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State/Territory Name: American Samoa

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 23-0001

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



June 28, 2023

Sandra King Young, Director
American Samoa Medicaid Agency
P.O. Box 998383 Office of the Governor
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Re: American Samoa State Plan Amendment (SPA) 23-0001

Dear Ms. Young:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed the proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) and accompanying section 1135 waivers submitted on April 5, 2023, under transmittal number (TN) 23-0001. This amendment proposes to add assurances that the territory covers and reimburses COVID-19 vaccine administration and vaccine, testing, and treatment as required under section 9811 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Pursuant to section 1135(b)(5) of the Social Security Act (Act), for the period of the public health emergency, CMS is modifying the requirement at 42 C.F.R. §430.20 that the state submit SPAs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency by the final day of the quarter, to obtain a SPA effective date during the quarter, enabling SPAs submitted after the last day of the quarter to have an effective date in a previous quarter, but no earlier than the effective date of the public health emergency.

CMS conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Act and implementing regulations. This letter is to inform you that American Samoa's Medicaid SPA Transmittal Number 23-0001 is approved effective March 11, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Prehmus at 303-844-7472 or via email at Barbara.Prehmus@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Alissa M.
Deboy -S

Digitally signed by Alissa
M. Deboy -S
Date: 2023.06.28
08:06:32 -04'00'

Alissa Mooney DeBoy
On Behalf of Anne Marie Costello, Deputy Director
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services

Enclosures

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER <u>2 3 — 0 0 0 1</u>	2. STATE <u>AS</u>
3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT <input checked="" type="radio"/> XIX <input type="radio"/> XXI	

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
03/11/2021

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
Section 9811(a) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY 2023-2021 \$ 200,000 750,000
b. FFY 2022 \$ 1,000,000

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Attachment 7.7-A
Attachment 7.7-B
Attachment 7.7-C

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

NEW
NEW
NEW

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Coverage of COVID vaccine & vaccine administration, COVID-19 testing and COVID treatment

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

11. NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
[REDACTED]

Sandra King Young
13. TITLE
Medicaid Director
14. DATE SUBMITTED
April 5, 2023

15. RETURN TO
American Samoa Medicaid State Agency
P.O. Box 6101
ASTCA Executive Bldg. Suite 306
Pago Pago, AS 96799

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED <u>April 6, 2023</u>	17. DATE APPROVED <u>June 28, 2023</u>
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PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL <u>March 11, 2023</u>	19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL <u>Alissa M Deboy -S</u> <small>Digitally signed by Alissa M Deboy Date: 2023.06.28 08:06:54 -0400</small>
20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL <u>Alissa Mooney DeBoy</u>	21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL <u>On Behalf of Anne Marie Costello, Deputy Director Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services</u>

22. REMARKS

Authorization received via email 6/23/23 to revise Box 6 Federal Budget impact FFYs and amounts.

Vaccine and Vaccine Administration at Section 1905(a)(4)(E) of the Social Security Act

During the period starting March 11, 2021 and ending on the last day of the first calendar quarter that begins one year after the last day of the emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act):

Coverage

The state assures coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and administration of the vaccines.¹

The state assures that such coverage:

1. Is provided to all eligibility groups covered by the state, including the optional Individuals Eligible for Family Planning Services, Individuals with Tuberculosis, and COVID-19 groups if applicable, with the exception of the Medicare Savings Program groups and the COBRA Continuation Coverage group for which medical assistance consists only of payment of premiums; and
2. Is provided to beneficiaries without cost sharing pursuant to section 1916(a)(2)(H) and section 1916A(b)(3)(B)(xii) of the Act; reimbursement to qualified providers for such coverage is not reduced by any cost sharing that would otherwise be applicable under the state plan.

Applies to the state's approved Alternative Benefit Plans, without any deduction, cost sharing or similar charge, pursuant to section 1937(b)(8)(A) of the Act.

The state provides coverage for any medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21 pursuant to §§1902(a)(11), 1902(a)(43), and 1905(hh) of the Act.

The state assures compliance with the HHS COVID-19 PREP Act declarations and authorizations, including all of the amendments to the declaration, with respect to the providers that are considered qualified to prescribe, dispense, administer, deliver and/or distribute COVID-19 vaccines.

Additional Information (Optional):

¹ The vaccine will be claimed under this benefit once the federal government discontinues purchasing the vaccine.
TN No: 23-0001 Approval Date: 06/28/2023
Supersedes: NEW Effective Date: 03/11/2021

Under the authority of the 1902(j) waiver, COVID vaccine and vaccine administration shall only be offered and covered at the American Samoa Department of Health’s Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and LBJ Tropical Medical Center (LBJTMC). COVID vaccine and vaccine administration shall be covered off-island for patients receiving authorized medical services through the Medicaid Off-island Medical Referral Program.

