



Rhode Island 1115 Waiver Extension Addendum

April 2024

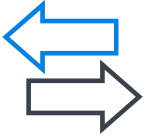
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Waiver Overview

What is a 1115 Medicaid waiver?



- Waivers are a mechanism through which states can request exemptions from select Medicaid program statutory requirements



- 1115 waivers are research and demonstration waivers that provide states with authority to test innovative program ideas



- 1115 waivers must be budget neutral

Rhode Island's 1115 Demonstration Waiver Timeline

Past Waiver Application, Amendments, and Extensions

Original Waiver Application: 2009-2013

Amendment to align coverage of pregnant people & CHIP: 2009

Extension Request #1: ACA Implementation – 2014-2018

Amendments: 2016-2020

- Health System Transformation Program (2016)
- Recovery Navigation (2018)
- Peer Recovery Program (2018)
- Home Stabilization (2020)
- Psychiatric Consultation (2020)

Extension Request #2: Program Enhancements – 2019-2023

Current Waiver Extension Timeline

Extension Request #3: Submitted December 2022

CMS Extended Current Waiver Through CY24: September 2023

Amendment: Personal Care in Acute Hospital Settings and Certain Requests from Dec. 2022

- CMS approved this Amendment March 21, 2024.
- Current updated waiver still runs through CY24

Extension Request Addendum: Currently open for comment

- Goal is to gain approval of outstanding requests in Extension Request #3 as well as new Addendum requests by the end of CY24.

Priorities and Targeted Goals for Extension

Goal 1: Health Equity

Improve health equity through strong community-clinical linkages that support beneficiaries in addressing social determinants of health, including ensuring access to stable housing.

Goal 2: Behavioral Health

Continue to ensure expanded access to high-quality integrated behavioral healthcare that is focused on prevention, intervention, and treatment.

Goal 3: Long-Term Services & Supports

Continue progress toward rebalancing LTSS toward home and community-based services

Goal 4: Maintain and Expand on our Record of Excellence

Streamline administration of the waiver to strengthen current services and processes, while supporting continued progress towards our state's goals of improving healthcare quality and outcomes for Medicaid beneficiaries

March 2024 Waiver Amendment

On March 21, 2024, CMS approved an Amendment to the state's current 1115 Demonstration Waiver. The approved components are:

1. Authority to reimburse HCBS Personal Care services delivered when the participant is in an acute hospital setting, so long as the services are not duplicative of hospital services.
2. Expanded eligibility for “Budget Population 15,” HCBS-like services for adults with disabilities at risk for long-term care.
3. Updates to pregnant individual expenditure authority to align with 12-month post-partum coverage.
4. Addition of remote supports and monitoring to the list of HCBS.
5. Change in the Home Stabilization education requirement to allow providers to have at least a high school diploma or GED with one year of lived or professional experience.
6. Long-term approval for the following “Attachment K” HCBS flexibilities:
 1. Person-centered planning meetings, level of care evaluations, and functional assessments can take place virtually rather than in person. Person-centered plans can be signed electronically.
 2. Parents and non-spouse relatives of adult participants can work as paid providers of self-directed HCBS

Outstanding requests from Dec. 2022 Request

CMS has not yet approved the following requests, submitted in Rhode Island's 1115 Demonstration Extension Request in December 2022:

- Pre-release supports
- Addition of one-time transitional supports, including up to six months of rent payments, to the Home Stabilization benefit
- Restorative and recuperative care (medical respite) pilot
- Provision of the adult dental benefit through managed care rather than the fee-for-service delivery system
- Modifying the level of care criteria in Attachment D
- Clarifying the distinction between Family/ Youth Support Partners and Peer Recovery Specialists benefits.
- Technical updates such as removing references to outdated programs or authorities.

