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State/Territory Name: North Dakota

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 20-0020

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services
233 North Michigan Ave., Suite 600
Chicago, Illinois 60601



Financial Management Group

October 5, 2020

Ms. Caprice Knapp, Medicaid Director
North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 325
Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

RE: TN 20-0020

Dear Ms. Knapp:

We have reviewed the proposed North Dakota State Plan Amendment (SPA) to Attachment 4.19-B 20-0020, which was submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on July 23, 2020. This plan amendment provides a yearly inflationary increase for multiple services: outpatient hospital, clinic, laboratory, durable medical equipment, optometric, chiropractic, dental, diagnostic/screening/preventative, and ambulatory surgical centers reimbursement rates as of July 1, 2020.

Based upon the information provided by the State, we have approved the amendment with an effective date of July 1, 2020. We are enclosing the approved CMS-179 and a copy of the new state plan pages.


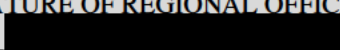
If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact LaJoshica (Josh) Smith at 214-767-6453 or Lajoshica.Smith@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Todd McMillion
Director
Division of Reimbursement Review

Cc: LeeAnn Thiel

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES		1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 20-0020	2. STATE North Dakota
		3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE July 1, 2020	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (<i>Check One</i>): <input type="checkbox"/> NEW STATE PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (<i>Separate Transmittal for each amendment</i>)			
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: 42 CFR 447.204		7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: a. FFY <u>2020</u> <u>\$950,827</u> b. FFY <u>2021</u> <u>\$2,986,407</u>	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: Attachment 4.19-B pages 1, 1a, 1b, 2, 3b		9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (<i>If Applicable</i>): Attachment 4.19-B pages 1, 1a, 1b, 2, 3b	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: Amends the State Plan to implement an inflationary increase for services rendered by Medicaid Providers.			
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (<i>Check One</i>): <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED <u>Caprice Knapp, Director</u> <input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL <u>Medical Services Division</u>			
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 		16. RETURN TO: Caprice Knapp, Director Medical Services Division ND Department of Human Services 600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept 325 Bismarck ND 58505-0250	
13. TYPED NAME: Caprice Knapp			
14. TITLE: Director, Medical Services Division			
15. DATE SUBMITTED: July 23, 2020			
FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY			
17. DATE RECEIVED: 07/23/2020		18. DATE APPROVED: 10/5/2020	
PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED			
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: 07/01/2020		20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL: 	
21. TYPED NAME: Todd McMillion		22. TITLE: Director, Division of Reimbursement Review	
23. REMARKS:			

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE

The following is a description of the policies that apply to rates and fees established for services other than inpatient hospital care, nursing facility care, and intermediate care facilities.

Out-of-state providers are paid the same rates and fees applicable to providers in North Dakota.

All rates are published on the agency's website at:

<http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/provider-fee-schedules.html>. Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers.

- 1) Outpatient services are paid using a fixed percentage of charges established by the state agency, except for laboratory procedures paid according to item 3 below, dietitian services paid at the lower of the actual charge or maximum allowable charge established by the state agency, ambulatory behavioral healthcare (partial hospitalization) are paid a per diem fee schedule rate established by the state agency effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, and in-state prospective payment system hospitals reimbursed based on ambulatory payment classifications. The fixed percentage of charges for in-state hospitals designated as Critical Access Hospitals will be established using the hospital's most recent audited Medicare cost report. Cost settlement to reasonable cost for outpatient services at in-state hospitals designated as Critical Access Hospitals for Title XIX services will be based on the Medicare cost report and will occur after the hospital's Medicare cost report has been audited and finalized by the Medicare fiscal intermediary. The fixed percentage of charges for all other in-state hospitals will be established using the hospital's most recent Medicare cost report available as of June 1 of each year. The fixed percentage of charges for out-of-state hospitals shall be 57.4 percent except for laboratory procedures paid according to item 3 below. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020 as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
- 2) Clinic services payment is based on the cost of delivery of the services on a prospective basis as determined by the single state agency from cost data submitted annually by the clinic. Allowable costs will be determined in accordance with the Medicare Provider Reimbursement Manual. Clinic rates are set as of July 1, 2020 and are effective for services provided on or after that date. Providers will be notified of the rates, via letter and/or email correspondence.
 - a) Payment to dental clinics, including mobile dental clinics, is based on the cost of delivery of the service as determined by the single state agency from cost data submitted annually by the clinic. Allowable costs will be determined in accordance with the Medicare Provider Reimbursement Manual. Individual provider rates will be effective October 1, 2020. Providers will be notified of the rates, via letter and/or email correspondence. Except as otherwise noted in the Plan, State developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers.
- 3) For laboratory services, Medicaid will pay the lower of billed charges or fee schedule established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
 - a) For laboratory services subject to Section 1903(i)(7) of the Social Security Act, Medicaid will pay the lower of billed charges or the Medicare maximum allowable charge. Medicaid payment for lab services may not exceed the Medicare rate on a per test basis.

