

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355 (300)
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

May 23, 2024

Susan Birch, Director
Dr. Charissa Fotinos, State Medicaid Director
Health Care Authority
Post Office Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

Re: Washington State Plan Amendment (SPA) – 24-0017

Dear Director Birch and Dr. Fotinos:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 24-0017. This amendment will update the Rehabilitative Services, Section 13.d of the Medicaid State Plan to align the description of a Mental Health Care Provider.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This letter informs you that Washington State Plan Amendment (SPA) – 24-0017 was approved on May 23, 2024, with an effective date of January 1, 2024.

Enclosed are copies of Form CMS-179 and approved SPA pages to be incorporated into the Washington State Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Edwin Walaszek at (212)-616-2512 or via email at edwin.walaszek1@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc: Ann Myers, Section Manager & State Plan Coordinator, Health Care Authority

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER ____ _	2. STATE ____
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3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT XIX XXI
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TO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
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6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY _____ \$ _____
b. FFY _____ \$ _____

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT
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8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)	
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL	OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: EXEMPT

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL 
12. TYPED NAME
13. TITLE
14. DATE SUBMITTED

15. RETURN TO

FOR CMS USE ONLY	
16. DATE RECEIVED March 27, 2024	17. DATE APPROVED May 23, 2024

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED	
18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL January 1, 2024	19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL James G. Scott	21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL Director, Division of Program Operations

22. REMARKS

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTONAMOUNT, DURATION, AND SCOPE OF MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL
CARE AND SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE CATEGORICALLY NEEDY

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13. d. Rehabilitative Services (cont)
- “Psychiatric nurse” means a registered nurse who has a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, and who has had, in addition, at least two years' experience in the direct treatment of mentally ill or emotionally disturbed persons, such experience gained under the supervision of a Mental Health Professional. "Psychiatric nurse" also means any other registered nurse who has three years of such experience.
 - “Psychiatric advanced nurse practitioner” means person who is licensed as an advanced registered nurse practitioner according to state law; who is board-certified in advance practice psychiatric and mental health nursing.
- i. **Licensed Practical Nurse**
 - ii. **Nursing Assistant Registered/Certified**
 - iii. **Medical Assistant - Certified**
 - iv. **Licensed Pharmacist**
 - v. **Licensed Osteopathic Physician Assistant**
 - vi. **Licensed Registered Nurse**
 - vii. **Certified Substance Use Disorder Professional**
 - viii. **Certified Substance Use Disorder Professional Trainee**
 - ix. **Certified Peer Counselor** who has self-identified as in recovery from mental health conditions and or substance use disorders or is the parent or legal guardian of a person who has applied for, is eligible for, or has received mental health or substance use services; has received specialized training provided or contracted by the Health Care Authority; has passed a test, which includes both written and oral components of the training; has passed a Washington State background check; has been certified by the Health Care Authority and is working under an Agency Affiliated registration. Certified Peer Counselors work under the supervision of a Mental Health Professional or a Substance Use Disorder Professional.
 - x. **Mental Health Care Provider** means an individual working in a Behavioral Health Agency, under the supervision of a Mental Health Professional, who has primary responsibility for implementing an individualized plan for mental health rehabilitation services. To provide services as a Mental Health Care Provider, this person must be a Registered Agency Affiliated Counselor and have a minimum of one year of education or experience in mental health or a related field.
 - xi. **Behavioral Health Specialist** means a Mental Health Professional who meets state requirements as:
 - A “child mental health specialist”
 - A “geriatric mental health specialist”
 - An “ethnic minority mental health specialist”
 - A “disability mental health specialist”
 - A “co-occurring disorder specialist – enhancement”
 - xii. **Certified Gambling Counselor** is an individual that holds a state license as a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Marriage and Family Therapist Associate, A Mental Health Counselor, a mental Health Counselor Associate, a Social Worker (Advanced, Independent Clinical, or Associate), Psychologist or a state certification as a Substance Use Disorder Professional or Substance Use Disorder Professional Trainee and also holds a state certification as a Certified Gambling Counselor.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTONAMOUNT, DURATION, AND SCOPE OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE
MEDICALLY NEEDY GROUPS: ALL

13. d. Rehabilitative services (cont)

- “Psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioner” means a person who is licensed as an advanced registered nurse practitioner according to state law; who is board certified in advance practice psychiatric and mental health nursing.
- i. **Licensed Practical Nurse**
- ii. **Nursing Assistant Registered/Certified**
- iii. **Medical Assistant – Certified**
- iv. **Licensed Pharmacist**
- v. **Licensed Osteopathic Physician Assistant**
- vi. **Licensed Registered Nurse**
- vii. **Certified Substance Use Disorder Professional**
- ix. **Certified Substance Use Disorder Professional Trainee**
- x. **Certified Peer Counselor** who has self-identified as in recovery from mental health conditions and or substance use disorders or is the parent or legal guardian of a person who has applied for, is eligible for, or has received mental health or substance use services; has received specialized training provided or contracted by the Health Care Authority; has passed a test, which includes both written and oral components of the training; has passed a Washington State background check; has been certified by the Health Care Authority and is working under an Agency Affiliated registration. Certified Peer Counselors work under the supervision of a Mental Health Professional or a Substance Use Disorder Professional.
- xi. **Mental Health Care Provider** means an individual working within a Behavioral Health Agency, under the supervision of a Mental Health Professional, who has primary responsibility for implementing an individualized plan for mental health rehabilitation services. To provide services as a Mental Health Care Provider, this person must be a Registered Agency Affiliated Counselor and have a minimum of one year of education or experience in mental health or a related field.
- x. **Behavioral health Specialist** means an individual that hold a state-credential from the list above and meets state requirements as:
 - A "child mental health specialist"
 - A "geriatric mental health specialist"
 - An "ethnic minority mental health specialist"
 - A "disability mental health specialist"
 - A "Certified problem gambling counselor specialist "
 - A "Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist-Enhancement"
- xii. **Certified Gambling Counselor** is an individual who holds a state license as a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Marriage and Family Therapist Associate, A Mental Health Counselor, a mental Health Counselor Associate, a Social Worker (Advanced, Independent Clinical, or Associate), Psychologist or a state certification as a Substance Use Disorder Professional or Substance Use Disorder Professional Trainee and also holds a state certification as a Certified Gambling Counselor.