

**NOTICE OF CMS AMENDMENT WITHDRAWAL**  
**CMS Withdrawal of Utah's Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver**  
**Community Engagement Requirement**

**August 10, 2021**

On August 10, 2021, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid formally withdrew approval of Utah's Community Engagement (work requirement) for individuals enrolled in Utah's Medicaid Adult Expansion Program. CMS took similar action on this date with the states of Ohio and South Carolina. In total, CMS has withdrawn approval for a work requirement in 7 states.

**Background**

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) originally approved Utah's community engagement (work/self-sufficiency) requirement in March 2019 and later reaffirmed that approval in December 2019 as part of Utah's 1115 waiver amendment to adopt Medicaid Expansion.
- The community engagement requirement only applied to Adult Expansion Medicaid members, ages 19-64, with incomes up to 138% FPL, unless they met an exemption or qualified for good cause.
- This requirement included online job search or completion of online training programs once every 12-months. Failure to meet this requirement would cause the individual to be ineligible for Medicaid.
- The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) estimated that approximately 27,000 out of 90,000 adult expansion members could ultimately be subject to the community engagement requirement.
- This requirement was implemented in January 2020 but was suspended in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Recent Action**

- Federal courts ruled that a community engagement (work requirement) is not consistent with the purpose of the Medicaid program, as stated in the Social Security Act.
- Although a case to challenge the lower courts was on the U.S. Supreme Court docket, in March 2021, the court dismissed the case, allowing the lower court's decision to stand.
- Based on the federal court's actions, CMS notified states that previously approved work requirements would be reviewed and possibly withdrawn. Utah is one of several states to have received a similar notification from CMS.
- Because the requirement was suspended before it was fully operationalized, there will be no impact on Medicaid members.
- Based on the withdrawal of this amendment, the community engagement requirement will be removed from policy, rulemaking and public websites. UDOH will use mailings, social media and websites to provide notice to Medicaid members of this change.
- Even though job assessment, training, and work search will no longer be requirements for these Medicaid members, UDOH is developing a process with the Department of Workforce Service to educate Medicaid members on the availability of these services.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE DIVISION OF MEDICAID AND HEALTH FINANCING AT: [medicaiddirector@utah.gov](mailto:medicaiddirector@utah.gov)**