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**State/Territory Name: New Mexico** 

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 20-0013

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12 Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



November 4, 2020

Ms. Nicole Comeaux Director Medical Assistance Division New Mexico Human Services Department 2025 South Pacheco Drive P.O. Box 2348 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2348

Re: New Mexico State Plan Amendment (SPA) 20-0013

Dear Ms. Comeaux:

We have reviewed the proposed amendment to add section 7.4 Medicaid Disaster Relief for the COVID-19 National Emergency to your Medicaid state plan, as submitted under transmittal number (TN) 20-0013. This amendment proposes to implement temporary policies, which are different from those policies and procedures otherwise applied under your Medicaid state plan, during the period of the Presidential and Secretarial emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 outbreak (or any renewals thereof).

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a proclamation that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency by the authorities vested in him by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and consistent with section 1135 of the Social Security Act (Act). On March 13, 2020, pursuant to section 1135(b) of the Act, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services invoked his authority to waive or modify certain requirements of titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Act as a result of the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, to the extent necessary, as determined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), to ensure that sufficient health care items and services are available to meet the needs of individuals enrolled in the respective programs and to ensure that health care providers that furnish such items and services in good faith, but are unable to comply with one or more of such requirements as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, may be reimbursed for such items and services and exempted from sanctions for such noncompliance, absent any determination of fraud or abuse. This authority took effect as of 6PM Eastern Standard Time on March 15, 2020, with a

retroactive effective date of March 1, 2020. The emergency period will terminate, and this state plan provision will no longer be in effect, upon termination of the public health emergency, including any extensions.

Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, for the period of the public health emergency, CMS is modifying the requirement at 42 C.F.R. 430.20 that the state submit SPAs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency by the final day of the quarter, to obtain a SPA effective date during the quarter, enabling SPAs submitted after the last day of the quarter to have an effective date in a previous quarter, but no earlier than the effective date of the public health emergency.

The State of New Mexico requested a waiver of public notice requirements applicable to the SPA submission process. Pursuant to section 1135(b)(1)(C) of the Act, CMS is waiving public notice requirements applicable to the SPA submission process. Public notice for SPAs is required under 42 C.F.R. §447.205 for changes in statewide methods and standards for setting Medicaid payment rates, 42 C.F.R. §447.57 for changes to premiums and cost sharing, and 42 C.F.R. §440.386 for changes to Alternative Benefit Plans (ABPs). Pursuant to section 1135(b)(1)(C) of the Act, CMS is approving the state's request to waive these notice requirements otherwise applicable to SPA submissions.

The State of New Mexico also requested a waiver to modify the tribal consultation timeline applicable to this SPA submission process. Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, CMS is also allowing states to modify the timeframes associated with tribal consultation required under section 1902(a)(73) of the Act, including shortening the number of days before submission or conducting consultation after submission of the SPA.

These waivers and modifications of the requirements related to SPA submission timelines, public notice, and tribal consultation apply only with respect to SPAs that meet the following criteria: (1) the SPA provides or increases beneficiary access to items and services related to COVID-19 (such as by waiving or eliminating cost sharing, increasing payment rates or amending ABPs to add services or providers); (2) the SPA does not restrict or limit payment or services or otherwise burden beneficiaries and providers; and (3) the SPA is temporary, with a specified sunset date that is not later than the last day of the declared COVID-19 public health emergency (or any extension thereof). We nonetheless encourage states to make all relevant information about the SPA available to the public so they are aware of the changes.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to the statutory requirements at section 1902(a) of the Act and implementing regulations. This letter is to inform you that New Mexico's Medicaid SPA Transmittal Number 20-0013 is approved effective April 1, 2020. This SPA is in addition to Disaster Relief SPAs approved on April 24, 2020, May 7, 2020, May 13, 2020, May 22, 2020, June 16, 2020, August 4, 2020, and October 30, 2020, and does not supersede anything approved in those SPAs.

Enclosed is a copy of the CMS-179 summary form and the approved state plan pages.

Please contact Peter Banks at (415) 744-3782 or by email at Peter.Banks@cms.hhs.gov if you have any questions about this approval. We appreciate the efforts of you and your staff in responding to the needs of the residents of the State of New Mexico and the health care community.

