WSR 26-17-002
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY
[Filed August 5, 2026, 1:16 p.m.]

NOTICE

Subject: Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 26-0021 Spokane Area Wildfires Disaster Relief.

Effective Date: August 7, 2026. (Please note, Washington intends to submit a 1135 waiver; if approved, the effective date will be the date of the emergency declaration.)

Description: The health care authority (HCA) and the department of social and health services (DSHS) intend to submit SPA 26-0021 to implement policies and procedures that may be different from the policies and procedures otherwise applied under the medicaid state plan during the period of Governor Ferguson's emergency declarations related to the Spokane area wildfires.

SPA 26-0021 is the preprint developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to waive or modify certain requirements of Titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the act during certain emergencies to ensure that sufficient health care items and services are available to meet the needs of individuals enrolled in the respective programs and to ensure that health care providers that furnish such items and services in good faith, but are unable to comply with one or more of such requirements as a result of the wildfires, may be reimbursed for such items and services and exempted from sanctions for such noncompliance, absent any determination of fraud or abuse.

At this time, HCA and DSHS have insufficient data upon which to base an estimate of the effect of SPA 26-0021 on annual aggregate expenditures/reimbursement/payment.

SPA 26-0021 is in the development process; therefore a copy is not yet available for review. HCA and DSHS would appreciate any input or concerns regarding this SPA. To request a copy when it becomes available or submit comments, please contact the person named below (please note that all comments are subject to public review and disclosure, as are the names of those who comment).

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