



Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Kari Armijo, Secretary
Dana Flannery, Medicaid Director

November 17, 2025

RE: Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 25-19: Reimbursement for Traditional Health Care Practices (THCP)

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's (HCA's) Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments process, this letter is to inform you that HCA, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting written comments until **5:00 p.m., Mountain Time (MT) on December 18, 2025**, regarding reimbursement for Traditional Health Care Practices (THCP) through Tribal facilities and Indian Health Service (IHS).

The effective date for this service is October 1, 2025. The HCA received approval from the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) October 16, 2024, to implement the THCP service under our 1115 demonstration waiver. This is a five year approval and will end December 31, 2029, unless extended.

Estimated Total Financial Impact

For Native Americans receiving this benefit at IHS or Tribal facilities, the reimbursement will be one OMB rate per Medicaid member per day. For other Medicaid members reimbursement will be at the fee schedule rate.

Tribal Impact

The HCA anticipates a positive impact for Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their healthcare providers who choose to provide THCP services through their facility.

Tribal Advice and Comments

Tribes and tribal healthcare providers may view the proposed changes, on the HCA webpage at: <https://www.hca.nm.gov/providers/written-tribal-notification-letters/>. **Notification letter 25-19.**

A written copy of these documents may be requested by contacting the HCA Medical Assistance Division (HCA/MAD) in Santa Fe at (505) 827-1337.

Important Dates

Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) on December 18, 2025.

Please send your comments 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 HCA 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 any contact information provided by the commenter.

All comments and responses will be compiled and made available after January 23, 2026.

Sincerely,

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

Dana Flannery, Director
Medical Assistance Division