



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing

August 4, 2025

Courtney Miller, Director
CMS/Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Medicaid & CHIP Operations Group
601 East 12th Street, Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

RE: LA SPA TN 25-0005 Services to Incarcerated Youth

Dear Ms. Miller:

Please refer to our proposed Medicaid State Plan submitted under transmittal number (TN) 25-0005 with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2025. The purpose of this SPA is to implement required coverage for incarcerated youth in Medicaid as described in section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA, 2023).

We are providing the following in response to your request for additional information (RAI) dated June 25, 2025:

General Comments/Questions Coverage

1. The state indicated that they are partially ready to implement section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. As CMS previously discussed with the state, CMS will approve the SPA with sunset language and issue a companion letter that documents actions that the state must complete for full readiness and the state's deadline to complete these actions.
 - a. The state previously shared a high-level overview of the actions that the state needs to complete to fully implement section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act. Please provide CMS with additional details on each of these activities.

LDH RESPONSE:

The State met conditions for operational readiness to allow Medicaid coverage and access to required benefits effective July 1, 2025. However, only state facilities and one local facility have elected to participate as this time. The State will continue to engage local/parish facilities and will onboard those facilities as they express interest and demonstrate readiness to participate.

- b. CMS will approve an initial sunset date for states that are partially ready to implement section 1902(a)(84)(D) of the Act of no later than December 31, 2026. Please add the following text to the additional information text box on Attachment 3.1-M, page 2:
- *“The authority to provide for mandatory coverage for eligible juveniles who are inmates of a public institution post adjudication of charges will cease on December 31, 2026.”*

LDH RESPONSE:

The recommended language has been added. Please see Attachment 3.1-M, Page 2.

Targeted Case Management Supplement 1 to Attachment 3.1-A Pages 2-8

1. Page 4: Please check the box to indicate the state will comport with the warm hand off requirement for the duration of the benefit.

LDH RESPONSE:

The State has elected not to check the box that indicates the State will comport with the warm hand off. The member will not be receiving formal case management services from the MCO, and there are no plans to have an additional meeting with the member and the MCO at this time.

2. Page 5, Qualification of Providers: The state has provided qualifications for staff who provide supervision of case management services. Please also specify on the plan page, qualifications for the case managers.

LDH RESPONSE:

The qualification for Case Managers has been added. Please see Supplement 1 to Attachment 3.1-A, Page 5.

General Questions and Comments Reimbursement

1. May the State please provide the methodology and currently approved plan pages that it will use to reimburse for the targeted case management services described in Section 5121 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023.

LDH RESPONSE:

Please see Attachment 4.19-B, Item 19, Page 3.

2. Is the State seeking reimbursement for case management only, or does this SPA also seek payment/reimbursement for screening and/or diagnostic activities/services?

LDH RESPONSE:

The State is seeking reimbursement for case management services and screening and/or diagnostic services.

- a. If not, please provide details of how the state is currently paying for these services.

LDH RESPONSE:

Please see Attachment 4.19-B, Item 19, page 3.

- b. If yes, please provide 4.19-B pages for review.

LDH RESPONSE:

Not applicable.

Please consider this as a formal request to begin the 90-day clock. As always, we appreciate the assistance and guidance CMS has provided in resolving these issues. We trust this RAI response will result in the approval of the pending SPA. If additional information is required, you may contact Marjorie Jenkins via email at Marjorie.Jenkins@la.gov or by phone at (225) 342-3881.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Sullivan, J.D.
Medicaid Executive Director

Attachments

KS:MJ:KC