Sincerely,

Alissa Mooney DeBoy Acting Deputy Director Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services

Enclosures

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES		
TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF	1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER 2. STATE	
STATE PLAN MATERIAL	$\frac{2}{2} \frac{0}{0} = \frac{0}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{3}{2}$ New Mexico	
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES	3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR	4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE	
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	April 1, 2020	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One)	·	
NEW STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO BE CONSI	IDERED AS NEW PLAN AMENDMENT	
COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AME		
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION	7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT	
42 CFR 447 Subpart F, Title 19 of SSA, Sec. 1135 of SSA	a. FFY 20 \$1,712,815.00 b. FFY 21 \$0	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT	PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION     OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)	
Section 7 – General Provisions, 7.4. Medicaid Disaster Relief for the COVID-19 National Emergency, Pages 149-158	GIVITING TIME IVI (II ) ppineable)	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT		
Medicaid Disaster Relief #8		
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)		
☐ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL	☑ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED	
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL	16. RETURN TO	
Startle Converse		
13. TYPED NAME Nicole Comeaux	Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H., Director	
14. TITLE	Medical Assistance Division	
Director, Medical Assistance Division	P.O. Box 2348	
15. DATE SUBMITTED	Santa Fe, NM 87504-2348	
September 18, 2020 FOR REGIONAL OF	FICE USE ONLY	
	18. DATE APPROVED	
September 18, 2020	November 4, 2020	
PLAN APPROVED - ON		
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL  April 1, 2020	20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL	
	22. TITLE	
Alissa Mooney DeBoy	Acting Deputy Director, Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services	
23. REMARKS	Contained in Madedia & Crim Convictor	

# Section 7 – General Provisions 7.4. Medicaid Disaster Relief for the COVID-19 National Emergency

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a proclamation that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency by the authorities vested in him by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and consistent with section 1135 of the Social Security Act (Act). On March 13, 2020, pursuant to section 1135(b) of the Act, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services invoked his authority to waive or modify certain requirements of titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Act as a result of the consequences COVID-19 pandemic, to the extent necessary, as determined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), to ensure that sufficient health care items and services are available to meet the needs of individuals enrolled in the respective programs and to ensure that health care providers that furnish such items and services in good faith, but are unable to comply with one or more of such requirements as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, may be reimbursed for such items and services and exempted from sanctions for such noncompliance, absent any determination of fraud or abuse. This authority took effect as of 6PM Eastern Standard Time on March 15, 2020, with a retroactive effective date of March 1, 2020. The emergency period will terminate, and waivers will no longer be available, upon termination of the public health emergency, including any extensions.

The State Medicaid agency (agency) seeks to implement the policies and procedures described below, which are different than the policies and procedures otherwise applied under the Medicaid state plan, during the period of the Presidential and Secretarial emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 outbreak (or any renewals thereof), or for any shorter period described below:

New Mexico will apply a rate increase to non-hospital providers for E&M codes and non-E&M codes, as well as an increase to Medicaid only procedure codes for April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

NOTE: States may not elect a period longer than the Presidential or Secretarial emergency declaration (or any renewal thereof). States may not propose changes on this template that restrict or limit payment, services, or eligibility, or otherwise burden beneficiaries and providers.

#### **Request for Waivers under Section 1135**

X The ag	ency seeks the following under section 1135(b)(1)(C) and/or section 1135(b)(5) of the Act
a.	_X SPA submission requirements – the agency requests modification of the requirement to submit the SPA by March 31, 2020, to obtain a SPA effective date during the first calendar quarter of 2020, pursuant to 42 CFR 430.20.
b.	X Public notice requirements – the agency requests waiver of public notice requirements that would otherwise be applicable to this SPA submission. These requirements may include those specified in 42 CFR 440.386 (Alternative Benefit Plans),

TN: <u>20-0013</u> Approval Date: <u>11/04/2020</u> Supersedes TN: <u>NEW</u> Effective Date: <u>4/1/2020</u>

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	changes in statewide methods and standards for setting payment rates).
	cX Tribal consultation requirements – the agency requests modification of tribal consultation timelines specified in New Mexico Medicaid state plan, as described below:
	New Mexico plans to modify the tribal consultation timelines by issuing formal notice to New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their health care providers for an opportunity to request a tribal consultation from early August through early September, 2020.
Section	n A – Eligibility
1.	The agency furnishes medical assistance to the following optional groups of individuals described in section $1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)$ or $1902(a)(10)(c)$ of the Act. This may include the new optional group described at section $1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XXIII)$ and $1902(ss)$ of the Act providing coverage for uninsured individuals.
2.	The agency furnishes medical assistance to the following populations of individuals described in section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XX) of the Act and 42 CFR 435.218:
	a All individuals who are described in section 1905(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XX)
	Income standard:
	-or-
	b Individuals described in the following categorical populations in section 1905(a) of the Act:
	Income standard:
3.	The agency applies less restrictive financial methodologies to individuals excepted from financial methodologies based on modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) as follows.
ĺ	Less restrictive income methodologies:
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42 CFR 447.57(c) (premiums and cost sharing), and 42 CFR 447.205 (public notice of

