

Department of Health

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER



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April 29, 2024

Dear Tribal Health Leaders

On behalf of the Department of Health (the department) and in keeping with the responsibility to conduct tribal consultation, I am writing to inform you of a proposed future Medicaid state plan amendment (SPA).

Purpose and content of the proposed amendment:

This proposed amendment intends to maintain the temporary, enhanced COVID-19 Public Health Emergency professional pharmacy dispensing fees, approved through 5/11/2024 (AK SPA 23-0008), until the effective date of the forthcoming, proposed, interim dispensing fees. These interim dispensing fees were shared in the tribal consultation letter disseminated on April 26, 2024.

Anticipated impact on Medicaid-eligible Alaska Native/American Indian beneficiaries:

The proposed SPA does not impact Medicaid-eligible Alaska Native/American Indian beneficiaries.

Anticipated impact on tribal health programs and the Indian Health Service:

The proposed SPA will positively impact tribal health programs as it ensures there is not a decrease of the reimbursement rates for the tribal pharmacy dispensing fees prior to the effective date of the interim pharmacy dispensing fees.

Mechanism and timeline for comment

Written comments or questions regarding the proposed amendment are due no later than the close of business, May 29, 2024. If seeking an in-person meeting regarding the proposed changes, please provide a written request within 15 days of the date of this letter. Please direct all written correspondence to Emily Beaulieu, Alaska Department of Health, 3601 C Street, Suite 902, Anchorage, AK 99503, or emily.beaulieu@alaska.gov.

*Comments received in response to this consultation letter are considered for consultation and not comment on the regulations. Comments on the regulations are not considered comments for consultation on the SPA. **You must do so separately if you wish to provide comments for consideration in both the SPA and the regulations processes.** To locate the regulations, please refer to the State of Alaska web page at the "[Public Notices](#)" link.*

Sincerely,

/s/

Emily Beaulieu
Medicaid State Plan Coordinator