program”.

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this SPA. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than January 10, 2018.