TN No.: 20-0020

Supersedes

TN No.: 19-0011

Approval Date: 10-05-2020

Effective Date: 07-01-2020

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES – OTHER TYPES OF CARE
- (continued)

- 4) Effective July 1, 2019, for x-ray services, payment will be the lower of billed charges or reimbursement under Attachment 4.19-B, Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates – Other Types of Care (continued), item 6, 6a and 6b.
- 5) For prosthetic devices, medical equipment, supplies and appliances, Medicaid will pay the lower of billed charges or fee schedule established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
 - a. For DMEPOS items associated with Section 1903(i)(27) of the Social Security Act, amended by Section 5002 of the 21st Century Cures Act, and identified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as covered by Medicare, Medicaid will pay the lower of the following: (1)The Medicare DMEPOS fee schedule rate for North Dakota geographic, non-rural areas, set as of January 1 of each year which will be reviewed on a quarterly basis and updated as needed; or (2)The provider's billed charges.
- 6) For services, including optometric and chiropractic services, paid from the North Dakota Professional Services Fee Schedule, Medicaid will pay the lower of billed charges or fee schedule established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers paid from the North Dakota Professional Services Fee Schedule will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly. For rates developed using the resource-based relative value scale methodology, the posted fee schedule accounts for annual cost neutral adjustments to the North Dakota Medicaid conversion factor made to reflect updates to the Medicare RVUs and utilization changes.
 - a. For services, other than those reimbursed using resource-based relative value scale methodology, North Dakota Medicaid providers paid from the North Dakota Professional Services Fee Schedule will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
 - b. For services rendered by licensed or registered pharmacists, the lower of billed charges or the fee schedule established by the state agency.
- 7) For dental services and dentures, Medicaid will pay the lower of billed charges or Medicaid fee established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
 - a. Effective for dates of service on or after October 10, 2017, reimbursement for dental sealants and fluoride varnish provided in a school setting by dental hygienists employed by the North Dakota Department of Health (Department) are based on the cost of delivery of services on a prospective basis as determined by the single state Medicaid agency from cost data submitted annually by the Department. The rate components include dental hygienist and administrative salaries, supplies, and overhead. The Department will be notified of the rate via letter and/or email correspondence.
- 8) Effective July 1, 2019, for private duty nursing services, payment will be the lower of billed charges or reimbursement under Attachment 4.19-B, Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates – Other Types of Care (continued), item 6, 6a and 6b.
- 9) Effective July 1, 2019, for physical, occupational and speech therapy, payment will be the lower of billed charges or reimbursement under Attachment 4.19-B, Methods and Standard for Establishing Payment Rates – Other Types of Care (continued), item 6, 6a and 6b.

- 10) Effective July 1, 2019, for services rendered by enrolled providers via telemedicine; payment for the telemedicine connectivity code will be the lower of billed charges or reimbursement under Attachment 4.19-B, Methods and Standard for Establishing Payment Rates – Other Types of Care (continued), item 6, 6a and 6b.
- 11) For eyeglasses, Medicaid will pay the lower of billed charges or the rate established by the state agency competitive bidding process. North Dakota meets the certification requirements of Section 1902(a)(23) of the Social Security Act to permit the selection of one or more providers, through a competitive bidding process, to deliver eyeglasses on a statewide basis under the authority of Section 1915(a)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR 431.54(d).

