

Medicaid Work Requirements Waiver Information Sheet – Arkansas

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 Arkansas's waiver request?

It was **approved** on March 5, 2018, implemented, but eventually **stricken down** under a court order.

Who is affected by Arkansas's waiver request?

The waiver request affects non-exempt adults between the age of 19 and 49.

There are exemptions and they include people who are:

- Medically frail
- Pregnant or 60 days post-partum
- Full time students
- Exempt from SNAP work requirements.
- Exempt from Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) Cash Assistance work requirements.
- Receiving TEA cash assistance.
- Physically or mentally unfit for employment.
- Caring for an incapacitated person.
- Lives at home with their minor dependent child age 17 or younger.
- Receiving unemployment benefits.
- Participating in a treatment program for alcoholism or drug addiction.

National Indian Health Board



How can people satisfy this requirement?

The requirement may be satisfied in the following ways:

- Employment or self-employment or having an income consistent with having worked for 80 hours per month at the minimum wage.
- Enrollment in an educational program.
- Participation in on the job training
- Participation in vocational training
- Community service
- Participation in independent job search (up to 40 hours per month)
- Participation in job search (up to 40 hours per month)
- Participation in activities or programs available through the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services.
- Participation in and compliance with SNAP/TEA employment initiative programs.

How are AI/AN people affected?

The state has not sought an AI/AN waiver.

Has Arkansas applied for an AI/AN waiver?

No.

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