



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of
Health and Social Services**

DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
Director's Office

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July 31, 2014

Dear Tribal Health Leader:

On behalf of the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), I am writing to inform you of a proposed future Medicaid state plan amendment (SPA), in keeping with DHSS's responsibility to conduct tribal consultation.

Possible amendment to MAGI SPA describing Reasonable Classifications of Individuals Under Age 21: DHSS is seeking technical assistance from CMS regarding Medicaid eligibility for children receiving non-IV-E foster care or adoption assistance and children placed in private institutions, nursing facilities, ICF-IIDs, or inpatient psychiatric facilities or programs.

The state must demonstrate to CMS that the state did cover this eligibility group in the Medicaid state plan or under a Medicaid 1115 demonstration as of March 23, 2010 or December 31, 2013 with income standards higher than the current mandatory income standards for the individual's age. The state's choices for coverage are limited by the level of coverage in the Medicaid state plan as of March 23, 2010 (if covered on that date) and the highest level of prior coverage provided in the Medicaid state plan. Due to the ACA maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements, if the state covered this group in the Medicaid state plan as of March 23, 2010, it may not eliminate or reduce eligibility by age, other targeting, or income under this group until October 1, 2019. It must, therefore, continue to cover children under an age at least as high as the age used in the Medicaid state plan as of March 23, 2010.

Please provide any written comments or questions regarding the proposed SPA within 30 days of the date of this letter to Gennifer Moreau, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, 4501 Business Park Blvd, Bldg L, Anchorage, Alaska 9503-7167, or gennifer.moreau@alaska.gov. Please also feel free to call if you would like to discuss these upcoming State Plan Amendments. If you would like a meeting please make a request to meet in writing within 15 days if this notice.

Sincerely,


Gennifer Moreau
Medicaid State Plan Coordinator

cc:

Craig Christenson, Deputy Commissioner
Margaret Brodie, Dir. Health Care Services
Deb Etheridge, Medicaid Policy and Planning
Renee Gayhart, Tribal Programs