

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 CFR § 447.205, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in methods and standards for setting payment rates for services in the SoonerCare program. The following method change will necessitate an amendment to the Oklahoma Medicaid State Plan. The proposed changes were presented at the Tribal Consultation meeting on November 2, 2021, at 11:00 AM via teleconference.

Independently Licensed Clinical Psychologist Services; Effective: The Day After the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Declaration Expires; contingent upon CMS approval.

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA), in coordination with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), submitted a disaster relief state plan amendment (SPA) to allow adults in the Medicaid program access to services provided by licensed clinical psychologists who can bill independently and are practicing within state scope of practice. The OHCA is pursuing a permanent SPA to extend this flexibility upon the termination of the PHE. Services provided by independently contracted clinical psychologists were previously a State Plan benefit only available to children. Reimbursement for independently licensed psychologist services will follow the Agency's existing rate methodology for this provider type within the Oklahoma State Plan. Through this proposed SPA, the State also seeks to clarify its current reimbursement policy for Licensure Candidates; payment is only made for Licensure Candidates practicing within an agency setting.

The estimated budget impact for the remainder of SFY 2022 will be an increase in the total amount of \$358,980; with \$75,404 in the state share.

Interested persons may visit oklahoma.gov/ohca/policies-and-rules/public-notices to view a copy of the public notice(s) and visit oklahoma.gov/ohca/policies-and-rules/proposed-changes to view a copy of the proposed state plan amendment and a link to provide public comments on the proposal. Persons wishing to present their views in writing or obtain copies of the proposed state plan amendments may do so via mail by writing to: Oklahoma Health Care Authority, Federal Authorities Unit, 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105, or by email at federal.authorities@okhca.org. Written comments or requests for copies of the proposed state plan amendments will be accepted by contacting OHCA as indicated. Comments submitted through the OHCA policy blog will be available for review online at oklahoma.gov/ohca/policies-and-rules/proposed-changes. Other written comments are available upon request at federal.authorities@okhca.org. Comments will be accepted from April 1, 2022 through April 30, 2022.