Medicaid Work Requirements Waiver Information Sheet – South Dakota

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.

South Dakota has applied for a waiver and their request is still pending.

Who is affected by South Dakota’s waiver request?

The waiver request affects adults between the ages of 19-29 who live in Pennington and Minnehaha Counties. There are exemptions, as listed below:

- Pregnant women
- Full time students
- Disabled
- Medically frail
- Those already meeting SNAP or TANF work requirements
- Caregivers of the disabled and medically frail
- Parents of children under the age of one

How can people satisfy the requirement?

A person must work 80 hours per month or participate in the “Career Connector” program, which involves working with a state case worker to meet the goals of an “individualized” plan.

How are AI/AN people affected?

While there are no reservations in either county, Sioux San Hospital, a Tribally run facility, is located in Rapid City, in Pennington County.

Has South Dakota applied for an AI/AN waiver?

No. The proposal does state however that a tribe could create a state approved workforce development program in lieu of “Career Connector.”

For additional information, please contact:
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