



Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Kari Armijo, Secretary
Alex Castillo Smith, Deputy Secretary
Kathy Slater Huff, Deputy Secretary
Niki Kozlowski, Acting Deputy Secretary
Dana Flannery, Medicaid Director

November 26, 2025

RE: Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 25-20: Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).

Dear Tribal Leadership, Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Providers, and Other Interested Parties:

Seeking advice and comments from New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their health care providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. In accordance with the New Mexico Health Care Authority (HCA) Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments process, this letter is to inform you that HCA's Medical Assistance Division (MAD) is providing public notice on its plans to submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to provide Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in accordance with Section 201 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (CAA). Effective October 1, 2025, New Mexico Medicaid will continue to provide the mandatory Medicaid benefit for medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD).

The CAA, which was signed into law on March 9, 2024, made permanent the mandatory Medicaid benefit for MOUD. The mandatory MOUD benefit requires coverage of counseling services and behavioral therapies associated with the provision of required drug and biological coverage. The drug and biological coverage require states to cover all drugs approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, including methadone, and all biological products licensed under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act to treat opioid use disorders.

The mandatory MOUD benefit was initially effective for a five-year period beginning October 1, 2020, and ending September 30, 2025. This proposed SPA removes the end date of September 30, 2025, providing continued coverage and incorporates existing State Plan language with changes into CMS' new standardized template.

Since the submission addresses administrative changes, the estimated total financial impact is \$0 in federal funds for FFY 2026 and \$0 in federal funds for FFY 2027.

Tribal Impact

The HCA does not anticipate any impact for Indian Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos and their health care providers with this change.

Tribal Advice and Comments

Tribes and their healthcare providers may view the proposed changes on the HCA webpage at: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/providers/written-tribal-notification-letters/> **25-20: Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).**

Written comments may be submitted, and Tribal Leadership may request a government-to-government consultation by **5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) on December 26, 2025**. Please direct your comments and requests for consultation to the MAD Native American Liaison, Theresa Belanger, at (505) 670-8067, or by email at: Theresa.Belanger@hca.nm.gov. All written comments received will be posted on the New Mexico Medicaid website at: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/providers/written-tribal-notification-letters/> along with this notification letter. The public posting will include the name and contact information provided by the commenter.

OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW DOCUMENTS

The complete draft amendment may be found on the New Mexico Medicaid website at: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/comment-period-open-2025/>. A written copy of these proposed documents may be requested by contacting the HCA/MAD in Santa Fe at (505) 827-1337.

Copies of all comments will be made available by HCA/MAD upon request by providing copies directly to a requestor, by making them available on the HCA/MAD website, or at a location within the county of the requestor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Flannery', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dana Flannery
State Medicaid Director