

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850



Children and Adults Health Programs Group

April 10, 2024

Michelle Baass
Interim State Medicaid Director
Director of Health Care Programs
Department of Health Care Services
1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Dear Director Baass:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) CA-24-0008, submitted on March 15, 2024, has been approved. Through this SPA, California has demonstrated compliance with both the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Section 11405(b)(1) and the longstanding requirement in regulations at 42 CFR § 457.410(b)(2) and 457.520(b)(4) to cover age-appropriate vaccines. This SPA has an effective date of October 1, 2023.

Section 11405(b)(1) of the IRA requires states with separate CHIPs that include coverage for adults to provide coverage and payment for approved adult vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and their administration, without cost sharing. Current regulations at 42 CFR § 457.410(b)(2) and 457.520(b)(4) require states to cover age-appropriate vaccines and their administration in accordance with the recommendations of the ACIP without cost sharing. The state provided the necessary assurances to demonstrate compliance with both requirements.

Your Project Officer is Joyce Jordan. She is available to answer your questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related matters. Her contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop: S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: (410) 786-3413
E-mail: Joyce.Jordan@cms.hhs.gov

If you have additional questions, please contact Meg Barry, Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (410) 786-1536. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,



Sarah deLone
Director

Section 1. General Description and Purpose of the Children’s Health Insurance Plans and the Requirements

1.4 Provide the effective (date costs begin to be incurred) and implementation (date services begin to be provided) dates for this SPA (42 CFR 457.65). A SPA may only have one effective date, but provisions within the SPA may have different implementation dates that must be after the effective date.

CA RESPONSE:

SPA #24-0008 Purpose of SPA: To demonstrate compliance to statutory amendments made by Section 11405(b)(1) of the IRA, which requires separate CHIPs to provide coverage and payment for approved vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and their administration, without cost sharing.

Proposed effective date: 10/01/2023

Proposed implementation date: 10/01/2023

1.4- TC **Tribal Consultation** (Section 2107(e)(1)(C)) Describe the consultation process that occurred specifically for the development and submission of this State Plan Amendment, when it occurred and who was involved.

CA RESPONSE:

SPA #24-0008 for Section 11405(b)(1) of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022, that requires Separate Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Coverage of Vaccines and Administration, without Cost Sharing. On January 10, 2024, CMS determined that Tribal consultation was not necessary for SPA 24-0008.

6.5 -Vaccine Coverages

Guidance: States are required to provide coverage for age-appropriate vaccines and their administration, without cost sharing. States that elect to cover children under the State Plan (indicated in Section 4.1) should check box 6.5.1 States that elect to cover pregnant individuals under the State Plan should also check box 6.5.2. States that elect to cover the from-conception-to-end-of-pregnancy population (previously referred to as the “unborn”) option under the State Plan should also check box 6.5.3.

6.5.1 **Vaccine coverage for targeted-low-income Children.** The State provides coverage for age-appropriate vaccines and their administration in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), without cost sharing. (Section 2103(c)(1)(D)) (42CFR 457.410(b)(2) and 457.520(b)(4)).

6.5.2 **Vaccine coverage for targeted-low-income pregnant individuals.** The State

provides coverage for approved adult vaccines recommended by the ACIP, and their administration, without cost sharing. (SHO #23-003, issued June 27, 2023); (Section 2103(c)(12))

- 6.5.3** **Vaccine coverage for from-conception-to-end-of-pregnancy population option.**
The State provides coverage for age-appropriate (child or adult) vaccines and their administration in accordance with the recommendations of the ACIP, without cost sharing, to benefit the unborn child.