

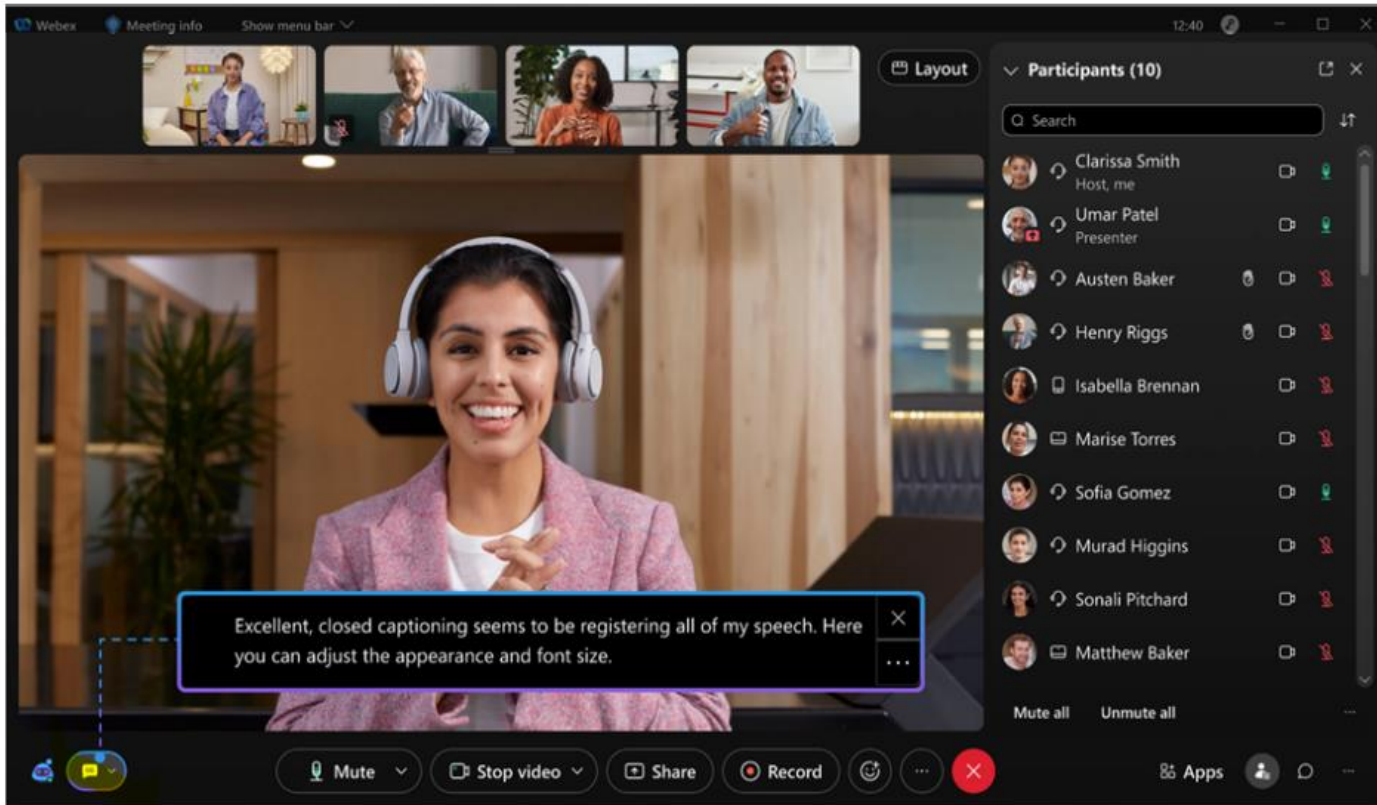


Department
of Health


**Medicaid Buy-In Program for Working
People with Disabilities (MBI-WPD)
Demonstration Program & Career
Pathways Training (CPT) Program 1115
Waiver Amendment Public Hearing**

