



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST PROPOSED SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION APPLICATION

This abbreviated public notice provides information of public interest regarding submission of a proposed Section 1115 demonstration request to the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), titled California's Reproductive Health Access Demonstration (CalRHAD). The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is seeking this demonstration to strengthen the State's reproductive health provider safety net, with an emphasis on ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health services as well as the services and supports to access to these services by addressing health-related social needs (HRSNs).

Through this demonstration application, DHCS proposes to create a new CalRHAD grant program to enhance capacity and access for sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning, for individuals enrolled in Medi-Cal, as well as other individuals who may need assistance to access such services. CalRHAD grants would be available to reproductive health providers to support transitional non-service expenditures (e.g., equipment, technology investments) and investments to strengthen the accessibility, capacity, and sustainability of California's sexual and reproductive health provider safety net, potentially in partnership with community-based organizations (CBOs). Providers that receive CalRHAD grants would *not* be permitted to use those funds for abortion services. California currently covers abortion services for individuals enrolled in Medi-Cal and others using State funds, without federal Medicaid matching funds.

The State is requesting expenditure authority for \$200 million over a three-year demonstration term. The demonstration would promote the objectives of the Medicaid program by helping to assure access to sexual and reproductive health services covered by Medi-Cal and bolstering the sustainability and capacity of the providers who offer these critical services.

A copy of the proposed CalRHAD Section 1115 application and initial notice of public interest, both posted on March 16, 2023, is available on the DHCS website at <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/CalRHAD.aspx>.

PUBLIC REVIEW & COMMENTS

DHCS will host the following public hearings to solicit stakeholder comments. The public hearings will be held electronically to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and maximize opportunities for participation. The meetings will have online video streaming and telephonic conference capabilities to ensure statewide accessibility.

- March 29, 2023 – First Public Hearing
 - 10:00 – 11:00 AM PT



- Register for Zoom conference link:
https://manatt.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nCmc8aMqRfKzcOLZ2zcMKw
 - Please register in advance to receive your unique login details and link to add to calendar
- Call-in information (312) 626-6799 or (888) 788-0099 (Toll Free)
 - Webinar ID: 934 7718 5979
 - Passcode: 032923
 - Callers do not need an email address to use the phone option and do not need to register in advance
- April 3, 2023 – Second Public Hearing
 - 9:00 – 10:00 AM PT
 - Register for Zoom conference link:
https://manatt.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HN7m0tXLTLCyWiL9X8H6IQ
 - Please register in advance to receive your unique login details and link to add to calendar
 - Call-in information (312) 626-6799 or (888) 788-0099 (Toll Free)
 - Webinar ID: 935 9888 3169
 - Passcode: 040323
 - Callers do not need an email address to use the phone option and do not need to register in advance

Written comments may be sent to the following address; please indicate “CalRHAD Section 1115 Application” in the written message:

Department of Health Care Services
Director’s Office
Attn: Jacey Cooper and René Mollow
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000
Sacramento, California 95899-7413

Comments may also be emailed to 1115waiver@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate “CalRHAD Section 1115 Application” in the subject line of the email message.

To be assured consideration prior to submission of the CalRHAD Section 1115 application to CMS, comments must be received no later than 11:59 PM (Pacific Time) **Monday, April 17, 2023**. Please note that comments will continue to be accepted after April 17, 2023, but DHCS may not be able to consider those comments prior to the initial submission of the CalRHAD Section 1115 application to CMS.