
2022-2027 1115 Medicaid Waiver Overview and Implementation Update

June 7, 2023



Today's Topics

- Overview of the 2022-2027 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver
- Health-Related Social Needs and Housing
- Discussion and Questions

What's a waiver?

People are eligible for the Oregon Health Plan based on their income or for other reasons.

Federal rules set minimum standards related to eligibility and required benefits. But **states can ask to WAIVE some federal rules** to have more flexibility and offer the Oregon Health Plan to more people and cover more services than usually allowed.

Every five years, Oregon must renew its agreement with the federal government around the Oregon Health Plan – proposing new changes and continuing existing programs. The federal government can accept or reject these proposals.

2022-2027 1115 Medicaid Waiver

Overarching Waiver Goal: *Advance Health Equity*

To achieve this, our policy framework breaks down the drivers of health inequities into actionable sub-goals:



Ensuring people can maintain their health coverage



Improving health outcomes by addressing health related social needs



Ensuring smart, flexible spending for health-related social needs and health equity



Creating a more equitable, culturally- and linguistically-responsive health care system

Waiver Implementation Timing

The elements of the waiver will phase in over the five years of the demonstration. One of the state's primary goals is to begin rolling out HRSN services in 2024. All dates below reflect goals; significant pre-work is needed to meet each deadline.

2023

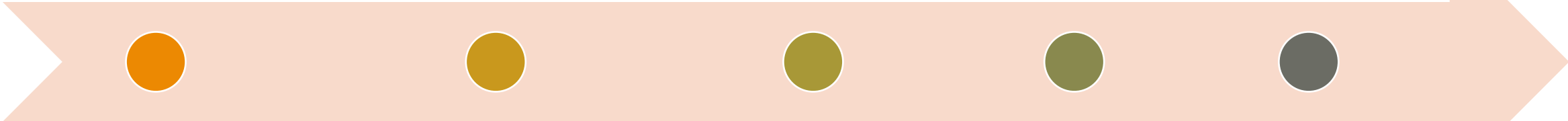
- **EPSDT** (live 1/1)
- **HRSN Implementation** planning and related **CMS deliverables** (HRSN Infrastructure and Services protocol*)
- **Continuous Enrollment** (July)
- **New Initiatives Implementation Plan**
- Begin claiming **DSHPs***
- **Community engagement** begins and continues for the duration of the demonstration

2025

- All HRSN Services provided
- **YSHCN** eligibility criteria for individuals with high needs, including serious mental illness, and complex chronic conditions

2027

- **Prioritized List** phased out of waiver and into state plan amendment (SPA) (1/1)



Terminology Key

EPSDT: Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment

HRSN: Health-Related Social Needs

DSHP: Designated State Health Programs

YSHCN: Youth with Special Health Care Needs

2024

- Proposed phased roll out of **HRSN Services** beginning (1/1 Climate; 7/1 Phasing of Housing/Nutrition)
- Work begins to transition **Prioritized List** to state plan

2026

- **YSHCN** eligibility criteria for individuals with two non-complex chronic conditions roll out

* requires CMS approval to receive federal funds

2022-2027 Waiver Authorities

Health-related social needs (HRSN) benefits for individuals and families experiencing critical life transitions

Oregon will provide health-related social needs benefits – housing and nutrition services - to people who are going through life transitions. These HRSN services will be Medicaid benefits.

HRSN Services for transition populations

Housing Supports

- Rent/temporary housing for up to 6 months
- Utility costs
- Pre-tenancy and tenancy sustaining services
- Case management, outreach, and education including linkages to other state and federal benefits
- Housing transition navigation services
- One-time transition and moving costs
- Housing deposits to secure housing
- Medically necessary home accessibility modifications

Nutrition Supports

- Nutrition counseling and education
- Medically-tailored meals, up to 3 meals a day for up to 6 months
- Meals or pantry stocking for children under 21, youth with special health care needs (YSHCN), and pregnant individuals, up to 3 meals a day for up to 6 months
- Fruit and vegetable prescriptions for up to 6 months

Climate Change

- Medically necessary air conditioners, heaters, humidifiers, air filtration devices, generators and refrigerators

** CMS expects that any new HRSN initiative will supplement, not supplant, existing Federal, State, and Local services or programs*

Transition populations eligible for HRSN services

- Youth with Special Health Care Needs ages 19-26;
- Adults and youth discharged from an IMD;
- Adults and youth released from incarceration;
- Youth involved in the child welfare system, including youth transitioning out;
- Individuals transitioning from Medicaid-only to dual eligibility status;
- Individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; and,
- Individuals with a high-risk clinical need who reside in a region that is experiencing extreme weather events.

Individuals in the populations above must have a documented need for the services based on clinical and social risk factors



HRSN Implementation Status – Target Timeline

HRSN implementation will implement in phases and expand over time – starting with a meaningful and measurable plan that is scalable.

- HRSN Climate Benefit: January 2024
- Housing and Nutrition Services: July 2024 begin phase-in

Housing goals

- Waiver meaningfully contributes to achieving the Governor's housing/homelessness and behavioral health agendas and priorities.
- Alignment with direct funding for Tribal housing as authorized in Executive Order 23-02 and the Governor's Recommended Budget.
- Complement existing programs and connect to broader social services network.
- Demonstrate the relationship between health-related social needs (housing, climate, nutrition), improved health outcomes and reduced costs to Medicaid.

Group Discussion

- Please tell us how your work intersects with the work we've presented today
- What populations do you primarily work with and what can you tell us about lessons learned serving those populations?
- What is the best way to follow up with future information?

Questions?

Thank you!

Updates and information:

oregon.gov/1115waiverrenewal

Reach out to us anytime:

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