Section 1115 Demonstration Public User Guide
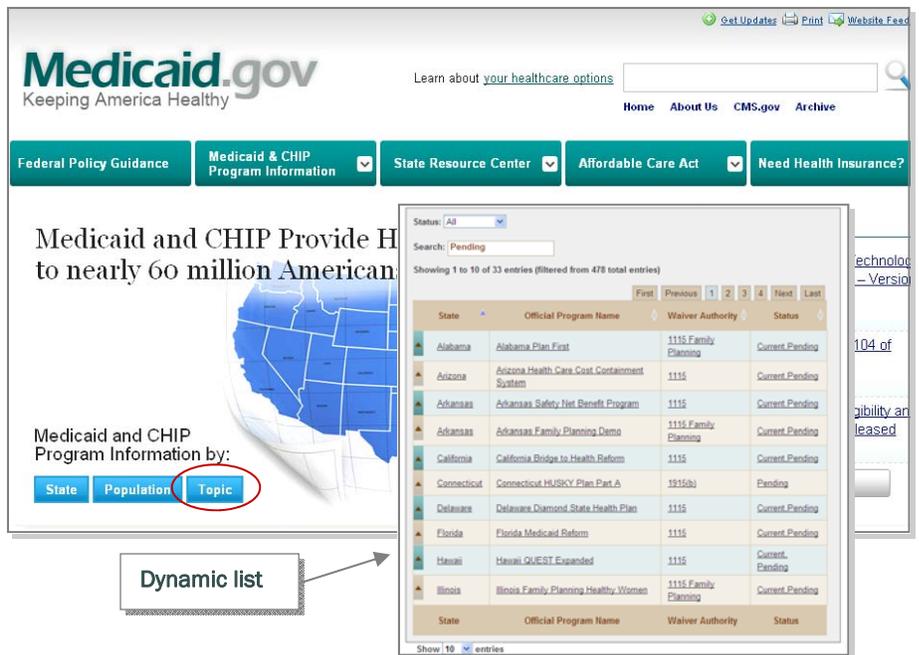
Date: April 27, 2012

Welcome to the new Section 1115 Demonstration Web site on Medicaid.gov. Section 1115 of the Social Security Act gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services authority to approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects that promote the objectives of the Medicaid program. As required by the Affordable Care Act and effective April 27th, 2012, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and States will follow a new process designed to ensure robust public input into the development and consideration of demonstrations at the State and Federal level. The web site is the mechanism that CMS uses to manage this Federal transparency process. Medicaid.gov enables States and the public to access information on pending and approved section 1115 demonstrations, download relevant documents, comment on pending applications, and sign up for email notifications of new demonstrations that are open for comment.

Access Section 1115 Demonstrations

- Go to http://Medicaid.gov.
- Select the *Topic* icon.
- Follow the Waivers heading and select *More information is available in the Waivers section* link.
- Select the *Section 1115 Demonstration Projects* link for more information or scroll down to the dynamic list and select your demonstration of interest. You can filter the list by State, status of the demonstration, or waiver authority.
- Once a demonstration is selected, you will see the demonstration profile page open in a new window. You can view its summary and status updates, download related documents, and click to provide public comment for any pending application.

Dynamic list

Access the Comment Feature for Pending Demonstrations

There are multiple quick and easy ways to review and provide public comments.

- You can use the dynamic list on the *Waivers page* and sort by pending demonstrations. Once you find your demonstration of interest, click on its name and the profile page will be displayed (see an example of the profile page to the right). In the "Submit Public Comment" field, follow the link to the public comment site. OR

- On the main *Section 1115 Demonstration information* page, follow the "Public Comment" header and select *View Pending Demonstrations* to access the list of pending Demonstrations.

Once you have selected your demonstration of interest and clicked to its specific public comment site, follow the instructions on the public comment page to leave new comments, review existing comments or to concur with existing comments.

Select to access public comment site

Use the Public Comments Tool

Each pending demonstration has its own public comment forum. Once you have selected your demonstration of interest, there are multiple ways to use the public comment tool.

To Post a Comment
- Simply begin typing in the *Comments* field. Additional fields will be displayed.
- Enter the comment in the *Comments* field.
- Select the category to which the comment should be assigned.
- Enter comments in the *Describe Your Idea* field.
- Select the *Post Idea* button to add the comment to the forum.
- Please note that these are moderated forums and comments will not be posted immediately.

To Review Posted Comments
- Once you are on the demonstration's public comment forum of interest, simply scroll down to see the posted comments.
- You can use the filter function to sort comments.

To Concur with an Existing Comment
- When you have found a posted comment you would like to concur with, simply click the "vote" button next to the comment.
- Please note that CMS will review all the comments and your concurrences help inform the review of demonstration applications.
- You have up to 10 concurrences you can use per demonstration comment period.
- You can concur multiple times on one comment if you choose to.

Sign Up for Email Notifications

Signing up for email notifications is fast and easy! CMS will send you a notification via email when a new public comment period for a demonstration has begun. Simply go on to the *Section 1115 Demonstrations public commenting* page and follow the link to sign up for the mailing list.

Send us your feedback!

We are constantly making efforts to improve the demonstration application and public comment processes.

Please send us your feedback at 1115demorequests@cms.hhs.gov