

All-State Training: Processing State Plan Amendments (SPAs) for Medicaid Alternative Benefit Plans (ABPs)

Kirsten Jensen, Technical Director
Division of Benefits and Coverage
Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group

Agenda



- ◆ Welcome and Introductions
- ◆ Background
- ◆ Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) State Plan Amendment (SPA):
Overview and Content
- ◆ SPA Processing: Goals, Tools and Steps and State Submission
- ◆ Using the Medicaid Model Data Lab (MMDL) PDF Repository
- ◆ Questions & Answers

Background



- ◆ Where we are now

- ◆ Where we need to be
 - ◆ Existing ABPs
 - ◆ Expansion States

Medicaid ABP SPA Overview



- ◆ Will need to be submitted by any State electing the new adult group and for any existing ABP
- ◆ Use of fillable PDFs – in place of paper pre-print State Plan pages
- ◆ Centralized submission process through the Medicaid Model Data Lab (MMDL) for Medicaid ABP SPA actions
- ◆ SPA submissions have begun, MMDL available now
- ◆ Medicaid ABP template on CMS Collaborative Application Lifecycle Management Tool (CALT) for State reference only

Medicaid ABP SPA Components



- ◆ Define
 - ◆ Population
 - ◆ Benefits
 - ◆ Service delivery system
 - ◆ Payment method

- ◆ Requires upload of additional SPAs if:
 - ◆ State is paying FFS that is different than State Plan, 4.19b pages and/or
 - ◆ State is charging cost sharing that is different than State Plan, 4.18-A and/or 4.18-F pages

- ◆ Public notice **MUST** occur prior to submission of the SPA

Tribal Consultation



- ◆ Commitment to meaningful consultation process
- ◆ Begin consultation as soon as possible
- ◆ CMS will be doing extensive tribal outreach through TTAG and All Tribe Calls over the next several months
- ◆ Most state tribal consultation policies allow for some flexibility and/or an expedited process to accommodate special circumstances
- ◆ Reach out to CMS to discuss consultation policies if questions or concerns

SPA Processing Goals



◆ Goals:

- ◆ Thorough, accurate, efficient and timely processing of SPAs to ensure adequate time for eligibility system programming and testing
- ◆ Target approval first 90 day clock

◆ To achieve this goal we will:

- ◆ Facilitate close collaboration between CMS and state agencies
- ◆ Identify and resolve issues quickly

SPA Processing Tools and Steps



◆ Tools:

- ◆ Fillable PDFs for State Plan pages
- ◆ Implementation Guides – guidance on policy and how to complete the PDFs
- ◆ MMDL (Medicaid Model Data Lab)

◆ Steps:

1. State submission of the SPA through the MMDL
2. Receipt and distribution of SPA to CMS Team
3. Review of SPA by CMS
4. Collaboration with states to resolve any potential issues
5. Adjudication of SPA

SPA Processing State Submission



- ◆ State downloads the SPA PDF(s) from MMDL
- ◆ State completes SPA PDF(s) and submits/uploads SPA PDF(s) and Summary Page (serves as 179 for Medicaid and cover letter for CHIP) to MMDL
- ◆ When the system validates the submission, an e-mail notification is generated to the applicable Regional Office

Medicaid and CHIP PDF Repository Presentation

Questions and Next Steps