

September 28, 2007

Ms. Robin Pewtress, SCHIP Coordinator  
Benefits and Reimbursement Policy  
Division of Medicaid  
Department of Health and Welfare  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0036

Dear Ms. Pewtress:

We are pleased to inform you that your State Children's Health Insurance Program plan amendment (SPA) submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on January 24, 2007 with clarifications received on March 28, 2007 and August 31, 2007 has been approved. This SPA has an effective date of January 1, 2007 for the Wellness Preventative Health Assistance (PHA) and February 1, 2007, for the changes in cost sharing.

This amendment establishes a mechanism to assist participants with their premium payment obligations, called Wellness PHA. Each enrollee who is required to make premium payments can earn 30 points every 3 months by receiving recommended wellness visits and demonstrating up-to-date immunizations. Each point equals one dollar and can be used to offset premium payments.

A child with family income below 150 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) may have all his premium obligations met by utilizing Wellness PHA. Children in families from 150 percent up to and including 185 percent of the FPL may offset up to two-thirds of their payments. Currently, the premiums for enrollees in the Basic Benchmark Benefit Package with family incomes up to 150 percent of the FPL are \$10 per member per month for medical services. Enrollees in the Basic Benchmark Benefit Package with family incomes from 150 percent up to and including 185 percent of the FPL have premiums of \$10 per member per month for medical services and an additional \$5 per month for dental services.

This amendment also adds a nominal co-payment of \$3 for participants who seek care at a hospital emergency department or access emergency transportation for a non-emergency condition.

This letter also reaffirms our previous discussion that CMS did not approve a benefit for health and sports equipment in Idaho SCHIP SPA Amendment Numbers 7 and 8, and the state is not authorized to provide those benefits. Neither of those SPA submissions referenced such a benefit.

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Your title XXI project officer is Mr. Jeffrey Silverman. He is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other SCHIP-related issues. Mr. Silverman's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Center for Medicaid and State Operations  
Mail Stop S2-01-16  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850  
Telephone: (410) 786-8679  
Facsimile: (410) 786-5882  
E-mail: Jeffrey.Silverman@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Mr. Silverman and to Ms. Karen O'Connor, Associate Regional Administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Region X, Division of Medicaid and Children's Health.

Ms. O'Connor's contact information is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health  
2201 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Mail Stop RX-43  
Seattle, Washington 98121

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Jean Sheil, Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid and State Operations at (410) 786-5647.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

/s/

Kerry N. Weens  
Acting Administrator

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Cc: CMS Region X, DMCH