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	Less restrictive resource methodologies:
4.	The agency considers individuals who are evacuated from the state, who leave the state for medical reasons related to the disaster or public health emergency, or who are otherwise absent from the state due to the disaster or public health emergency and who intend to return to the state, to continue to be residents of the state under 42 CFR 435.403(j)(3).
5.	The agency provides Medicaid coverage to the following individuals living in the state, who are non-residents:
6.	The agency provides for an extension of the reasonable opportunity period for non-citizens declaring to be in a satisfactory immigration status, if the non-citizen is making a good faith effort to resolve any inconsistences or obtain any necessary documentation, or the agency is unable to complete the verification process within the 90-day reasonable opportunity period due to the disaster or public health emergency.
Section	n B – Enrollment
1.	The agency elects to allow hospitals to make presumptive eligibility determinations for the following additional state plan populations, or for populations in an approved section 1115 demonstration, in accordance with section 1902(a)(47)(B) of the Act and 42 CFR 435.1110, provided that the agency has determined that the hospital is capable of making such determinations.
2.	The agency designates itself as a qualified entity for purposes of making presumptive eligibility determinations described below in accordance with sections 1920, 1920A, 1920B, and 1920C of the Act and 42 CFR Part 435 Subpart L.
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3.	The agency designates the following entities presumptive eligibility determinations or adds addi accordance with sections 1920, 1920A, 1920B, and Subpart L. Indicate if any designated entities are pedeterminations only for specified populations.	tional populations as described below in 1920C of the Act and 42 CFR Part 435
4.	The agency adopts a total of months (eligibility for children under age enter age (ncircumstances in accordance with section 1902(e)(2)	ot to exceed age 19) regardless of changes in
5.	The agency conducts redeterminations of elibased financial methodologies under 42 CFR 435.60 12 months) in accordance with 42 CFR 435.916(b).	
6.	The agency uses the following simplified appareas or for affected individuals (a copy of the simp CMS).	
	a The agency uses a simplified paper a	pplication.
	b The agency uses a simplified online a	application.
	c The simplified paper or online applic or other telephone applications in affected	
Section	n C – Premiums and Cost Sharing	
1.	The agency suspends deductibles, copaymer charges as follows:	its, coinsurance, and other cost sharing
	Please describe whether the state suspends all cost deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, or other cost services or for specified eligibility groups consistent levels consistent with 42 CFR 447.52(g).	sharing charges for specified items and
2.	The agency suspends enrollment fees, premi	ums and similar charges for:
	a All beneficiaries	
	<u>0-0013                                  </u>	Approval Date: <u>11/04/2020</u> Effective Date: <u>4/1/2020</u>

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	b The following eligibility groups or categorical populations:
	Please list the applicable eligibility groups or populations.
3.	The agency allows waiver of payment of the enrollment fee, premiums and similar charges for undue hardship.
	Please specify the standard(s) and/or criteria that the state will use to determine undue hardship.
Section	n D – Benefits
Benefit	ts:
1.	The agency adds the following optional benefits in its state plan (include service descriptions, provider qualifications, and limitations on amount, duration or scope of the benefit):
2.	The agency makes the following adjustments to benefits currently covered in the state plan:
3.	The agency assures that newly added benefits or adjustments to benefits comply with all applicable statutory requirements, including the statewideness requirements found at 1902(a)(1), comparability requirements found at 1902(a)(10)(B), and free choice of provider requirements found at 1902(a)(23).
4.	Application to Alternative Benefit Plans (ABP). The state adheres to all ABP provisions in 42 CFR Part 440, Subpart C. This section only applies to states that have an approved ABP(s).
	<ul> <li>a The agency assures that these newly added and/or adjusted benefits will be made available to individuals receiving services under ABPs.</li> </ul>
	b Individuals receiving services under ABPs will not receive these newly added
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	and/or adjusted benefits, or will only receive the following subset:
	Please describe.
Telehe	alth:
5.	The agency utilizes telehealth in the following manner, which may be different than outlined in the state's approved state plan:
	Please describe.
Drug B	enefit:
6.	The agency makes the following adjustments to the day supply or quantity limit for covered outpatient drugs. The agency should only make this modification if its current state plan pages have limits on the amount of medication dispensed.
	Please describe the change in days or quantities that are allowed for the emergency period and for which drugs.
7.	Prior authorization for medications is expanded by automatic renewal without clinical review, or time/quantity extensions.
8.	The agency makes the following payment adjustment to the professional dispensing fee when additional costs are incurred by the providers for delivery. States will need to supply documentation to justify the additional fees.
	Please describe the manner in which professional dispensing fees are adjusted.
9.	The agency makes exceptions to their published Preferred Drug List if drug shortages occur. This would include options for covering a brand name drug product that is a multi-source drug if a generic drug option is not available.

