

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-25-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



State Demonstrations Group

October 31, 2023

Carmen Heredia
Director
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
801 East Jefferson Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85034

Dear Director Heredia:

This letter is to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved a temporary extension of the state's existing COVID-19 Appendix K authority, under the state's demonstration titled "Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)" (Project Number 11-W-00275/9), to allow the state to reimburse parents for providing direct care to their minor children. The temporary extension will allow the state and CMS to continue negotiations over the demonstration amendment application submitted on September 27, 2023. The COVID-19 Appendix K authority will now expire March 29, 2024.

CMS's approval is conditioned upon the state's continued compliance with the special terms and conditions (STCs) defining the nature, character, and extent of anticipated federal involvement in the project. The current STCs, attachments, waiver and expenditure authorities will continue to apply during the temporary extension of this authority.

For this temporary extension period, the state must continue to monitor and evaluate its COVID-19 Appendix K authority, as stipulated in Attachment O of the STCs. Specifically, the state is required to submit a Final Report consolidating the monitoring and evaluation reporting requirements for the COVID-19 authority, due to CMS no later than one year after the end of the temporary extension approval period.

If you have any questions, please contact your project officer, Ms. Kelsey Smyth at Kelsey.Smyth@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Mehreen H. Rashid
Acting Director

cc: Brian Zolynas, State Monitoring Lead, Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group