In the event of a public health emergency requiring pre-travel COVID vaccination for entry into American Samoa, COVID vaccine and vaccine administration shall be covered under Medicaid authorized providers for all bona fide residents of American Samoa.

Reimbursement

 X The state assures that the state plan has established rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines for all qualified providers pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

List Medicaid state plan references to payment methodologies that describe the rates for COVID-19 vaccines and their administration for each applicable Medicaid benefit:

- **COVID-19 vaccine administration qualified as an eligible FQHC “encounter”. FQHC are reimbursed via Patient Encounter payment methodology located in Attachment 4.19-B.**
- **LBJTMC are reimbursed via the Certified Public Expenditure Methodology located in Attachment 4.19-A & 4.19-B**

 The state is establishing rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

 The state’s rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines are consistent with Medicare rates for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines, including any future Medicare updates at the:

- Medicare national average, OR
- Associated geographically adjusted rate.

 The state is establishing a state specific fee schedule for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

TN No: 23-0001
Supersedes: NEW

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Effective Date: 03/11/2021

The state's rate is as follows and the state's fee schedule is published in the

following location :

The state's fee schedule is the same for all governmental and private providers.

The below listed providers are paid differently from the above rate schedules and payment to these providers for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines are described under the benefit payment methodology applicable to the provider type:

The payment methodologies for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines for providers listed above are described below:

Eligible services are reimbursed via the State's Medicare rates and customary charges for out-of-country providers located in Attachment 4.19-B.

The state is establishing rates for any medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21 pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(E), 1905(r)(1)(B)(v) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

The state's rate is as follows and the state's fee schedule is published in the following location :

PRA Disclosure Statement Under the Privacy Act of 1974 any personally identifying information obtained will be kept private to the extent of the law. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0938-1148 (CMS-10398 # 75). Public burden for all of the collection of information requirements under this control number is estimated to take up to 1 hour per response. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

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Effective Date: 03/11/2021

COVID-19 Testing at section 1905(a)(4)(F) of the Social Security Act

During the period starting March 11, 2021 and ending on the last day of the first calendar quarter that begins one year after the last day of the emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act):

Coverage

X The state assures coverage of COVID-19 testing consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) definitions of diagnostic and screening testing for COVID-19 and its recommendations for who should receive diagnostic and screening tests for COVID-19.

X The state assures that such coverage:

1. Includes all types of FDA authorized COVID-19 tests;
2. Is provided to all categorically needy eligibility groups covered by the state that receive full Medicaid benefits;
3. Is provided to the optional COVID-19 group if applicable; and
4. Is provided to beneficiaries without cost sharing pursuant to section 1916(a)(2)(I) and 1916A(b)(3)(B)(xiii) of the Act; reimbursement to qualified providers for such coverage is not reduced by any cost sharing that would otherwise be applicable under the state plan.

Please describe any limits on amount, duration or scope of COVID-19 testing consistent with 42 CFR 440.230(b).

Under the authority of the 1902(j) waiver, COVID testing and testing administration of the testing shall only be offered and covered at the American Samoa Department of Health's Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and LBJ Tropical Medical Center (LBJTMC). Home tests are not covered. COVID testing and administration shall be covered off-island for patients receiving authorized medical services through the Medicaid Off-island Medical Referral Program.

In the event of a public health emergency requiring pre-travel COVID testing for entry into American Samoa, COVID testing and testing administration shall be covered under the AS Medicaid authorized providers for all bona fide residents of American Samoa.

 Applies to the state's approved Alternative Benefit Plans, without any deduction, cost sharing, or similar charge, pursuant to section 1937(b)(8)(B) of the Act.

X The state assures compliance with the HHS COVID-19 PREP Act declarations and authorizations, including all of the amendments to the declaration.

TN No: 23-0001
Supersedes: NEW

Approval Date: 06/28/2023
Effective Date: 03/11/2021

Additional Information (Optional):

Reimbursement

The state assures that it has established state plan rates for COVID-19 testing consistent with the CDC definitions of diagnostic and screening testing for COVID-19 and its recommendations for who should receive diagnostic and screening tests for COVID-19.

List references to Medicaid state plan payment methodologies that describe the rates for COVID-19 testing for each applicable Medicaid benefit:

- **COVID-19 testing administration qualified as an eligible FQHC “encounter”. FQHC are reimbursed via Patient Encounter payment methodology located in Attachment 4.19-B.**
 - **LBJTMC are reimbursed via the Certified Public Expenditure Methodology located in Attachment 4.19-A & 4.19-B**

The state is establishing rates for COVID-19 testing pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(F) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

The state’s rates for COVID-19 testing are consistent with Medicare rates for testing, including any future Medicare updates at the:

Medicare national average, OR

Associated geographically adjusted rate.

The state is establishing a state specific fee schedule for COVID-19 testing pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(F) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

The state’s rate is as follows and the state’s fee schedule is published in the following location :

The state’s fee schedule is the same for all governmental and private providers.

