

Montana Section 1115 Waiver for Additional Services and Populations (WASP) Demonstration Waiver

June 2022 Extension/Renewal Submission

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

ABBREVIATED PUBLIC NOTICE

On or before June 30, 2022, the Montana Department of Public Health Human Services (DPHHS) will submit a 5-year Section 1115 Wavier for Additional Services and Populations (WASP) Medicaid Waiver Extension/Renewal application for approval to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2023. The waiver extension/renewal makes no substantial changes. The current waiver includes two populations:

As of year-end 2021, approximately 1,100 individuals were determined eligible for the waiver Mental Health Services Plan (MHSP). Qualifying individuals were age 18 or older, with Severe Disabling Mental Illness (SDMI) who were otherwise ineligible for Medicaid benefits and either:

- Had income 0-138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and are eligible for or enrolled in Medicare; or
- Had income 139-150% of the FPL regardless of Medicare status (they may be covered or not covered by Medicare and be eligible).

Approximately 29,300 individuals were determined categorically eligible for Aged, Blind and/or Disabled (ABD) dental treatment services above the \$1,125 State Plan dental treatment cap.

The goal of the WASP Demonstration mirrors the state's Medicaid goal, that is to assure medically necessary medical care is available to all eligible Montanans within available funding resources.

The goal of WASP for the MHSP population is threefold. The goals include improving:

- (1) access to mental health care,
- (2) utilization of mental health care, and
- (3) mental health outcomes for individuals age 18 or older, SDMI who qualify for, or are enrolled in, the Section 1115 WASP by providing coverage to receive Standard Medicaid benefits for mental health services.

The estimated total annual fiscal benefit impact is \$0.00

The goal of including the ABD Dental population into the WASP coverage is to provide individuals determined categorically eligible for ABD with dental treatment services above the \$1,125 State Plan dental treatment cap. The estimated total annual fiscal benefit impact is \$0.00.

The Montana DPHHS will soon request a 5-year extension/renewal, applicable to 01/01/2023 through 12/31/2027. To provide transparency in the state's proposed application for the 5-year Section 1115 WASP Medicaid Waiver Extension/Renewal application, there will be public hearings and a public comment period.

The full public notice statement and extension/renewal application are available for public review on the [WASP Extension/Renewal webpage](#). Paper copies are available to be picked up in person at the DPHHS Director's Office located at 111 North Sanders Street, Room 301, Helena, Montana 59601.

Two virtual public hearings will be held regarding the demonstration application:

The first virtual public hearing is on May 19, 2022 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. Mountain Time. Please [REGISTER](#) here.

The second virtual public hearing is on May 20, 2022 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. Mountain Time. Please [REGISTER](#) here.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If special accommodations are needed, contact Mary Eve Kulawik at (406) 444-2584 or mkulawik@mt.gov.

- Public Input and Comments on the WASP Medicaid Waiver Extension/Renewal must be submitted between 12:00 a.m. April 20, 2022 and 11:59 p.m.(Mountain Time) on June 18, 2022. Comments and questions may be directed to the following:
 - By US Mail:
Medicaid WASP Waiver Extension/Renewal
Department of Public Health and Human Services, Director's Office
111 North Sanders Street
PO Box 4210
Helena, MT 59604-4210
c/o Mary Eve Kulawik
 - By telephone: (406) 444-2584
 - By electronic mail: dphhscomments@mt.gov; and
 - You will also have opportunity to officially comment during the federal public comment period after CMS finds the application and public notice requirements met. The location to make these comments can be found online at the [CMS website](#).

The proposed changes, waiver benefit description, eligibility and program description, waiver evaluation design with goals/objectives, healthcare delivery system, public meeting details, full public notice, and public notice schedule are located on the [WASP Extension/Renewal webpage](#).