August 21, 2020

RE:   Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 20-23: Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program

Dear Tribal Leadership, Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Providers, and Other Interested Parties:

Seeking advice and comments from New Mexico’s Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their health care providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. This letter is to inform you that the Human Services Department (HSD), through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting written comments until **5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) through September 19, 2020**, regarding State Plan Amendment (SPA) 20-0019 Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program.

The purpose of the Direct GME changes is to incentivize Primary Care and General Psychiatry to address the state’s primary care shortage. Payments for Direct GME in ACGME-accredited programs will be directed to four (4) categories of providers including the State Academic Medical Center, Hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Centers (RHCs) that support the cost of resident training. The program changes are effective July 1, 2020.

**Tribal Impact**

HSD does not anticipate any impact to Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos or their health care providers as a result of these changes.

**Tribal Advice and Comments**

Tribes and Tribal health care providers may view the proposed changes to the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program on the HSD website at: [http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations.aspx](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations.aspx), Tribal Notification 20-23.

**Important Dates**

**Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) on September 19, 2020.** Please send your comments to the MAD Native American Liaison, Theresa Belanger, at (505) 827-3122 or by email to Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us. All written comments received will be posted on the HSD website at: [http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations.aspx](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations.aspx) along with this notification letter. The public posting will include the name and any contact information provided by the
commenter.

Tribal Leadership may request a government-to-government consultation by September 19, 2020. This request may be made to: Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us or by calling (505) 827-3122.

Sincerely,

Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H.
State Medicaid Director