

**NH Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Use Disorder Serious Mental Illness and
Serious Emotional Disturbance
Treatment and Recovery Access Section 1115(a)
Research and Demonstration Waiver
Extension Request**

Notice is hereby given that, as part of its ongoing efforts to maintain and improve access to behavioral health services in the State, the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is applying for an extension to its Section 1115(a) Research and Demonstration Waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a period of an additional five years. This extension will enable DHHS to claim federal reimbursement for payment of services provided to Medicaid beneficiaries as follows:

- Beneficiaries under age 65 who are otherwise eligible and primarily receiving treatment and withdrawal management services for substance use disorder (SUD) who are short-term residents in facilities that meet the definition of an institution for mental diseases (IMD);
- Beneficiaries ages 21-64 who are otherwise eligible and primarily receiving short-term inpatient psychiatric treatment or short-term residential mental health treatment for serious mental illness (SMI) in an IMD; and
- Beneficiaries who are otherwise eligible and receiving SUD, SMI or Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) treatment while an inmate of a public institution within NHDOC's system of state prisons, for a focused package of care coordination and services to be provided during the period 45 days prior to release (tailored Medicaid State Plan services to support community reentry or "Community Reentry").

DHHS is interested in public input on the extension request for the Substance Use Disorder Serious Mental Illness Serious Emotional Disturbance Treatment and Recovery Access (SUD-SMI-SED-TRA) Section 1115(a) Research and Demonstration Waiver. DHHS is convening two public hearings to seek public input on this extension request. Comments will also be considered at the Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) meeting in August. All MCAC meetings are open to the public.

The hearings will be held:

- Wednesday, August 10, 2022, from 5:30 - 7:00 pm at Manchester Public Library Auditorium, 405 Pine Street, Manchester, NH 03104
- Thursday, August 18, 2022, from 5:00 - 6:30 pm at Littleton Regional Healthcare, 600 St. Johnsbury Road, Littleton, NH 03561 (Masks required)

The MCAC meeting will be held:

- Monday, August 8, 2022, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Fred H. Brown Building Auditorium, 129 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301

The complete version of the Substance Use Disorder Serious Mental Illness Serious Emotional Disturbance Treatment and Recovery Access Section 1115(a) Research and Demonstration Waiver Extension Request is available for public review at: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/medicaid-waivers-and-demonstrations>. Aside from Community Reentry, the State is not requesting any changes to the demonstration scope as approved in the Special Terms and Conditions dated June 2, 2022. All public comments must be received by 5:00 pm (Eastern) on Tuesday, September 6, 2022.

Comments will be accepted: (1) at either of the two scheduled public hearings referenced above; (2) at the MCAC meeting referenced above; (3) emailed to SUD-SMI.1115.Extension@dhhs.nh.gov; or (4) mailed to Carolyn Richards, NH Department of Health and Human Services, Attn: SUD-SMI-SED-TRA Demonstration Extension, 129 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301