



NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

RELEASE DATE: September 1, 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO MEDI-CAL HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES 1915(i) STATE PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed Medi-Cal State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). This amendment proposes to do the following:

- modify the definition of target population to include children under five (5) years old without a diagnosis of developmental disability
- increase rates for independent living programs, adult residential homes, and participant directed Day Service and Supported Employment;
- add participant-directed goods and services as a new service;
- add budget authority for participant direction of services; and
- add additional incentive payments for assisting individuals to obtain competitive integrated employment.

DHCS requests input from beneficiaries, providers, and other interested stakeholders regarding proposed SPA #23-0036. A copy of which is attached.

DHCS administers the Medi-Cal Home and Community Based Services 1915(i) State Plan for the Developmentally Disabled (1915(i) State Plan). The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) ensures, under the oversight of DHCS (the State Medicaid agency), that the 1915(i) State Plan is implemented by regional centers in accordance with Medicaid law and the State's approved State Plan. Regional centers coordinate, provide, arrange, or purchase the services and supports available under the 1915(i) State Plan.

Under the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Lanterman Act), Welfare & Institutions (W&I) Code section 4500 et seq., people with developmental disabilities, as defined in W&I Code section 4512(a), are eligible to receive services and supports

that meet their individual needs and choices as defined in W&I Code section 4512(b). DDS administers the Lanterman Act.

General information about the 1915(i) State Plan can be found at

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/hcbs/>

The Medi-Cal Home and Community-Based Services 1915(i) State Plan supplemental benefit package can be viewed at

https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Documents/11-041_Attach3.1i_1915i.pdf.

The aggregate fiscal impact of this amendment is estimated to be \$10,200,000 federal funds for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2023-24 and \$13,550,000 in federal funds for FFY 2024-25.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is January 1, 2024. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Public Review and Comments

The proposed changes included in SPA #23-0036 are enclosed in this notice for public comment. DHCS is requesting stakeholder input on the impact, if any, on access to services as a result of the proposed action.

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of proposed SPA #23-0036 will be published at the following internet addresses:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending-2023.aspx> and at

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/hcbs/>

Copies of the proposed SPA #23-0036 and/or copies of submitted public comments related to SPA #23-0036 can be obtained by sending a written request to the mailing or email address listed below. Please indicate SPA # 23-0036 in the subject line or message.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Developmental Services
Attn: Jonathan Hill

1215 O Street MS 7-40
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email to: Federal.Programs@dds.ca.gov

To be assured consideration prior to DHCS' submission of the proposed SPA to CMS, comments must be received by DHCS no later than October 1, 2023. Please note that comments will continue to be accepted after October 1, 2023, but DHCS may not be able to consider those comments prior to the initial submission of SPA #23-0036 to CMS.