Proposed Revisions in the Extension Request Addendum



Health Equity and Behavioral Health Enhancements and Technical Changes

- Health Equity :
 - Nutrition Services: Healthy Food Prescriptions and Medically Tailored Meals
 - Re-entry Medicaid: Update the request from 30 days pre-release to 90 days pre-release and add coverage details
- Behavioral Health:
 - Contingency Management to treat SUD
 - Family and Youth Support Partners: Update provider qualifications to clarify support partner roles

Proposed Revisions in the Extension Request Addendum

Home and Community Based Services Technical Changes

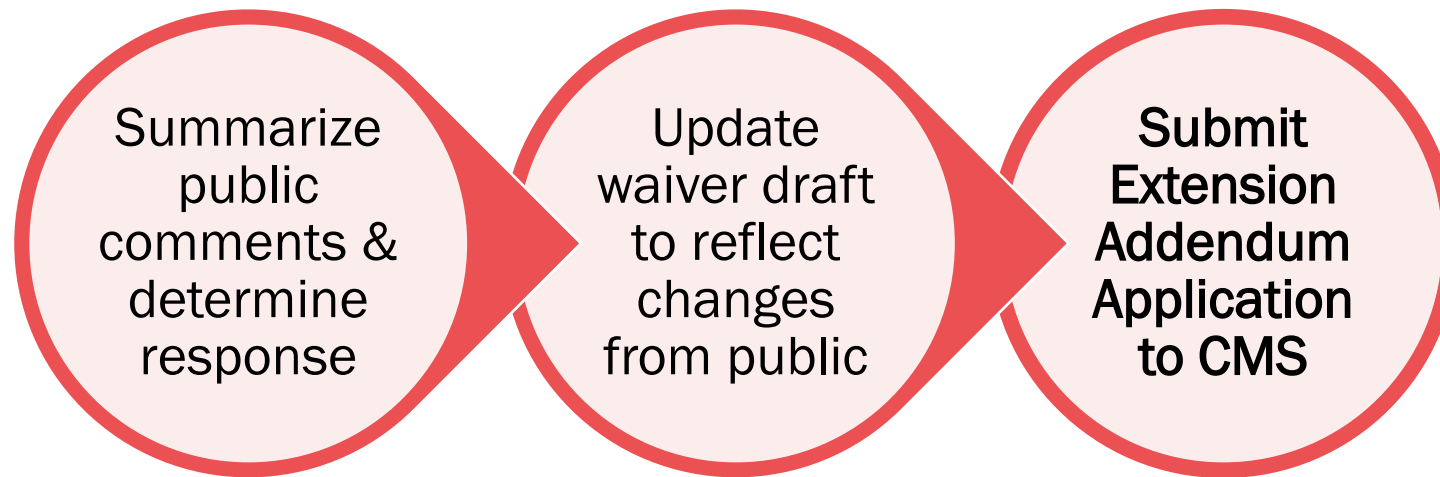
- Elimination of Preventive HCBS benefit category; each service currently being delivered is already available on the same terms in the Medicaid State Plan.
- Removing Home Stabilization from Attachment B because it is already authorized elsewhere in the waiver and is not an HCBS. Moving Coordinated Specialty Care from Attachment B because it is not an HCBS.
- Modification to Consultative Clinical and Therapeutic Services to include assistance to paid support staff, to align with the definition in the HCBS Technical Guide.
- Replacement of Day Treatment and Supports with the specific, separate services the state has implemented, including Individual, Family, and Group Therapy; Occupational, Physical, and Speech-Language Therapy; and Behavior Analysis and Management.
- Removal from the waiver those services that 1) are duplicative of state plan or other waiver services, 2) have never been implemented, or 3) are no longer implemented as distinct services.



Process for Public Comment and Submission of Waiver to CMS

Next Steps

- EOHHS is accepting public comments until April 15, 2024
- Comments will be reviewed, and responses will be developed
 - Responses to comments will not be provided today
 - Formal state response will be included in the final version of the waiver extension addendum
- The waiver extension addendum will be updated based on public feedback and submitted to CMS



The final version will be available at:

<https://eohhs.ri.gov/reference-center/medicaid-state-plan-and-1115-waiver/waiver-extension>

Public Hearing

Public comment can be provided at a public hearing or by emailing OHHS.RIMedicaidWaiver@ohhs.ri.gov

The proposed Addendum and public notices, including Abbreviated Public Notices in Spanish and Portuguese, are available at:

<https://eohhs.ri.gov/reference-center/medicaid-state-plan-and-1115-waiver/waiver-extension>