



CABINET FOR HEALTH
AND FAMILY SERVICES

**KY Community Engagement
Section 1115 Demonstration Program**

Public Forum

May 22, 2025

10:00am – 11:00am EST

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Objectives
3. Overview of Proposed Community Engagement Program
4. Public Notice and Comment Process

Introduction

1. To comply with Kentucky House Bill 695, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) is requesting federal approval to implement a Community Engagement Program.
2. To request federal approval, CHFS is submitting a Section 1115 Demonstration proposal to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).
3. The CHFS Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) will implement the Community Engagement Program tentatively 24 months after receiving federal approval.

Objectives

1. To inform the public of a new Section 1115 Demonstration proposal to implement a Community Engagement Program.
2. To provide information about the public comment process prior to submission of the official Demonstration proposal in accordance with 42 CFR 431.08.

What is a Section 1115 Demonstration?

- An 1115 Demonstration is a test project that helps support the goals of the Medicaid program. The aim is to give states more freedom to create and improve their healthcare programs.
- An 1115 Demonstration project allows states to try new ways to improve healthcare beyond routine medical care. These new methods focus on proven ways to make people healthier and improve their lives.
- The Demonstration must also be "budget neutral" for the Federal government. This means that the government will not spend more on Medicaid during the demonstration than without it. The cost of services must be the same or less than the cost of services provided today.

What is the Community Engagement Program?

- In 2025, Kentucky passed House Bill 695. This law instructs the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) to start a Community Engagement Program.
- With this new program, CHFS will automatically refer certain Medicaid members to the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) for job support and coaching.
- The DWD will reach out to these members to provide information about job help.

Which Medicaid Members Are Impacted?

The Community Engagement Program will apply to individuals in the Medicaid expansion eligibility group who:

- Have been enrolled in Medicaid for more than 12 months.
- Are between the ages of 19 and 60 years of age.
- Are physically and mentally able to work as defined by the Cabinet.
- Are not caregivers of a dependent child under age 18 or a dependent disabled adult relative.

Member Exemptions

CHFS will exempt Medicaid expansion eligibility group members who meet at least one of the following conditions from automatic referral to DWD :

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals under 19 or over 60 years of age.• Individuals responsible for care of a dependent child under age 18 or a dependent disabled adult relative.• Individuals with:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A diagnosed substance use disorder or serious mental illness.- A chronic disease as determined by CHFS.- An acute medical condition (physical and/or behavioral) that would prevent them from complying with requirements.• Individuals whose eligibility has been determined based on disability or who have been deemed disabled by the Social Security Administration.• Individuals with verified earned income.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals receiving Unemployment Insurance income benefits.• Pregnant women.• Individuals who are homeless or who were recently homeless for up to six months post-housing.• Individuals who are victims of domestic violence.• Individuals who have recently been directly impacted by a catastrophic event such as a natural disaster or the death of a family member living in the same household.• Individuals already participating in a workforce participation program that CHFS has determined meets the objective of the Community Engagement Waiver Program (e.g., SNAP).• Former foster youth up to age 26.• Other good cause exceptions as approved by CHFS.
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How Will Members Find Out About the Program?

CHFS will send letters to members about Workforce Development and their services. Letters will also include information about how to request an exemption.

- **New Members:** New applicants can choose to be referred to Workforce Development when they apply for Medicaid. If not, CHFS will send letters to new members when they enroll, after six months, and after 12 months.
- **Current Members:** CHFS will send letters to current members who qualify, giving them 30 days' notice that they will be contacted by DWD unless they are exempt.
- **Managed Care Program Enrollees:** CHFS may also engage MCOs to tell members about the Program.

CHFS will also remind members about DWD resources during their eligibility checks and encourage them to use these resources.

Goals of the Community Engagement Program

Through this Program, CHFS aims to help people in Kentucky by offering referrals and support. This support will help individuals out of poverty by finding jobs through skills training and job assistance programs.

The goals of the Program are to:

- Expand efforts to help people achieve economic stability by connecting them with educational and job assistance programs.
- Identify individuals who qualify for exemptions and may need higher levels of care, then connect them to the necessary supports.

Public Notice and Comment Process

- To comply with federal regulations, CHFS will follow guidelines and procedures for collecting, reviewing, and responding to public comments.
- A draft of the Demonstration application and public notice are available and can be viewed at: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/Pages/Medicaid-SUD-1115-Waiver.aspx>.
- Comments or inquiries can be submitted via email received **on or before June 12, 2025** to: KY1115CommEngagement@mslc.com. Please include in the subject line “*1115 Community Engagement Comments*.”
- Written comments must be postmarked **by June 12, 2025** and mailed to:
Kentucky Medicaid Section 1115 Comment
c/o DMS Commissioner’s Office
275 E. Main St. 6W-A Frankfort, KY 40621

Public Forums

REMINDER

Public Forum #1 (VIRTUAL ONLY/MAC):

Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 10:00AM - 11:00AM EST

Join on your computer or mobile app via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87343193242?pwd=s3uEpNTJvZMbZO9NcacK3hqGhwflSg.1>

Zoom Passcode: 217974

Call in (audio only): (713) 353-0212 or (888) 822-7517, Conference ID: 729573

Public Forum #2 (IN-PERSON ONLY):

Friday, May 23, 2025, at 10:00AM – 11:00AM EST

Join in-person at: The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40622, Auditorium C105

THANK YOU! TO ALL KENTUCKIANS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

- Participants can raise your hands, come off mute and make your comments.
- To be respectful of all attendees and to allow for as many comments as possible, we ask that you please keep remarks to a couple of minutes.
- If you decide not to make a comment today you still have plenty of time. Public forum #2 is tomorrow or you can follow the instructions in the posted public notice to send an email or use the U.S. postal service.