

Steve Sisolak
Governor



Richard Whitley
Director

State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

**Proposed 1115 Demonstration Waiver - Nevada's
Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders (OUDs) and Substance
Use Disorders (SUDs) Transformation Project**

Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)

Sarah Dearborn, Social Services Chief II, Behavioral Health Unit



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Proposed 1115 Demonstration 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 of a full SUD treatment service array in the context of overall SUD service delivery system transformation.
- During the 81st session of the Nevada Legislature SB 154 was passed providing 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 Demonstration Background (continued)

- This waiver would allow CMS to treat costs that would not otherwise qualify for federal matching funds as allowable Medicaid expenditures.
- The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has requested 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).
- Nevada seeks authority to provide enhanced SUD benefits, and a limited waiver of the exclusion of the federal Medicaid Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) Rule.



Proposed 1115 Demonstration Request

Enhanced Benefits requested:

- Residential and withdrawal management services consistent with American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) levels of care 3.1, 3.2, 3.5, and 3.7.

ASAM 3.1	Clinically Managed Low-Intensity Residential Services
ASAM 3.2 WM	Clinically Managed Residential Withdrawal Management
ASAM 3.5	Clinically Managed Medium-Intensity Residential Services
ASAM 3.7	Medically Monitored High-Intensity Inpatient and Withdrawal Management Services

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





Proposed 1115 Demonstration Goals by CMS¹

1. Increased rates of identification, initiation, and engagement in treatment.
2. Increased adherence to and retention in treatment.
3. Reduction 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.
5. Reduced 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 Demonstration Milestones as Determined by CMS²

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.
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 Demonstration Next Steps for Nevada

- Nevada’s Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver entitled “Nevada’s Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders (OUDs) and Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) Transformation Project” submitted to CMS in November 2021
- Summarizes Nevada’s plan to meet stated demonstration milestones and goals.
 - Plan must demonstrate how cost will be budget neutral to CMS.
 - Application will include all required information as mandated by 42 CFR§431.412.





Proposed 1115 Demonstration Next Steps for Nevada(continued)

- 30-day public notice period required under 42 CFR§431.408.
 - April 28, 2022, 1115 Application posted for public comments <https://dhcfnv.gov/Pgms/Waivers/1115/>
 - 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 resubmit the 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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