I/T/U Public Notice 2022-1
February 15, 2022

RE: Oklahoma Health Care Authority Proposed Rule, State Plan and Waiver Amendments

Dear Tribal Representative:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of proposed changes that will be reviewed at the tribal consultation meeting on March 1st, 2022, at 11 a.m. OHCA invites you to attend this meeting via webinar, and we welcome any comments regarding the proposed changes. The agency is committed to active communication with tribal governments during the decision-making and priority-setting process to keep you apprised of all proposed changes.

Enclosed are summaries of the current proposed rules, state plan and waiver amendments for your review. The summaries describe the purpose of each change.

Please note that these are only proposed changes and have not yet taken effect. Before implementation, proposed changes must obtain budget authorization and approval by the OHCA board, and when applicable, federal and governor approval must be obtained.

Additionally, OHCA posts all proposed changes on the agency’s Policy Change Blog and the Native American Consultation Page. These public website pages are designed to give all constituents and stakeholders an opportunity to review and make comments regarding upcoming policy changes. To ensure that you stay informed of proposed policy changes, you may sign up for web alerts to be automatically notified when any new proposed policy changes are posted for comment.

OHCA values consultation with tribal governments and will provide your representatives a reasonable amount of time to respond to this notification. If you have any questions or comments about the proposed policy changes, please use the online comment system found on the Policy Change Blog and/or the Native American Consultation Page.

Sincerely,

Dana Miller
Director, Tribal Government Relations
Proposed Rule, State Plan, and Waiver Amendments

Recovery Audit Contractor Exception — The proposed State Plan amendment (SPA) seeks an exemption from the recovery audit contract (RAC) requirement. Federal RAC programs execute audits for the purpose of identifying under/overpayments of Medicaid claims under the State Plan. The State has robust and effective program integrity procedures in place which performs the tasks of a RAC program; therefore, the Agency is seeking an exemption to the RAC requirement, as it is duplicative of the auditing activities that the State already performs.

Anticipated Tribal Impact: indirect; ITU claims are included in audits
Proposed State Plan Amendment Timeline
60-day Tribal Consultation Period: February 17, 2022 – April 15, 2022
Tribal Consultation: March 1, 2022
Public Comment Period: March 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022
Proposed Effective Date: April 1, 2022

Removing Provider Panel Limits in the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) — The proposed revisions will update the current member caps for Physicians, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN), and Physician Assistants (PA) participating in SoonerCare Choice as a Patient Centered Medical Home. Currently, policy only allows 2,500 members for each physician, 1,250 members for each APRN, and 1,250 members for each PA. The proposed revisions will remove the member caps completely, which will allow members easier access to care. The aforementioned changes will align policy with the current redesign of the PCMH model.

Anticipated Tribal Impact: none; ITUs are not PCMH providers
Proposed Rule Timeline
60-day Tribal Consultation Period: February 17, 2022 – April 15, 2022
Tribal Consultation: March 1, 2022
Public Comment Period: March 1, 2022 – March 16, 2022
Medical Advisory Committee: May 12, 2022
OHCA Board Meeting: May 18, 2022
Requested Effective Date: Upon Governor’s signature or the 45th day post submission of the rules to the Governor (July 5, 2022)

Updating Tribal Residential Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Policy — The proposed revisions will update policy at Oklahoma Administrative Code 317:30-5-1094 to reflect that I/T/U providers will utilize their current outpatient clinic contract to bill for residential SUD services and receive the OMB outpatient rate. This will also reflect the language in the Medicaid State Plan and align with current business practices. I/T/U providers will be exempted from ODMHSAS and/or state required certification as a residential SUD provider

Anticipated Tribal Impact: direct; ITUs providing this service will be reimbursed at the OMB rate.