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES - OTHER TYPES OF CARE

- 12) Unless otherwise noted, non-emergency medical transportation providers will be paid the lower of billed charges or the Medicaid fee schedule established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
- (a) Transportation by common carrier will be reimbursed at the going rate or fare established for the general public.
- (b) Transportation providers as defined in Attachment 3.1-D, Transportation (transportation providers), when utilized by a third party to provide transportation to a Medicaid recipient, will be paid the lower of billed charges or the Medicaid fee schedule established by the state agency, not to exceed the mileage rate established by the state legislature.
- (c) The payment for meals necessary for recipients and attendants, and individual transportation providers cannot exceed the amount allowed for state employees while traveling in the state of North Dakota.
- (d) Reimbursement for necessary lodging is available to enrolled Medicaid providers who provide lodging services to recipients, attendants, and transportation providers will be limited to the maximum established for lodging as of January 1 of each calendar year by the General Services Administration for the primary destination. The reimbursement rate will be set for dates of service on or after November 1, 2018, based on the January 2018 rate and will subsequently be updated as of January of each calendar year.

Payment for meals and lodging will be made to providers specifically enrolled to provide meals and lodging.

- 13) Ambulance services will be paid at the lower of actual billed charges or the fee schedule established by the state agency. The agency's fee schedule was set as of July 1, 2020 and is effective for services provided on or after that date. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
- 14) Effective July 1, 2019, for family planning services, payment will be the lower of billed charges or reimbursement under Attachment 4.19-B, Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates – Other Types of Care (continued), item 6, 6a and 6b.
- 15) Home Health Agency services include the following services: nursing care, home health aide services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology or audiology services, and supplies. Reimbursement will be on a per visit basis and will be at the lowest of the billed charge or maximum allowable charge established by the State. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a two percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2019, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
- 16) North Dakota reimburses for all Hospice services specified by Medicare in regulation using the Medicaid rates and geographic formula published on an annual basis by CMS. Medicaid Hospice providers that fail to comply with quality data submission requirements during each fiscal year will not have their market basket update reduced by two percentage points.
- 17) Effective July 1, 2019, for Nurse-Midwife Services, payment will be the lower of billed charges or 85% of the reimbursement under Attachment 4.19-B, Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates – Other Types of Care (continued), item 6, 6a and 6b for covered pre-natal, delivery and postpartum services provided by physicians.

26. For diagnostic, screening and preventive services, Medicaid will pay the lower of actual billed charges or the maximum allowable fee established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
27. Emergency hospital services provided by hospitals not otherwise participating in the Medicaid program are paid at the fixed percentage of charges for out-of-state hospitals as established in paragraph 1.
28. For ambulatory surgical center services, payment will be the lower of the provider's billed charges or the fee schedule established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.
29. For rehabilitative services, each qualified Medicaid service practitioner will be reimbursed a rate from the Medicaid fee schedule for defined units of service.

For services provided by non-governmental providers, payment will be the lower of the provider's actual billed charges or the fee schedule established by the state agency. North Dakota Medicaid providers will receive a 2.5 percent inflationary increase in reimbursement effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2020, as authorized and appropriated by the 2019 Legislative Assembly.

For the governmental providers, payment is established based on the cost of delivering the services on a prospective basis as determined by the single state agency from cost data submitted annually. Allowable costs will be determined in accordance with the Medicare Provider Reimbursement Manual. Governmental provider rates are set as of July 1, 2020 and are effective for services provided on or after that date. Providers will be notified of the rates via letter or email correspondence.

30. For non-ASAM services rendered by licensed addiction counselors within their scope of practice, each qualified Medicaid service practitioner will be reimbursed a rate from the Medicaid fee schedule for defined units of service.

Effective November 1, 2018, for services provided by non-governmental providers, payment will be the lower of the provider's actual billed charges or reimbursement under Attachment 4.19-B, Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates – Other Types of Care (continued), Item 6, 6a and 6b.

For the governmental providers, payment is established based on the cost of delivering the services on a prospective basis as determined by the single state agency from cost data submitted annually. Allowable costs will be determined in accordance with the Medicare Provider Reimbursement Manual. Governmental provider rates are set as of July 1, 2020 and are effective for services provided on or after that date. Providers will be notified of the rates via letter or email correspondence.