

June 7, 2018

Brian Zolynas
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)
San Francisco, CA 94103-6707

RE: Arizona SPA #18-006, Asset Verification

Dear Mr. Zolynas:

Enclosed is State Plan Amendment (SPA) #18-006, Asset Verification, which revises the State Plan to provide updated information regarding AHCCCS plans to join the NESCO consortium of states to acquire an asset verification system.

If you have any questions about the enclosed SPA, please contact Kyle Sawyer at (602) 417-4211.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Lorenz
Assistant Director
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

cc: Blake Holt, CMS
Mark Wong, CMS

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State: Arizona

ASSET VERIFICATION SYSTEM

1940(a)
of the Act

- 1. The agency will provide for the verification of assets for purposes of determining or redetermining Medicaid eligibility for aged, blind and disabled Medicaid applicants and recipients using an Asset Verification System (AVS) that meets the following minimum requirements.
 - A. The request and response system must be electronic:
 - (1) Verification inquiries must be sent electronically via the internet or similar means from the agency to the financial institution (FI).
 - (2) The system cannot be based on mailing paper-based requests.
 - (3) The system must have the capability to accept responses electronically.
 - B. The system must be secure, based on a recognized industry standard of security (e.g., as defined by the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology, or NIST).
 - C. The system must establish and maintain a database of FIs that participate in the agency's AVS.
 - D. Verification requests also must be sent to FIs other than those identified by applicants and recipients, based on some logic such as geographic proximity to the applicant's home address, or other reasonable factors whenever the agency determines that such requests are needed to determine or redetermine the individual's eligibility.
 - E. The verification requests must include a request for information on both open and closed accounts, going back up to 5 years as determined by the State.

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ASSET VERIFICATION SYSTEM

2. System Development

A. The agency itself will develop an AVS.

In 3 below, provide any additional information the agency wants to include.

B. The agency will hire a contractor to develop an AVS.

In 3 below provide any additional information the agency wants to include.

C. The agency will be joining a consortium to develop an AVS.

In 3 below, identify the States participating in the consortium. Also, provide any other information the agency wants to include pertaining to how the consortium will implement the AVS requirements.

D. The agency already has a system in place that meets the requirements for an acceptable AVS.

In 3 below, describe how the existing system meets the requirements in Section 1.

E. Other alternative not included in A. – D. above.

In 3 below, describe this alternative approach and how it will meet the requirements in Section 1.

TN No. ~~18-00612-004~~ Approval Date _____ Effective Date September

30, 2012 May 1, 2018

Supersedes TN No. 12-004

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State: Arizona

ASSET VERIFICATION SYSTEM

- 3. Provide the AVS implementation information requested for the implementation approach checked in Section 2, and any other information the agency may want to include.

Pursuant to Section 1940 of the Social Security Act, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Administration is working towards implementing an asset verification system (AVS) that is consistent with the Social Security Administration's AVS pilot program to verify the assets of aged, blind or disabled applicants for and recipients of Medicaid. AHCCCS will be joining the NESCSO consortium with Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont to obtain an Asset Verification System.

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