

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**11/18/2022 PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RHODE ISLAND MEDICAID
STATE PLAN**

In accordance with Rhode Island General Laws 42-35, notice is hereby given that the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) proposes to make the following amendment to the Rhode Island State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act:

Emergency Case Management Extension

EOHHS is seeking approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of an 1135 Disaster State Plan Amendment (SPA) to update Rhode Island's Medicaid State Plan to allow for Emergency Case Management services provided during the Public Health Emergency (PHE) to continue to be provided for a period of time after the end of the PHE. This SPA is being submitted through an 1135 Disaster Template and the relevant section is pasted below this notice.

The proposed effective date of these changes is the day after the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and these changes will expire on January 1, 2024. The estimated fiscal impact of these changes for FFY23 is \$59,485 (All Funds).

This proposed amendment is accessible on the EOHHS website (www.eohhs.ri.gov) or available in hard copy upon request (401-462-2407 or RI Relay, dial 711). Interested persons should submit data, views, or written comments by November 18, 2022 to Brittany Church, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, 3 West Rd, Cranston, RI, 02920, or Brittany.Church@ohhs.ri.gov or via phone at (401) 462-2407.

In accordance with the Rhode Island General Laws 42-35-3, an oral hearing will be granted on the proposed State Plan Amendment if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, an agency, or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of this notice.

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services does not discriminate against individuals based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religious belief, political belief, or handicap in acceptance for or provision of services or employment in its programs or activities.

Original signed by Ana Novais, Acting Secretary, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Signed this 18th day of November, 2022

7.4.B. Temporary Extension to the Disaster Relief Policies for the COVID-19 National Emergency

Effective the day after the end of the PHE until January 1, 2024, the agency temporarily extends the following election(s) in section 7.4 (approved on 05/13/2020 in SPA Number RI-20-0007) of the state plan:

Benefits:

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):

Emergency Case Management for Medicaid beneficiaries who meet at least one risk-based criteria and at least one health-related criteria. Risk-based criteria include: residing in homeless shelters, outside, in places not meant for habitation, or otherwise housing insecure or at imminent risk of homelessness. Health-related criteria include: a mental health or substance use need, a complex physical health need (e.g., a chronic or acute health condition), or recent hospitalization. Emergency Case Management is a service that supports homeless and housing insecure beneficiaries that are eligible under the state plan in preventing exposure to COVID-19, supporting those that are in quarantine or that have tested positive for COVID-19, and assisting organizations to receive supports for other health-related social needs (e.g., food insecurity, transportation) that may have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Emergency Case Management will be provided to eligible Medicaid beneficiaries by homeless shelters and homeless service agencies, who specialize in assisting this unique and particularly vulnerable population.

The agency assures that newly added benefits or adjustments to benefits comply with all applicable statutory requirements, including the statewide 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)

The agency assures that these newly added and/or adjusted benefits will be made available to individuals receiving services under ABPs