NOVEMBER 2024

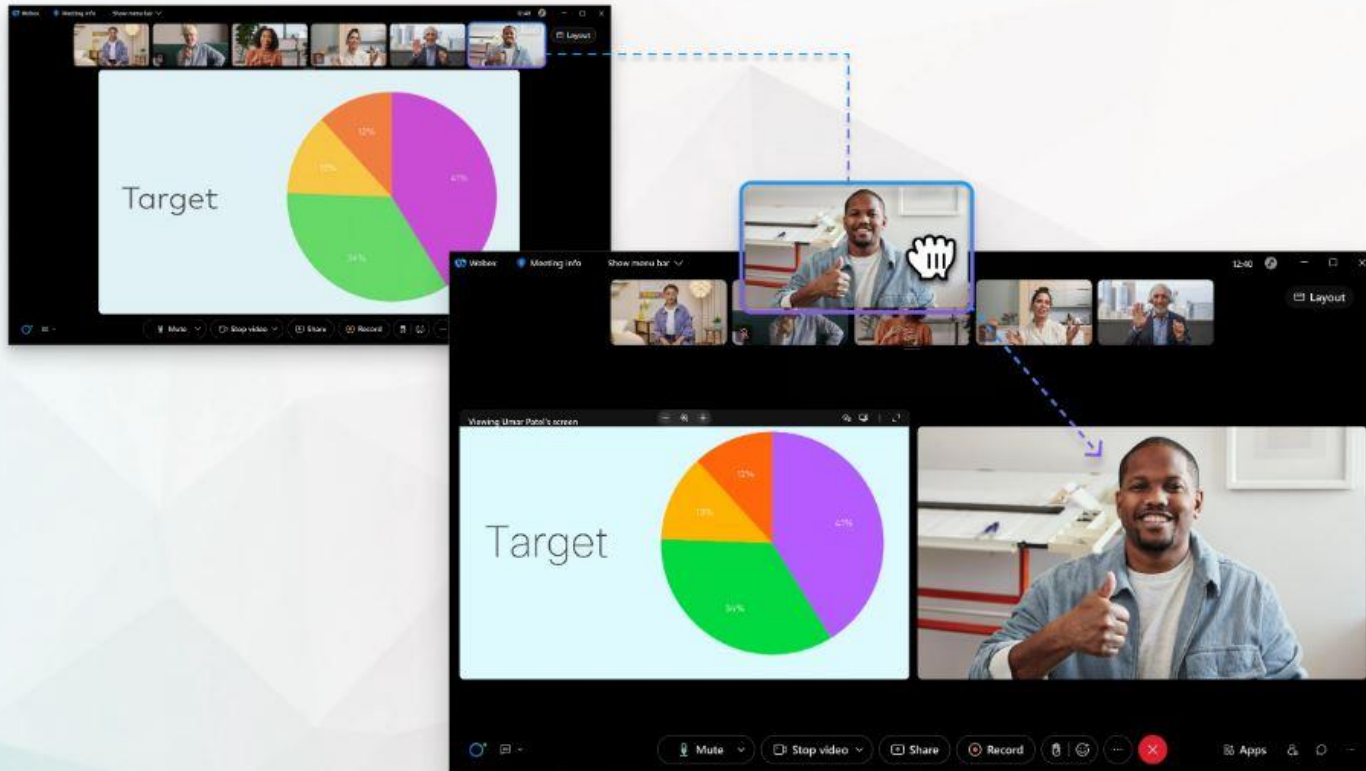
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AGENDA

- Public Hearing Format
- 1115 Demonstration Waiver Overview
- MBI-WPD Demonstration Program & CPT Program Amendment Overview
- Public Comment

PUBLIC HEARING FORMAT

The State is hosting this meeting to comply with the public hearing requirements detailed in 42 CFR § 431.408 and in the Special Terms and Conditions (STC) for the Medicaid Redesign Team 1115 Demonstration Waiver.



The Purpose of today's public hearing is to:

1. Provide information about the proposed MBI-WPD & CPT Program 1115 Waiver Amendment.
2. Afford the public an opportunity to provide comments on the proposed amendment.

A **recording** and **transcription** of this public hearing will be available on the MRT Waiver website 7-10 days after the hearing. **Language translation** is available upon request.

1115 BACKGROUND

- Section 1115 Demonstration Waivers grant flexibility to states for **innovative projects that advance the objectives of the Medicaid program.**
- **Authorized under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act, these waivers:**
 1. Give the Secretary of Health and Human Services the authority to waive certain provisions and regulations for Medicaid programs, and
 2. Allow Medicaid funds be used in ways that are not otherwise allowed under federal rules (e.g., making certain investments eligible for federal match).
- Typically, 1115 waivers are approved for 3-5 years.



NEW YORK'S 1115 WAIVER

- The **NYS Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) Waiver** (formerly the Partnership Plan) has been in effect since 1997.
- New York's 1115 MRT Waiver was last renewed on April 1, 2022, and is effective through March 31, 2027.
- The proposed amendment is an amendment to New York's existing 1115 Demonstration Waiver.

The goals of the MRT Waiver are as follows:



✓ Improve access to health care for the Medicaid Population



✓ Improve the quality of health services delivered



✓ Expand coverage to additional low-income New Yorkers with resources generated through managed care efficiencies; and



✓ Advance health equity, reduce health disparities, and support the delivery of health-related social need (HRSN) services.



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1115 Amendment Overview:

Medicaid Buy-In Program for Working People with Disabilities (MBI-WPD) Demonstration Program



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MBI-WPD DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

The New York State Department of Health is seeking to implement a new Medicaid Buy-In Program for Working People with Disabilities (MBI-WPD) Demonstration Program which will:

- Establish enhanced Medicaid financial eligibility rules for the program.
- Replace New York's current MBI-WPD program.
- Help more New Yorkers with disabilities find and maintain employment while obtaining critical services needed to live and work independently in the community.

Implementation of this waiver amendment requires approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

NEW YORK'S CURRENT MBI-WPD PROGRAM

New York's current MBI-WPD Program, approved under its State Plan:

- Is a work incentive Medicaid program for certified disabled or certified blind individuals who are working and between the ages of 16 and 64.
- Is comprised of two groups, the MBI-WPD Basic Group and the Medical Improvement Group.
- Has income levels above the regular Medicaid limits.
- Disregards retirement funds and retirement accounts.
- Authorizes premiums.

