

NOTICE OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

Notice of Proposed Medicaid Waiver

Renewal of Selective Provider Contracting Waiver Pursuant to Section 1915(b)(4) of the Social Security Act for Early Intervention Services (EIS) Pursuant to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Qualified Program Waiver

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS), Connecticut's single state Medicaid agency and the State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC), which administers the Connecticut Birth to Three System, including this waiver, provide notice that DSS proposes to submit the following Medicaid waiver renewal application to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Description of the Waiver Renewal

Effective October 1, 2021, the above-referenced waiver renewal enables the state to continue limiting the number of qualified EIS providers in each municipality. This waiver renewal continues the same policy as in effect under the current waiver and does not make any substantive changes to the waiver. This waiver also does not affect Medicaid coverage or payment for EIS, which are described separately in the Medicaid State Plan.

OEC administers Connecticut's Birth to Three System, which is Connecticut's statewide program to provide EIS in accordance with Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 1431 to 1444, inclusive, and 34 C.F.R. Part 303. This waiver enables OEC to continue operating the Birth to Three System using a competitive procurement for Birth to Three programs, which are entities that provide EIS, including EIS pursuant to EPSDT for Medicaid members. As part of this process, OEC conducts a competitive procurement and limits the number of qualifying providers in each municipality to ensure that there is sufficient access to services for all members, while also ensuring that each provider has sufficient caseloads to maintain efficiency, expertise, and high quality services.

Fiscal Impact

This waiver renewal does not change payments to providers of EIS, which are separately described in the Medicaid State Plan. By continuing to limit the number of providers, the waiver is anticipated to continue the current reduced level of administrative expenditures for the state (compared to if no waiver were in effect).

Obtaining Waiver Renewal Language and Submitting Public Comments

The proposed waiver renewal is posted on the DSS website at this link: <https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Health-And-Home-Care/Medicaid-State-Plan-Amendments>. The proposed waiver renewal may also be obtained at any DSS field office, at the Town of Vernon Social Services Department, or upon request from DSS (see below).

To request a copy of the waiver renewal from DSS or to send comments about the waiver renewal, please email: Public.Comment.DSS@ct.gov or write to: Department of Social Services, Medical Policy Unit, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 (Phone: 860-424-5067). Please reference “Waiver Renewal – Selective Provider Contracting – EIS Pursuant to EPSDT”.

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this waiver renewal. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than June 24, 2021.
