

State of Hawaii
Department of Human Services
MED-QUEST DIVISION

MEDICAID STATE PLAN

SPA MEMO NO.: 26-05

DATE: 06/19/26

ORIGINATOR: POLICY AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

TO: Custodian of Med-QUEST Division Medicaid State Plan

FROM: Meredith Nichols
Med-QUEST Division Administrator *nmf*

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT UNDER THE MEDICAID STATE PLAN

EXPLANATION:

The State of Hawaii received approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for State Plan Amendment (SPA) Number 26-0005 "Removal of Medicare Application requirement" approved on June 8, 2026, effective January 1, 2026.

Attachment 2.6-A Item 11 on pg. 3c. referencing New York State Department of Social Services v. Dublino 413 U.S. 403 (1973) allows for states the option to require certain Medicaid applicants to apply for Medicare coverage as a condition of Medicaid eligibility. Historically, Hawaii has selected this option and has found that this process can create delays in access to Medicaid coverage, increase administrative burden, and create confusion for applicants—particularly seniors and individuals with disabilities navigating complex enrollment processes.

The goal of removing this selection is to streamline Medicaid eligibility determinations and reduce administrative barriers for applicants who are likely eligible for Medicare Parts A, B, and/or D.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Review and file the new Medicaid State Plan page in your Medicaid State Plan Manual as follows:

Attachment 2.6-A pg. 3c

Remove OLD, Attachment 2.6-A pg. 3c.

Replace with NEW, Attachment 2.6-A pg. 3c.

Please keep approved SPA 26-0005 package and supporting documentation for your records.

The Med-QUEST Division amendment described above has been incorporated into the electronic version of the Medicaid State Plan located at the Department of Human Services website link for public transparency below:

<http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/reports/hawaii-medicaid-state-plan/>

Attachments

C: Attorney General's Office
Audit, Quality Control & Research Office/Quality Control Staff
Clinical Standards Office
Department of Health/Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division
Department of Health/State Planning Council Developmental Disabilities
Department of Health/Developmental Disabilities Division
Department of Human Services/Adult Protective and Community Services Branch
Department of Human Services/Policy and Program Development Office
Eligibility System Project (KOLEA)
Finance Office
Hawaii Document Center/HI State Library
Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau Library
Health Care Services Branch
Legal Aid Society of Hawaii

State: HAWAII

| Citation(s) | Condition or Requirement |
|--|---|
| 1906 of the Act | 10. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Conflict of Interest Provisions</u> Is required to apply for enrollment in an employer-based cost-effective group health plan, if such plan is available to the individual. Enrolment is a condition of eligibility except for the individual who is unable to enroll on his/her own behalf (failure of a parent to enroll a child does not affect a child's eligibility). |
| U.S. Supreme Court case New York State Department of Social Services v. Dublino, 413 U.S. 403 (1973) | 11. <input type="checkbox"/> Is required to apply for coverage under Medicare Parts A, B, and/or D if it is likely that the individual would meet the eligibility criteria for any or all of those programs. The state agrees to pay any applicable premiums and cost sharing (except those applicable under Part D) for individuals required to apply for Medicare. Application for Medicare is a condition of eligibility unless the state does not pay the Medicare premiums, deductibles or co-insurance (except those applicable under Part D) for persons covered by the Medicaid eligibility group under which the individual is applying. |