STATE OF WASHINGTON

HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • Olympia, Washington 98501

October 21, 2026

NOTICE

Title or Subject: Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 26-0020 Implementation of Section 71109 of the Working Families Tax Cut (WFTC) Legislation, Public Law 119-21

Effective Date: October 1, 2026

Description: The Health Care Authority (HCA) intends to submit Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 26-0020 to amend citizenship and immigration eligibility criteria for Medicaid eligibility as required in Section 71109 of the Working Families Tax Cuts (WFTC) legislation.

Effective October 1, 2026, eligibility for Medicaid is limited to U.S. citizens and U.S. nationals, lawful permanent residents who have met or are exempt from the 5-year bar, Cuban/Haitian entrants, and Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants. However, HCA maintains coverage for lawfully present children, pregnant individuals, and individuals within 12 months postpartum under Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) 214 option.

HCA anticipates the Medicaid SPAs to be effective October 1, 2026.

Medicaid SPA 26-0020 addresses eligibility and is therefore expected to have no effect on annual aggregate expenditures/reimbursement/payments.

SPA 26-0020 is in the development process; therefore, a copy is not yet available for review. HCA would appreciate any input or concerns regarding this SPA. To request a copy when it becomes available or submit comments, please contact the person named below by November 23, 2026 (please note that all comments are subject to public review and disclosure, as are the names of those who comment).

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