

FACT SHEET Demonstration 223

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in conjunction with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), today announces a Request for Applications (RFA) for Planning Grants for Certified Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs). SAMHSA will award up to a total of \$24.6 million to states for planning purposes to develop proposals to participate in a two year Demonstration Program.

This Demonstration Program provides an opportunity for states to improve the behavioral health of their citizens by providing community-based mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and by helping to further integrate behavioral health with physical health care, utilize evidence-based practices on a more consistent basis, and improve access to high quality care. The program is another effort to ensure Medicaid beneficiaries who are most in need of coordinated, integrated quality behavioral health services have access to services.

Background

In March 2014, Congress passed the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) of 2014 and the President signed it into law on April 1, 2014 (P.L. 113-93, Section 223).

Section 223 of PAMA authorizes the Department of Health and Human (HHS) Services to:

- Establish criteria that states will use to certify community behavioral health clinics that will participate in two year demonstration programs to improve community behavioral health services;
- Provide guidance on the development of a Prospective Payment System (PPS) for payment of CCBHC services provided by certified clinics;
- Award grants to states for planning purposes and to develop proposals to participate in demonstration program;
- Select up to eight states to participate in the demonstration program;
- Pay states participating in the demonstration program federal matching funds equivalent to the standard Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) matching rate for services, provided to currently enrolled Medicaid beneficiaries, except that the newly eligible matching rate would apply for newly eligible individuals and other higher matching rates would apply if generally applicable for covered services furnished to the individual; and
- Evaluate the project and prepare annual reports to Congress.

The CMS and SAMHSA actively solicited input from stakeholders to inform the development of both the PPS and the Criteria. SAMHSA hosted a national listening session on November 12, 2014, followed by a two-week written comment period to seek input on the development of criteria to certify the clinics. CMS held two separate national listening sessions for key stakeholders for purposes of developing the PPS. In addition, SAMHSA released a draft of the criteria in early February 2015, for public comment to gain additional input. A final working session was conducted with stakeholders on April 9, 2015 to review the criteria under

consideration. The criteria and PPS guidance reflected the many valuable comments CMS and SAMHSA received from interested stakeholders. ASPE is developing plans to evaluate demonstration programs in light of comments received from stakeholders and with input from SAMHSA and CMS.

Demonstration 223 Objective

In carrying out Section 223 of PAMA, HHS will create and evaluate a Demonstration Program for no more than eight states in which certified community behavioral health clinics will provide behavioral health services to eligible beneficiaries and be paid using an approved prospective payment system. The criteria used to certify CCBHCs emphasizes high quality and evidence based practices. Populations to be served are adults with serious mental illness, children with serious emotional disturbance, and those with long term and serious substance use disorders, as well as others with mental illness and substance use disorders.

Request for Applications

Today's Request for Application (RFA) for Planning Grants for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics includes the criteria to certify clinics and the Prospective Payment System (PPS) guidance as Appendices. These planning grants are for states to plan to become part of the Demonstration Program to Improve Community Mental Health Services as outlined in PAMA. The RFA can be found at SAMHSA's Grant Announcement page <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements-2015>

Applications from states may be submitted until August 5, 2015. A two part technical assistance webinar series is planned to provide guidance to states to prepare applications in responding to the RFA. The pre-application webinars will take place in June 2015 and will cover the RFA including the PPS and the Criteria, as well as discuss the Evaluation.

The awarding of Planning Grants for states is the first phase of a two-phase process. Phase I will provide funds for one year to states to develop processes to certify CCBHCs, establish a PPS for Medicaid reimbursable behavioral health services provided by the CCBHCs, and prepare an application to participate in a two-year demonstration program.

No more than eight states that participate in the Planning Grants for CCBHCs will be selected to participate in Phase II, the demonstration program. The eight selected states will bill Medicaid under an established PPS approved by CMS for behavioral health services provided to individuals eligible for medical assistance under the state Medicaid program.

Timeline

- May 20, 2015 – RFA Announcement
- June 2015 – Pre-Application Webinars
- August 5, 2015 – Planning Grant Applications due from the states
- October 2015 – Planning Grants awarded to the states
- October 2016 – Applications due from states to be part of the 2 year Demonstration Program
- January 1, 2017 – Up to Eight States are selected to participate in the 2 Year Demonstration

- January 2018 - Annual Reports to Congress not later than one year after the date that the first State is selected for the Demonstration Program
- Not later than December 31, 2021 -- Final report due to Congress