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State/Territory Name: Rhode Island

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: RI-22-0025

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850



Children and Adults Health Programs Group

April 19, 2023,

Kristin Sousa
Medicaid Program Director
Executive Office, Health and Human Services
3 West Road, Virks Building
Cranston, RI 02920

Dear Ms. Sousa:

Your title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan Amendment (SPA) number RI-22-0025, submitted on December 29, 2022, with additional information received on March 30, 2023, has been approved. This SPA has an effective date of October 1, 2022, and is a companion to the Medicaid continuous postpartum and lawfully residing pregnant individuals coverage SPA, RI-22-0024.

Through this SPA, Rhode Island provides 12 months of continuous postpartum coverage to individuals enrolled in its separate CHIP, pursuant to section 9822 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). Section 9822 of the ARP added section 2107(e)(1)(J) to the Social Security Act (the Act), which requires states to provide continuous eligibility throughout an individual's pregnancy and 12-month postpartum period in CHIP if the state has elected this option in Medicaid. In Rhode Island, this provision applies to targeted low-income individuals who are pregnant. A copy of the approved CS27 state plan page is attached to be incorporated into the state's approved CHIP state plan.

Although the state plan template indicates that this provision sunsets on March 31, 2027, section 5113 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 eliminated the sunset date and made the option permanent. If the state would like to eliminate extended postpartum coverage in the future, it should submit a new state plan amendment.

RI-22-0025 also expands CHIP coverage to otherwise eligible lawfully residing pregnant individuals under section 214 of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009, as implemented through section 2107(e)(1)(O) of the Act. A copy of the approved CS18 state plan page is attached to be incorporated into the state's approved CHIP state plan. This page supersedes the previous CS18 that was approved on March 5, 2014.

Page 2 – Ms. Kristin Sousa

Your Project Officer is Tess Hines. Tess is available to answer your questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related matters. Tess's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: (410) 786-0435
E-mail: mary.hines@cms.hhs.gov

If you have additional questions, please contact Meg Barry, Director, Division of State Coverage Programs, at (443) 934-2064. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,
/Signed by Sarah deLone/

Sarah deLone
Director



CHIP Eligibility

State Name:

OMB Control Number: 0938-1148

Transmittal Number: RI - 22 - 0025

Separate Child Health Insurance Program General Eligibility - Continuous Eligibility

CS27

2105(a)(4)(A) of the SSA and 42 CFR 457.342 and 435.926; 2107(e)(1)(J) and 1902(e)(16) of the SSA

Mandatory 12-Month Postpartum Continuous Eligibility in CHIP for States Electing This Option in Medicaid

At state option in Medicaid, states may elect to provide continuous eligibility for an individual's 12-month postpartum period consistent with section 1902(e)(16) of the SSA. If elected under Medicaid, states are required to provide the same continuous eligibility and extended postpartum period for pregnant individuals in its separate CHIP. A separate CHIP cannot implement this option if not also elected under the Medicaid state plan.

State elected the Medicaid option to provide continuous eligibility through the 12- month postpartum period

The 12-month postpartum continuous eligibility applies for the period beginning on the effective date of this SPA (no earlier than April 1, 2022) and is available through March 31, 2027.

The state assures the extended postpartum period available to pregnant targeted low-income children or targeted low-income pregnant women under section 2107(e)(1)(J) of the SSA is provided consistent with the following provisions:

Individuals who, while pregnant, were eligible and received services under the state child health plan or waiver shall remain eligible throughout the duration of the pregnancy (including any period of retroactive eligibility) and the 12-month postpartum period, beginning on the day the pregnancy ends and ending on the last day of the 12th month consistent with paragraphs (5) and (16) of section 1902(e) of the SSA

Continuous eligibility is provided to targeted low income children who are pregnant or targeted low-income pregnant women (if applicable) who are eligible for and enrolled under the state child health plan through the end of the 12-month postpartum period who would otherwise lose eligibility because of a change in circumstances, unless:

The individual or representative requests voluntary disenrollment.

The individual is no longer a resident of the state.

The Agency determines that eligibility was erroneously granted at the most recent determination or renewal of eligibility because of Agency error or fraud, abuse, or perjury attributed to the individual.

The individual dies.

Unlike continuous eligibility for children, states providing the 12-month postpartum period may not end an individual's continuous eligibility due to non-payment of premiums or becoming eligible for Medicaid.

Consistent with section 2107(e)(1)(J) of the SSA, the state assures that continuous eligibility is provided through an individual's pregnancy and 12-month postpartum period regardless of non-payment of premiums, or an individual becoming eligible for Medicaid.

Benefits provided during the 12-month postpartum period must be the same scope of comprehensive services consistent with the benefit package elected by the state under section 2103(a) of the SSA that is available to targeted low income children and/or targeted low-income pregnant women and may include additional benefits as described in Section 6 of the CHIP state plan.



CHIP Eligibility

Optional Continuous Eligibility for Children

The CHIP Agency may provide that children who have been determined eligible under the state plan shall remain eligible, regardless of any changes in the family's circumstances, during a continuous eligibility period up to 12 months, or until the time the child reaches an age specified by the state (not to exceed age 19), whichever is earlier.

The CHIP Agency elects to provide continuous eligibility to children under this provision. No

PRA Disclosure Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-1148. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

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