STATE OF WASHINGTON

HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • Olympia, Washington 98501

October 8, 2026

NOTICE

Title or Subject: Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0022 and CHIP State Plan Amendment 26-2000 Gender-Related Care

Effective Date: October 13, 2026

Description: On August 13, 2026, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued final rule 42 CFR Parts 441 and 457 requiring Medicaid and CHIP State Plans to provide that the Medicaid agency will not make payment under the State Plans for certain sex-rejecting procedures (e.g., certain surgical and hormonal interventions).This applies to children under age 18 who receive services under the Medicaid State Plan and to children under age 19 who receive services under the CHIP State Plan. The final rule prohibits the use of federal Medicaid funds to fund such procedures.

CMS is developing templates for states to use when submitting SPAs to comply with 42 CFR Parts 441 and 557. HCA intends to submit Medicaid SPA 26-0022 and CHIP SPA 26-2000 to comply with the final rule when the templates become available.

Washington state will no longer cover these services under Medicaid funding, but will continue to cover these services using state-only (non-Medicaid) funds. Therefore these SPAs are expected to have no impact on the annual aggregate reimbursement for outpatient, inpatient, pharmacy or professional services.

Because the CMS template is under development, drafts of SPAs 26-0022 and 26-2000 are not yet available for review. HCA would appreciate any input or concerns regarding these SPAs. To request a copy of either draft SPA when they become available or submit comments, please contact the people named below (please note that all comments are subject to public review and disclosure, as are the names of those who comment).

CONTACT

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