Proposed Rule Timeline
60-day Tribal Consultation Period: February 17, 2022 – April 15, 2022
Tribal Consultation: March 1, 2022
Public Comment Period: March 1, 2022 – March 16, 2022
Medical Advisory Committee: May 12, 2022
OHCA Board Meeting: May 18, 2022
Requested Effective Date: Upon Governor’s signature or the 45th day post submission of the rules to the Governor (July 5, 2022)

1915(c) HCBS Community Waiver Amendment — The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is seeking a waiver amendment of the 1915(c) HCBS Community Waiver. The proposed revisions to the Community Waiver will update the “reserved capacity purpose” language to include not only persons transitioning from public ICF/IIDs, but also persons transitioning from private ICF/IIDs as well as persons identified through the PASRR process. Further revisions will update the scope of the background investigation to include the Federal Bureau of Investigation Identity History Summary Check.

Additional revisions will update several services found within the waiver. The following changes will be made: dental services will change from “Other Service” to “Extended State Plan Services”; the limits for Dental, Transportation, and Family Training services will be increase; optometry
services will be added to the Participant Services section; and therapeutic leave payment will be added to the Specialized Foster Care services. Language regarding supported employment services, prevocational services, and daily living supports service will be updated to state that services may be provided remotely with prior approval. Language will also be added to state that occupational and/or physical therapy will require a prescription by any licensed health care provider who has appropriate prescriptive authority.

Additional changes include allowing case management virtual visits within the scope of service plan implementation and monitoring; these virtual visits will be limited to twice a year for individuals receiving residential services. For individuals receiving non-residential services, the virtual visits will be limited to once per year. Moreover, language will be added to the service plan development section of the waiver to allow team meetings, including individual plan meetings, to be conducted via HIPAA compliant teleconference or video conference.

Finally, language will be updated to reflect the current practice related to the sharing of information between Oklahoma Human Services (OKDHS) and the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA).

**Anticipated Tribal Impact:** indirect; AI/AN individuals enrolled in the waiver program

**Proposed Timeline**

**60-day Tribal Consultation Period:** February 17, 2022 – April 15, 2022

**Tribal Consultation:** March 1, 2022

**Public Comment Period:** January 18, 2022 – February 18, 2022

**Proposed Effective Date:** July 1, 2022

**1915(c) HCBS Homeward Bound Waiver Amendment** — The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is seeking a waiver amendment of the 1915(c) HCBS Homeward Bound Waiver. The proposed revisions will update the scope of the background investigation to include the Federal Bureau of Investigation identity history summary check. Revisions will update several services found within the waiver including, but are not limited to, changing dental service from “Other Service” to “Extended State Plan Service”; increasing the limits for dental, transportation and family training services; optometry service will be added to the participant services section; and therapeutic leave payment will be added to the specialized foster care services section. Language
regarding supported employment service, prevocational service, and the daily living supports service will be updated to state that services may be provided remotely with prior approval. Language will be added to state that occupational and/or physical therapy will require a prescription by any licensed health care provider who has appropriate prescriptive authority.

Medicaid certified Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) will be removed as a provider of the respite daily service. The environmental accessibility adaptations and architectural modification service limit will be updated to allow a designee, as well as the DHS/DDS division administrator, to authorize modification of more than two different residences in a seven-year period. Language will be added to the service plan development section which will allow team meetings, including individual plan meetings, to be conducted via HIPAA compliant teleconference or video conference.

Finally, language will be updated to reflect the current practice related to the sharing of information between Oklahoma Human Services (OKDHS) and the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA).

**Anticipated Tribal Impact:** indirect; AI/AN individuals enrolled in the waiver program

**Proposed Timeline**

- **60-day Tribal Consultation Period:** February 17, 2022 – April 15, 2022
- **Tribal Consultation:** March 1, 2022
- **Public Comment Period:** January 18, 2022 – February 18, 2022
- **Proposed Effective Date:** July 1, 2022

**1915(c) HCBS In Home Supports Waiver for Adults** — The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is seeking a waiver renewal of the 1915(c) HCBS In Home Supports Waiver for Adults. The proposed revisions will increase the annual limits of assistive technology services or environmental accessibility services to allow for major purchases that are in excess of $2,500. Additionally, a combined service limit of $5,500 will be added for prevocational and supported employment services when the member’s need for one or both services cannot be met within the waiver limit. Further revisions will update the individual and group limit for family training service from $5,500 to $6,500 (per plan of care year). Moreover, the scope of the background
investigation will be updated to include the Federal Bureau of Investigation identity history summary check.