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#### Section E - Payments

Option	al benefits described in Section D:
1.	Newly added benefits described in Section D are paid using the following methodology:
	a Published fee schedules –
	Effective date (enter date of change):
	Location (list published location):
	bOther:
	Describe methodology here.
Increas	ses to state plan payment methodologies:
2.	_X The agency increases payment rates for the following services:
	New Mexico will apply a rate increase to non-hospital providers for E&M, Non-E&M and Dental services. The current reimbursement rates for these service codes will be increased as indicated below:

Procedures codes that have a Medicare fee schedule rate that are not currently at 98% of the Medicare rate, will be increased to 98%.

Procedure codes that do not have a Medicare fee schedule rate will be increased by 6.81%.

Provider specific rates not adjusted annually to a Medicare rate, will have their rate increased by 6.81%.

NM does not post fee schedules that reflect provider specific rates, such as those for Federally Qualified Health Centers, Freestanding and Hospital Based Rural Health Clinics and Dialysis Facilities. Providers whose rates are updated on an annual basis to the Medicare rate or adjusted using the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) will not receive an increase. Providers that do not have their rates updated on an annual basis like Dialysis Facilities, free standing Rural Health Clinics, and Home Health will receive a 6.81% increase to their current rate. These provider specific fee schedules will not be posted to the Department's website.

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of Medicaid benefits. The agency's fee schedule rate was set as of April 1, 2020 and is effective for services provided on or after that date and through

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-	2020. All rates are published on the State's website at: vww.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/fee-for-service.aspx
a	Payment increases are targeted based on the following criteria:
b. F	Payments are increased through:
	i A supplemental payment or add-on within applicable upper payment limits:
	ii An increase to rates as described below.
	Rates are increased:
	Uniformly by the following percentage:
	Through a modification to published fee schedules –
	Effective date (enter date of change):
	Location (list published location):
	Up to the Medicare payments for equivalent services.
	By the following factors:
	Please describe.
Payment for serv	rices delivered via telehealth:
3 Fo	or the duration of the emergency, the state authorizes payments for telehealth services
a	Are not otherwise paid under the Medicaid state plan;
b	Differ from payments for the same services when provided face to face;
c. <sub>-</sub>	Differ from current state plan provisions governing reimbursement for telehealth;
	Describe telehealth payment variation.
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Supersedes TN: NEW Effective Date: 4/1/2020 This SPA is in addition to Disaster Relief SPAs approved on April 24, 2020, May 7, 2020, May 13, 2020, May 22, 2020, June 16, 2020, August 4, 2020, and October 30, 2020, and does not supersede anything approved in those SPAs.

	d Include payment for ancillary costs associated with the delivery of covered services via telehealth, (if applicable), as follows:
	<ul> <li>i Ancillary cost associated with the originating site for telehealth is incorporated into fee-for-service rates.</li> </ul>
	<ol> <li>Ancillary cost associated with the originating site for telehealth is separately reimbursed as an administrative cost by the state when a Medicaid service is delivered.</li> </ol>
Other:	
4.	Other payment changes:
Section	n F – Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income
1.	The state elects to modify the basic personal needs allowance for institutionalized individuals. The basic personal needs allowance is equal to one of the following amounts:
	a The individual's total income
	b 300 percent of the SSI federal benefit rate
	c Other reasonable amount:
2.	The state elects a new variance to the basic personal needs allowance. (Note: Election of this option is not dependent on a state electing the option described the option in F.1. above.)
	The state protects amounts exceeding the basic personal needs allowance for individuals who have the following greater personal needs:
	Please describe the group or groups of individuals with greater needs and the amount(s) protected for each group or groups.
·	
Section Inform	n G – Other Policies and Procedures Differing from Approved Medicaid State Plan /Additional ation

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Supersedes TN: <u>NEW</u> Effective Date: <u>4/1/2020</u>
This SPA is in addition to Disaster Relief SPAs approved on April 24, 2020, May 7, 2020, May 13, 2020, May 22, 2020, June 16, 2020, August 4,

#### **PRA Disclosure Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1148 (Expires 03/31/2021). The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 to 2 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. Your response is required to receive a waiver under Section 1135 of the Social Security Act. All responses are public and will be made available on the CMS web site. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850. \*\*\*CMS Disclosure\*\*\* Please do not send applications, claims, payments, medical records or any documents containing sensitive information to the PRA Reports Clearance Office. Please note that any correspondence not pertaining to the information collection burden approved under the associated OMB control number listed on this form will not be reviewed, forwarded, or retained. If you have questions or concerns regarding where to submit your documents, please contact the Centers for Medicaid & CHIP Services at 410-786-3870.

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