



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of
Health and Social Services

DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
Director's Office

4501 Business Park Blvd., Suite 24, Bldg L
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July 17, 2015

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' responsibility to conduct tribal consultation.

Cost containment in accordance with 47.07.036 resulting in clarifying language to the Inpatient Hospital Payment section (4.19-A), Federally Qualified Health Center Services (4.19-B), the Infant Learning Targeted Case Management (4.19-B), and the Long Term Care facility section (4.19-D) of the State Plan. The Department intends to submit a SPA reflecting the State's recent implementation of cost containment measures that eliminate inflation increases for certain Medicaid payment rates in state fiscal year 2016.

Fee schedule updates: The RBRVS methodology is used by several service categories in the state plan for reimbursement. Although the fee schedule did not receive an annual inflation adjustment for state fiscal year 2016, it did receive its annual update to reflect Medicare's changes to relative value units and geographic practice cost indexes. Accordingly, fee schedules will be updated for the following: Advanced Nurse Practitioners, Chiropractic services, Dental services, Direct Entry Midwife and Nurse-Midwife services, EPSDT screening services, Physician services, and Podiatry services.

Emergency regulations and corresponding public notice were issued on June 29, 2015. Provider types also impacted by the emergency regulations that did not result in a SPA include: Ambulatory Surgical Centers, Home and Community Based Waiver Providers, Personal Care Attendants services.

Please provide any written comments or questions regarding this state plan amendment within 30 days of the date of this letter to Gennifer Moreau, (907) 334-2653, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, 4501 Business Park Blvd, Bldg L, Anchorage AK 99503-7167 or gennifermoreau@alaska.gov. If you would like to arrange a meeting please provide a written request within 15 days of this letter.

Comments provided in response to this consultation letter will be considered comments for the purpose of consultation only. Comments to the emergency regulations cannot be considered as comments to the consultation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gennifer Moreau".

Gennifer Moreau
Medicaid State Plan Coordinator