Medicaid Work Requirements Waiver Information Sheet – Utah

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 Utah’s waiver request?

It was approved on December 23, 2019 and implemented on January 1, 2020.

Who is affected by Utah’s waiver request?

The waiver request affects non-exempt adults between the age of 19 and 55, 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:

- Age 60 or older
- Pregnant or up to 60 days postpartum
- Physically or mentally unable to meet the requirement as determined by a medical professional or documented through other data sources.
- A parent or other member of household with the responsibility to care for a dependent child under age six.
- Responsible for the care of a person with a disability as defined by federal law.
- A member of a federally recognized tribe.
- Has applied for and is awaiting for an eligibility determination, or is currently receiving unemployment, and has registered for work at Department of Workforce Services.
- Participating regularly in a SUD treatment program, including intensive outpatient treatment.
- Enrolled at least half time in any school or vocational training or apprenticeship program.
- Participating in refugee employment services offered by the state.
- In compliance or exempt from SNAP or TANF work requirement.
How can people satisfy the requirement?

This requirement may be satisfied in the following ways:

- Working at least 30 hours a week or working and earning at least what would equal the federal minimum wage earned working 30 hours a week.
- Registering to work through the state system.
- Completing an assessment of employment training needs.
- Applying for employment, either directly or through the state’s automated employment application submission process, with at least 48 applications.
- Completing the job training modules as determined to be relevant to the individual through the assessment of employment training needs.

How are AI/AN people affected?

Members of federally recognized Tribes are exempt from this requirement.

Has Utah applied for an AI/AN waiver?

Yes and it was approved.

For additional information, please contact:
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