

Public Notice

Comment Period for State Plan Amendment IA-20-003: Updating the Premium Schedule for Medicaid for Employed People with Disabilities (MEPD) Program

Posted: February 24, 2020

The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), pursuant to the requirements outlined in 42 C.F.R. §447.205 and §1902(a)(13)(A) of the Social Security Act, hereby gives notice of the following proposed action regarding updating the premium scale for the Medicaid for Employed People with Disabilities (MEPD) program.

Summary

This State Plan Amendment (SPA) proposes to adjust the premium scale for applicants and recipients under the MEPD program with income over 150% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

DHS is requesting these changes as Iowa Code section 249A.3(2)(a)(1)(b) requires that “the maximum premium payable by an individual whose income exceeds one hundred fifty percent of the official poverty guidelines shall be commensurate with the cost of state employees’ group health insurance in this state.” The average cost to the state for state employees’ health insurance for a single person is \$829 effective January 1, 2020. Therefore, the maximum premium must not be above that amount.

DHS seeks an August 1, 2020, effective date for this SPA.

Estimate Fiscal Impact

There is no anticipated fiscal impact with this proposed change.

The new premium scale reflects the increase in the maximum premium allowed to reflect the increase in the cost of state employees’ health insurance by updating the current top increment and corresponding premium amount (1,550% FPL and above = \$829 premium). There will be changes to the other increments or premium amounts.

MEPD eligibility is based upon countable household income of no more than 250% of the FPL for the household size. MEPD premiums are assessed based on gross individual income. Currently, there are no MEPD members with gross individual income higher than 550% of the FPL.

Submission of Comments

This notice and a copy of SPA 20-003 is posted on the DHS website at:
<https://dhs.iowa.gov/public-notices/MEPD-Schedule>.

To reach all stakeholders, non-electronic copies will be available for public review at each local DHS office.

Written comments may be addressed to Jennifer Steenblock, Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, 611 Fifth Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309. Comments may

also be sent via electronic mail to jsteenb@dhs.state.ia.us. Please indicate SPA 20-003 in the subject line of the email.

All comments must be received by March 24, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

After considering all comments received, DHS will submit SPA IA-20-003 to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Submitted by:

Michael Randol
Medicaid Director
Iowa Medicaid Enterprise
Iowa Department of Human Services