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The below listed providers are paid differently from the above rate schedules and payment to these providers for COVID-19 testing is described under the benefit payment methodology applicable to the provider type:

Eligible off-island COVID testing administration are reimbursed via the State’s Medicare rates and customary charges for out-of-country providers located in Attachment 4.19-B.

Additional Information (Optional):

The payment methodologies for COVID-19 testing for providers listed above are described below:

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COVID-19 Treatment at section 1905(a)(4)(F) of the Social Security Act

During the period starting March 11, 2021 and ending on the last day of the first calendar quarter that begins one year after the last day of the emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act):

Coverage for the Treatment and Prevention of COVID

X The state assures coverage of COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies (including preventive therapies).

X The state assures that such coverage:

1. Includes any non-pharmacological item or service described in section 1905(a) of the Act, that is medically necessary for treatment of COVID-19;
2. Includes any drug or biological that is approved (or licensed) by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) or authorized by the FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to treat or prevent COVID-19, consistent with the applicable authorizations;
3. Is provided without amount, duration or scope limitations that would otherwise apply when covered for purposes other than treatment or prevention of COVID-19;
4. Is provided to all categorically needy eligibility groups covered by the state that receive full Medicaid benefits;
5. Is provided to the optional COVID-19 group, if applicable; and
6. Is provided to beneficiaries without cost sharing pursuant to section 1916(a)(2)(I) and 1916A(b)(3)(B)(xiii) of the Act; reimbursement to qualified providers for such coverage is not reduced by any cost sharing that would otherwise be applicable under the state plan.

 Applies to the state's approved Alternative Benefit Plans, without any deduction, cost sharing, or similar charge, pursuant to section 1937(b)(8)(B) of the Act.

X The state assures compliance with the HHS COVID-19 PREP Act declarations and authorizations, including all of the amendments to the declaration.

Additional Information (Optional):

Under the authority of the 1902(j) waiver, COVID treatment shall only be covered at the American Samoa Department of Health's Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and the LBJ Tropical Medical Center (LBJTMC). COVID treatment shall be covered only for patients who are receiving medical treatment off-island through the Medicaid Off-island Medical Referral Program.

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Coverage for a Condition that May Seriously Complicate the Treatment of COVID

X The state assures coverage of treatment for a condition that may seriously complicate the treatment of COVID-19 during the period when a beneficiary is diagnosed with or is presumed to have COVID-19.

X The state assures that such coverage:

1. Includes items and services, including drugs, that were covered by the state as of March 11, 2021;
2. Is provided without amount, duration or scope limitations that would otherwise apply when covered for other purposes;
3. Is provided to all categorically needy eligibility groups covered by the state that receive full Medicaid benefits;
4. Is provided to the optional COVID-19 group, if applicable; and
5. Is provided to beneficiaries without cost sharing pursuant to section 1916(a)(2)(I) and 1916A(b)(3)(B)(xiii) of the Act; reimbursement to qualified providers for such coverage is not reduced by any cost sharing that would otherwise be applicable under the state plan.

 Applies to the state’s approved Alternative Benefit Plans, without any deduction, cost sharing, or similar charge, pursuant to section 1937(b)(8)(B) of the Act.

X The state assures compliance with the HHS COVID-19 PREP Act declarations and authorizations, including all of the amendments to the declaration.

Additional Information (Optional):

Under the authority of the 1902(j) waiver, COVID treatment shall only be covered at the American Samoa Department of Health’s Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and the LBJ Tropical Medical Center (LBJTMC). COVID treatment shall be covered only for patients who are receiving medical treatment off-island through the Medicaid Off-island Medical Referral Program.

Reimbursement

X The state assures that it has established state plan rates for COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies (including preventive therapies).

TN No: 23-0001
Supersedes: NEW

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List references to Medicaid state plan payment methodologies that describe the rates for

- **COVID-19 treatment qualified as an eligible FQHC “encounter”. FQHC are reimbursed via Patient Encounter payment methodology located in Attachment 4.19-B.**
- **LBJTMC are reimbursed via the Certified Public Expenditure Methodology located in Attachment 4.19-A & 4.19-B**

COVID-19 treatment for each applicable Medicaid benefit:

___ The state is establishing rates or fee schedule for COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies (including preventive therapies) pursuant to sections 1905(a)(4)(F) and 1902(a)(30)(A) of the Act.

The state’s rates or fee schedule is the same for all governmental and private providers.

The below listed providers are paid differently from the above rate schedules and payment to these providers for COVID-19 vaccines and the administration of the vaccines are described under the benefit payment methodology applicable to the provider type:

Additional Information (Optional):

Eligible off-island COVID treatment are reimbursed via the State’s Medicare rates and customary charges for out-of-country providers located in Attachment 4.19-B.

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