

**AHCCCS NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
INTENT TO SUBMIT A STATE PLAN AMENDMENT (SPA)**

Name of the Agency: Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

The topic of the public information notice: Inform the public of AHCCCS's intent to submit a State Plan Amendment.

SPA Title: Doula

SPA Overview: This SPA will add coverage and payment for doula services, effective October 1, 2024. Doula's provide continuous physical, emotional, and information support to people before, during, and shortly after childbirth.

Tribal Consultation:

AHCCCS will consult with Tribes regarding this SPA on May 7, 2024. Below is a link to the Tribal Consultation website for more information regarding this meeting.

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AmericanIndians/TribalConsultation/>

State Plan Amendment and Public Comment Period

The proposed SPA is located on the next page of this document.

Public notice was posted on May 6, 2024.

Comments will be accepted through June 10, 2024.

Comments can be submitted through email or postal mail. The addresses where comments may be sent are provided below.

- Email:
publicinput@azahcccs.gov
- Postal Mail:
AHCCCS
Attn: Division of Community Advocacy and Intergovernmental Relations
801 E. Jefferson St., MD 4200
Phoenix, AZ 85034

13b. Screening services.

Coverage is available for evidence-based medically necessary screening services for children based on guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics and CDC/ACIP for immunizations.

Coverage is available for evidence-based medically necessary screening services for adults which are based, in part, on guidelines from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.

13c. Preventive services.

Coverage is available for evidence-based medically necessary preventive services. Services must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of authorized practice under State law to (1) prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions, (2) prolong life; and (3) Promote physical and mental health efficacy. Services for children are based on guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics and CDC/ACIP for immunizations. Services for adults are based, in part, on guidelines from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. In addition to the services specified under section 4106 of the Affordable Care Act, Arizona covers, without cost-sharing, services specified under PHS 2713 which is in alignment with the Alternative Benefit Plans.

Coverage is available for Diabetes Self-Management Training (DSMT) outpatient services. DSMT is a nationally recognized program that supports individuals with developing the knowledge and skills to self-care for their diabetes condition. DSMT consists of individual sessions or group sessions which may be furnished by a physician (MD or DO), Physician's Assistant, Registered Nurse Practitioner, or Registered Dietician. The services must be prescribed by a primary care practitioner in one of the following circumstances: 1) the member is initially diagnosed with diabetes or 2) the member was previously diagnosed with diabetes but a change has occurred in the member's diagnosis, medical condition or treatment regimen or the member is not meeting appropriate clinical outcomes. DSMT services are limited to 10 hours, annually. Beneficiaries of the EPSDT benefit may receive services in excess of the 10-hour limitation.

Community Health Worker Services

Arizona state certified Community Health Workers (CHW) may provide AHCCCS-covered patient education and preventive services to individuals with a chronic condition or at risk for a chronic condition or for individuals with a documented barrier that is affecting the individual's health. CHW services must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of authorized practice under State law. Services must be documented in the member's medical record and may include:

- Health system navigation and resource coordination,
- Health education and training. The purpose of this service is to train and/or increase the member's awareness of methods and measures that have been proven effective in avoiding illness and/or lessening its effects. The content of the education must be consistent with established or recognized healthcare standards, or
- Health promotion and coaching. The purpose of this service is to provide information and training to members that enables them to make positive contributions to their health status.

Certified Doula Services

Arizona state certified doulas are trained nonmedical professionals who may provide AHCCCS-covered patient education and preventive services to pregnant women and their families before, during, and after childbirth. Doula services must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of authorized practice under State law. Services must be documented in the member's medical record and may include care coordination, social support, coaching, and emotional support.

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