

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

Children's Dental Reimbursement Reduction (SPA 16-022)

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 (HHS).

Changes to Medicaid State Plan

In accordance with the adjustments to the State Fiscal Year 2017 state budget that were recently approved by the General Assembly in Senate Bill 501 of the May 2016 Special Session, effective on or after July 1, 2016, SPA 16-022 will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan to reduce the fees for dental services provided to children by 5%. Rates for dental services provided to adults are not being changed by this SPA.

Fiscal Impact

DSS estimates that this SPA will reduce annual aggregate expenditures by approximately \$5.7 million in State Fiscal Year 2017 and approximately \$6.4 million in State Fiscal Year 2018.

Compliance with Federal Access Regulations

In accordance with federal regulations at 42 C.F.R. §§ 447.203 and 447.204, DSS is required to ensure that there is sufficient access to Medicaid services, including services where payment rates are proposed to be reduced. Those federal regulations also require DSS to have ongoing mechanisms for Medicaid members, providers, other stakeholders, and the public to provide DSS with feedback about access. In addition to other available procedures, anyone may send DSS comments about the potential impact of this SPA on access to dental services for children as part of the public comment process for this SPA. Contact information and the deadline for submitting public comments are listed below.

Information on Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

The proposed SPA is posted on the DSS website at this link: <http://www.ct.gov/dss>. Go to "Publications" and then "Updates." The proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS field office and upon request from DSS.

To request a copy of the SPA or to send comments about the SPA, please email: ginny.mahoney@ct.gov or write to: Ginny Mahoney, Department of Social Services, Medical Policy Unit, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 (Phone: 860-424-5145, Fax: 860-424-5799). Please reference “SPA 16-022: Children’s Dental Reimbursement Reduction”.

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this SPA, including comments about access to services affected by this SPA. Written comments must be received at the above contact information no later than June 30, 2016.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
State Connecticut

- (10) Dental services – Fixed fee schedule. The agency’s rates were set as of July 1, 2016 and are effective for services on or after that date. Rates are the same for private and governmental providers and are published at www.ctdssmap.com. From this page, go to “Provider” then to “Provider Fee Schedule Download”.
- (11) Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of independent therapies, including physical therapy and related services, occupational therapy and audiology and speech pathology services and the fee schedule is published at www.ctdssmap.com. From this page, go to “Provider” then to “Provider Fee Schedule Download”.
- a) Physical therapy and related services – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2012 and effective for services on or after that date.
- b) Occupational therapy – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2012 and are effective for services on or after that date. Occupational therapists will be reimbursed according to the fee schedule for physical therapists.
- c) Audiology and speech pathology services – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2016 and effective for services on or after that date.

TN # 16-022
Supersedes
TN # 16-011

Approval Date _____

Effective Date 07/01/2016