NEW YORK'S PROPOSED MBI-WPD DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

The proposed MBI-WPD demonstration program will:

- Be a work incentive Medicaid program for certified disabled or certified blind individuals who are working and are at least 16 years of age. There is no longer an age limit at 64.
- Be comprised of the Basic Group and the Medical Improvement Group.
- Have more favorable income and resource rules.
- Implement premiums.
- Cap enrollment at 30,000 participants.
- Replace the current MBI-WPD program.

NEW YORK'S PROPOSED MBI-WPD DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Upon implementation of the MBI-WPD demonstration program, current MBI-WPD program enrollees in the Basic or Medical Improvement groups will be:

- Redetermined under the new MBI-WPD demonstration program rules at Medicaid renewal so they benefit from the enhanced eligibility rules.
- Transitioned to the MBI-WPD demonstration program if found eligible and included in the program enrollment cap of 30,000.

COMPARISON OF CURRENT MBI-WPD PROGRAM AND PROPOSED MBI-WPD DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Requirement	Current MBI-WPD Program	Proposed MBI-WPD Demonstration Program
Income Limit	250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	2,250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
Resource Limit	2024 Resource Limits: \$31,175 (household of one) \$42,312 (household of two)	\$300,000
Retirement funds Other Liberal Resource Treatment	Disregard all funds held in retirement funds or retirement accounts; more liberal treatment of other resources under New York's State Plan pursuant to SSA §1902(r)(2)	No change



COMPARISON OF CURRENT MBI-WPD PROGRAM AND PROPOSED MBI-WPD DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Requirement	Current MBI-WPD Program	Proposed MBI-WPD Demonstration Program
Legally Responsible Relative	Income and resources are counted	Criteria waived - income and resources are not counted
Premiums	Applies when income is between 150% - 250% FPL. Premiums are 3% of net earned income plus 7.5% of unearned income	Applies when income is equal to or greater than 250% FPL; 4-tier structure depending on income
Enrollment Cap	No limit on number of eligible participants	Limit of 30,000 participants in the program
Age Limit	Recipients must be at least 16 years old, but less than 65 years of age	Recipients must be at least 16 years old but upper age limit removed



PROPOSED MBI-WPD PREMIUM STRUCTURE

Income	Monthly Premium
Less than 250% FPL	No premium
250% FPL or more but less than 300% FPL	the lesser of: \$347 or 4% of monthly income
300% FPL or more but less than 400% FPL	the lesser of: \$518 or 6% of monthly income
400% FPL or more but less than 500% FPL	the lesser of: \$779 or 8.5% of monthly income
500% FPL or more but less than or equal to 2,250% FPL	the lesser of: \$1,033 or 8.5% of monthly income

PROPOSED MBI-WPD DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Extends to more of New York's working individuals with disabilities the opportunity to:

- Maintain financial independence through employment.
- Retain Medicaid coverage and access to critical services despite earnings that may result in income or resources in excess of regular Medicaid limits.
- Apply and continue participating in the program regardless of being 65 years of age or older.

1115 Amendment Overview:

Career Pathways Training (CPT) Program Amendment

CPT PROGRAM AMENDMENT

The CPT program is an education and training program that was authorized as part of the New York Health Equity Reform (NYHER) waiver amendment. This program is designed to create a reliable workforce pipeline to address workforce shortages by funding education and training for health, behavioral health and social care workers throughout New York State.

Under the CPT program, Workforce Investment Organizations (WIOs) are authorized to make backfill payments to providers for employees attending education or training programs during work hours in order to preserve access to care.

CPT PROGRAM AMENDMENT

Currently, backfill payments for the CPT Program are limited to a maximum of two days per week.

The Department of Health (DOH) seeks to amend the current two-day maximum to allow for up to five days.

- For more intensive periods of certain educational programs, CPT participants may require up to five days of backfill coverage, while other titles may need fewer than two days of backfill coverage, due to less extensive training and educational requirements.
- This variability highlights the need for a more flexible approach to backfill based on the demands of the academic program.

Public Comment



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GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A list of the pre-registered commenters will indicate the order in which you will be called on to speak.
- A member of the DOH team will call your name and manually unmute your line to allow you to provide your comment.
- Comments will be timed, please limit your comment to five minutes.

Written comments will be accepted through **December 14, 2024**, by email at 1115waivers@health.ny.gov or by mail at:



Department of Health
Office of Health Insurance Programs
Waiver Management Unit
99 Washington Ave., 8th fl. (Suite 826)
Albany, NY 12210

**Questions or
Comments?**

**For further information,
please contact us at:
1115waivers@health.ny.gov**



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RESOURCES



[New York 1115 Waiver Website](#)



[Current Special Terms and Conditions](#)



[MBI-WPD and CPT Amendment Application](#)



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If you have questions regarding New York's 1115 Waiver or the proposed MBI-WPD Demonstration Program & CPT Program Amendment, please contact us at: 1115waivers@health.ny.gov

ONE MINUTE REMAINING



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