Medicaid Work Requirements Waiver Information Sheet – Arizona

What are Medicaid work requirements?

Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration waivers provide states the ability to test new approaches in Medicaid that differ from federal program rules. In January 2018, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a State Medicaid Director Letter (SMDL) which provided guidance to states on making work/community engagement (CE) requirements a condition of obtaining Medicaid eligibility under Section 1115 demonstration waivers.

What is the status of Arizona’s waiver request?

It was approved on September 13, 2019 and paused on October 21, 2019.

Who is affected by Arizona’s waiver request?

The waiver request affects non-exempt adults between the age of 19 and 49, with incomes up to 138% of the federal poverty level, who received coverage as a part of the Medicaid expansion.

There are exemptions and they include people who are:

- Pregnant and post-partum women
- Former foster care youth up to age 26
- Diagnosed with a serious mental illness.
- Currently receiving temporary or permanent long-term disability benefits, including worker’s compensation.
- Medically frail
- Receiving active SUD treatment
- Full time high school students
- Full time trade school, college, or graduate students
- Victims of domestic violence
- Homeless
- Caretakers of a minor child
- Caregivers of an individual with a disability
- Have an acute medical condition that would prevent them from complying
- Unable to participate for disability related reasons
- Members of federally recognized Tribes
- Receiving SNAP, Cash Assistance, or Unemployment Insurance income benefits.
- Participating in other AHCCCS approved work programs.
How can people satisfy the requirement?

This requirement may be satisfied by spending 80 hours per month doing the following things:

- Employment
- Education (less than full time)
- Job Skills Training
- Life Skills Training
- Health education classes
- Engaging in job search activities substantially equivalent to those required to receive unemployment benefits in Arizona

How are AI/AN people affected?

Members of federally recognized Tribes are exempt from this requirement.

Has Arizona applied for an AI/AN waiver?

Yes and it was approved.

For additional information, please contact:
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