

Section 1115 Waiver Extension Request Description of Public Process

BACKGROUND

- On January 18, 2013, the state posted for public comment a draft extension request and initiated a public comment period for the extension request. That draft 1115 waiver extension request was the primary document for the state's public comment period.
- On March 12, 2013, Rhode Island submitted a document to CMS to extend the state's 1115 waiver that reflected the input received from the public.
- On March 27, 2013, Rhode Island received a letter from CMS indicating that CMS had determined that the state's extension request did not meet the requirements for a complete extension request as specified under section 42 CFR 431.412(c).

In order to address the concerns raised by CMS, the state is initiating a new public notice period beginning July 10, 2013. The extension request posted for public notice is composed of two linked documents. They are:

- 1) Rhode Island 1115 Waiver Extension Request, March 12, 2013
- 2) Addendum to the Rhode Island 1115 Waiver Extension Request, July 10, 2013

The Addendum addresses specific issues raised by CMS not otherwise included in the March document.

- **Section 2:** Updates to requested changes to the waiver.
- **Section 3:** Impact of these changes on budget neutrality, including some technical corrections to the budget neutrality calculations.
- **Section 4:** Additional information on the state's plan for evaluation activities.
- **Section 5:** Updated description of the state's public notice process.

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCESS

1) 1115 Waiver Taskforce Meetings. In addition to the initial public notice process that the State Medicaid agency implemented in January 2013, there has been additional engagement with stakeholders over the past five (5) months at 1115 Waiver Taskforce meetings on the following dates: February 25, March 25, April 22, May 20 and June 24.

2) Tribal Notification. The State has sent a certified letter to Chief Thomas and the Narragansett Indian Health Center informing the tribe of the additional information posted on the website. This correspondence was sent on July 10, 2013. A copy of the entire Waiver submission including the additional documentation on evaluation activities and budget neutrality was included in the correspondence to the Narragansett Indian Tribe.

3) Public Notice in Newspaper. Public notice of the Waiver extension resubmission was published in the *Providence Journal*, the Rhode Island daily newspaper with the widest circulation in the state, on July 10, 2013. Additional 1115 waiver extension request

information, public notices and meeting dates and public comments can be found on EOHHS's website at: <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ri1115waiver/updates/>

4) Public Hearings. The state will hold three (3) additional public hearings during the current 30 day public notice and review period which begins on July 10, 2013 and ends on August 10, 2013.

Public Hearing #1

July 17, 2013 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the University of Rhode Island – Kingston campus at Alumni Hall in Kingstown, Rhode Island. The public will be able to participate by conference call during this session.

Public Hearing #2

July 22, 2013 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Medicaid 1115 Waiver Taskforce Meeting at the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training (DLT) Building # 73, Rm. 73-1 in Cranston, Rhode Island.

Public Hearing #3

July 25, 2013 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at Woonsocket Town Hall (Harris Hall), 169 Main St., Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

5) Email Lists. In addition to the newspaper announcement and the public hearings, a notice regarding the application and supplemental resubmission information has been sent via electronic mail to the following mailing lists:

Rhode Island Health and Human Services Policy Interested Parties

Rhode Island 1115 Waiver Taskforce Interested Parties

RIte Care Consumer Advisory Committee

6) How to Submit Comments. All public comments received during the 30 day comment period and the public hearings will be posted on the state's website under "Public Comments" at <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ri1115waiver/publiccomments/>

Public comments can be submitted at the public hearings or via email or regular mail. The email address is: RhodeIsland1115Waiver@ohhs.ri.gov

The mailing address is:
RI Medicaid 1115 Waiver Extension Request
74 West Rd., Building #74, Cranston, RI 02920