Revisions will also include updating several services found within the waiver; revisions include changing dental service from “Other Service” to “Extended State Plan Services” and increasing the limits for dental and transportation. Optometry service and respite daily service will be added to the participant services section. Language will also be added to state that supported employment service and prevocational services can be provided remotely with prior approval.

Revisions will update the environmental accessibility adaptations and architectural modification service limit to allow a designee, as well as the DHS/DDS division administrator, to authorize modification of more than two different residences in a seven-year period. Moreover, language will be added to state that occupational and/or physical therapy will require a prescription by any licensed health care provider who has appropriate prescriptive authority.

Further revisions will update the self-directed goods and services individual provider type and qualifications. These revisions will state that the business/provider must be registered with the Secretary of State and in good standing with the state that offers the approved goods/services. Revisions will also update the service plan development section to allow team meetings, including individual plan meetings, to be conducted via HIPAA compliant teleconference or video conference.

Finally, the unduplicated number of participants from Appendix B of the waiver will be updated to the following:

- Waiver Year 1 – from 1620 to 2450;
- Waiver Year 2 – from 1750 to 2450;
- Waiver Year 3 – from 1900 to 2450;
- Waiver Year 4 – from 2100 to 2450; and
- Waiver Year 5 - from 2200 to 2450.
1915(c) HCBS In Home Supports Waiver for Children — The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is seeking a waiver renewal of the 1915(c) HCBS In Home Supports Waiver for Children. The proposed revisions will increase the annual limits of assistive technology services or environmental accessibility services to allow for major purchases that are in excess of $2,500. Revisions will also update the individual and group limit for family training service from $5,500 to $6,500 (per plan of care year). Moreover, revisions will update the scope of the background investigation to include the Federal Bureau of Investigation identity history summary check.

Additional revisions will include updating several services found within the waiver. These include adding language which states that supported employment service and prevocational service can be provided remotely with prior approval and noting that the service is available to members of transition age. Respite daily service will be added to the participant services section. Additional revisions will update the environmental accessibility adaptations and architectural modification service limit to allow a designee, as well as the DHS/DDS division administrator, to authorize modification of more than two different residences in a seven-year period. Further revisions will update the self-directed goods and services individual provider type and qualifications; these revisions will note that the business/provider must be registered with the Secretary of State and in good standing with the state that offers the approved goods/services. Additionally, revisions will update the service plan development section to allow team meetings, including individual plan meetings, to be conducted via HIPAA compliant teleconference or video conference. Finally, language regarding the Habilitation Training Specialist (HTS) will be revised to include the provision of HTS in an acute care hospital.
Anticipated Tribal Impact: indirect; AI/AN individuals enrolled in the waiver program

Proposed Timeline

60-day Tribal Consultation Period: February 17, 2022 – April 15, 2022
Tribal Consultation: March 1, 2022
Public Comment Period: January 18, 2022 – February 18, 2022
Proposed Effective Date: July 1, 2022

Disaster-relief Request PRTF Nursing Care Ratios - For the period beginning December 1, 2021, through the expiration of the PHE, OHCA seeks to provide flexibility for nursing care ratio requirements to address staffing shortages when inpatient psychiatric services for individuals under 21 are provided within in-state psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTFs) with 17 beds or more. PRTFs shall ensure that an RN is available to be on-site within one hour and nursing care coverage allows for appropriate and safe monitoring of patients.

Anticipated Tribal Impact: indirect; AI/AN members residing in PRTF will experience the staffing changes.

Proposed State Plan Amendment Timeline

60-day Tribal Consultation Period: N/A
Tribal Consultation: March 1, 2022
Public Comment Period: N/A
Proposed Effective Date: 12/1/2021