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State of Nevada
**Department of Health and
Human Services**

Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver

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Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Background

- In response to the ongoing national opioid crisis, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has indicated a willingness to provide additional flexibilities to help states improve access to, and quality of SUD treatment through Medicaid 1115 Demonstrations.
- The 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver option allows states to test coverage a full SUD treatment service array in the context of overall SUD service delivery system transformation.
- Waiver would allow CMS to treat costs that would not otherwise qualify for federal matching funds as allowable Medicaid expenditures.
- The 81st session of the Nevada Legislature is considering SB154 which provides legislative approval to permit Nevada Medicaid to apply for proposed 1115 Waiver.

Additional information can be found here:

<https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/smd17003.pdf>





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Background (continued)

- The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will request from CMS authority for a five-year, Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver to expand statewide access to comprehensive behavioral health services for the most vulnerable Nevadans, including those with opioid use disorders (OUDs) and substance use disorders (SUDs).
- NV will seek authority to provide enhanced SUD benefits, and a limited waiver of the exclusion of the federal Medicaid Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD).





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Request

Enhanced Benefits requested:

- Residential and withdrawal management services consistent with American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) levels of care 3.1, 3.5, and 3.7.

ASAM 3.1	Clinically Managed Low-Intensity Residential Services
ASAM 3.5	Clinically Managed Medium-Intensity Residential Services
ASAM 3.7	Medically Monitored High-Intensity Inpatient Services

- Limited waiver of the federal IMD exclusion to ensure meaningful access to services.





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Goals¹

1. Increased rates of identification, initiation, and engagement in treatment.
2. Increased adherence to and retention in treatment.
3. Reductions in overdose deaths, particularly those due to opioids.
4. Reduced utilization of emergency department, and inpatient hospital settings for treatment where the utilization is preventable or medically inappropriate through improved access to other continuum of care.

¹- <https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/smd17003.pdf>





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Goals¹

(Continued)

5. Fewer readmissions to the same or higher level of care where the readmission is preventable or medically inappropriate.
6. Improved access to care for physical health conditions among beneficiaries.

¹- <https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/smd17003.pdf>





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Milestones ²

1. Access to critical levels of care for OUD and other SUDs.
2. Widespread use of evidence-based, SUD-specific patient placement criteria.
3. Use of nationally recognized, evidence-based SUD program standards to set residential treatment provider qualifications.
4. Sufficient provider capacity at each level of care.

²- Ibid.





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Milestones ² (continued)

5. Implementation of comprehensive treatment and prevention strategies to address opioid abuse and OUD.
6. Improved care coordination and transitions between levels of care.

²- Ibid.





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Next Steps

- **1115 SUD Waiver Application** *In Process. Slated to be completed Summer 2021.*
 - Summarizes NV's plan to meet stated demonstration milestones and goals.
 - Plan must demonstrate how cost will be budget neutral to the federal government.
 - Application will include all required information as mandated by 42 CFR§431.412.





Proposed 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver Next Steps (continued)

- 30-day public notice period required under 42 CFR§431.408.
 - Includes consultation with Tribal Nations and Tribal Health Clinics.
 - Evaluate public input on the application prior to submission to CMS.
- Submission to CMS
 - State will submit 1115 Waiver Application for CMS approval.
 - State will work with CMS and negotiate their proposed waiver revisions.
- Upon application approval
 - State will develop Implementation and Monitoring Plans.

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