



Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
David R. Scrase, M.D., Secretary
Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H., Director

June 27, 2022

RE: Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 22-21: COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage for the Family Planning Group and Optional COVID-19 Group

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. In accordance with the New Mexico Human Services Department's (HSD's) Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments process, this letter is to inform you that HSD, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting comments until **5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) July 28, 2022**, regarding state plan amendment (SPA) 22-0015 COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage for the Family Planning Group and Optional COVID-19 Group.

New Mexico Medicaid received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), through an 1115 Demonstration Public Health Emergency (PHE) Amendment, for COVID-19 vaccine coverage for the family planning group and optional COVID-19 group from December 14, 2020, through March 10, 2021. Proposed SPA 22-0015 expands coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and their administration and coverage of COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies (including preventive therapies), to the family planning group and optional COVID-19 group from March 11, 2021, through the end of the PHE.

Tribal Impact

HSD anticipates a positive impact for Indian Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos and their health care providers.

Tribal Advice and Comments

Tribes and their healthcare providers may view the proposed changes, on the HSD webpage at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations/> **Tribal Notification 22-21.**

Important Dates

Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) July 28, 2022. Please send your comments to the MAD Native American Liaison, **Theresa Belanger, at (505) 670-8067** or by email at: Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us. All written comments received will be posted on the HSD website at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations/> 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 July 28, 2022. This request may be made to: Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us or by calling (505) 670-8067.

Sincerely,



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