

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## South Dakota Medicaid Program

Notice is hereby given that the South Dakota Department of Social Services (DSS) intends to submit an 1115 demonstration (demonstration) application to the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to implement the Career Connector program. The Career Connector programs goals and objectives are to 1) empower participants to be successful in today's workforce and 2) improve participants' health and encourage the development of healthy habits.

The demonstration is a pilot project. It will operate in Minnehaha and Pennington Counties. These counties were selected due to employment opportunities and availability of employment and training resources. The program is limited to adult recipients age 19 to 59 who are enrolled in the parents and other caretaker relatives eligibility group and exempts the following individuals from participation:

- Individuals who work 80 hours or more a month;
- Individuals age 18 or younger;
- Individuals age 60 or older;
- Full-time students;
- Pregnant women;
- Individuals whose eligibility has been determined on the basis of disability or who have been determined disabled by the Social Security Administration;
- Medically frail individuals (e.g. individuals unable to work due to cancer or other serious or terminal illness);
- Individuals already participating in a workforce participation program that the State has determined meets the objectives of the Career Connector program (e.g. SNAP, TANF or unemployment insurance);
- Parents of dependent children under one year old living in the parent's residence; and
- Primary caregivers of elderly or disabled individuals living in the caretaker's residence.

Participation in the program will be determined at the time of initial application or during the renewal review for individuals currently enrolled in South Dakota Medicaid. Exempt individuals may elect to participate in the program on a voluntary basis.

Participants in the program will have an individualized training plan. The individualized plan will help individuals develop skills and abilities to assist the individual in obtaining employment in his or her desired field. The plan will include monthly milestones or goals, such as job or skill training. Individuals must complete milestones each month or work 80 hours or more a month.

The program also intends to improve participants' health. The program will promote preventative care and help increase identification and treatment of behavioral health and chronic conditions.

Participants will be assisted by a DSS case manager who will help ensure participants are successful. In addition, participants will be referred to appropriate support services to address barriers to employment. Support services may include, but are not limited to, transportation, rent assistance, and child care assistance. Support services are not funded by Medicaid expenditures.

Some participants' earned income may increase and exceed the Medicaid upper income limit. At the conclusion of their Medicaid coverage these individuals may be eligible for premium assistance to help pay for employer-sponsored health insurance or coverage through a Qualified Health Plan for up to one year.

Individuals who do not accomplish their monthly milestones or work 80 or more hours a month will be provided the opportunity to take corrective action. Continual failure to take corrective action may result in closure of an individual's Medicaid eligibility.

A 30 day comment period will be held from May 21, 2018 through June 19, 2018. The State will also conduct two public hearings at the following times and locations:

May 24, 2018  
11:00 AM CT  
Department of Social Services  
811 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1650

May 31, 2018  
1:00 PM MT  
Department of Labor and Regulation  
2330 North Maple Ave, Suite 1  
Rapid City, SD 57701 -7898

Individuals requiring assistive technology or other services in order to participate in a meeting should submit a request to Marilyn Kinsman via telephone at 605.773.3165 or via email at [Marilyn.Kinsman@state.sd.us](mailto:Marilyn.Kinsman@state.sd.us) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to make accommodations available. Commenters are allowed to appear telephonically at these hearings. To appear telephonically please dial 866.410.8397 and enter conference code 8176972761.

A more detailed public notice and the proposed demonstration application are available for review and comment on the Department's website at <https://dss.sd.gov/medicaid/1115waiver.aspx>. Comments may be emailed to [dss.medicaid@state.sd.us](mailto:dss.medicaid@state.sd.us). Please include "Career Connector Public Comment" in the

subject line. Written requests for a copy of the demonstration application, and corresponding comments, may also be sent to:

DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
700 GOVERNORS DRIVE  
PIERRE, SD 57501-2291