

## **Table of Contents**

**State Name: Virginia**

**State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 21-0013**

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS-179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
601 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 355  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

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October 29, 2021

Karen Kimsey, Director  
Department of Medical Assistance Services  
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300  
Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Virginia State Plan Amendment 21-0013

Dear Ms. Kimsey:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reviewed Virginia's Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 21-0013, Doula Services.

This amendment proposes to include coverage for doula services for Medicaid-enrolled pregnant women. Services shall include up to 8 prenatal/postpartum visits, and support during labor and delivery. This SPA will also implement up to two linkage-to-care incentive payments for postpartum and newborn care.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security Act and implementing regulations 42 CFR § 435.733. This letter is to inform you that Virginia Medicaid SPA 21-0013 was approved on October 28, 2021, with an effective date of January 1, 2022. Enclosed are the approved SPA pages and signed CMS-179 form.

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Kosherzenko at 215-861-4288 or via email at [Margaret.Kosherzenko@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Margaret.Kosherzenko@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

James G. Scott, Director  
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc:  
Emily McClellan

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL  
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2 1 0 1 3

2. STATE

Virginia

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL  
SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

01/01/2022

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One)

☐ NEW STATE PLAN ☐ AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN ☒ AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate transmittal for each amendment)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

42 CFR 440

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT

a. FFY 2022 \$ 621,516  
b. FFY 2023 \$ 1,243,031

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Attachment 3.1A&B, Supplement 1: new page 28.1  
Attachment 4.19-B, new page 6.2.1.29. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION  
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

Same as box #8.

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Doula Services

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

☐ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT  
☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED  
☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL☒ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED

Secretary of Health and Human Resources

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL



13. TYPED NAME

Karen Kimsey

14. TITLE

Director

15. DATE SUBMITTED

8/24/2021

16. RETURN TO

Dept. of Medical Assistance Services  
600 East Broad Street, #1300  
Richmond VA 23219

Attn: Regulatory Coordinator

**FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY**17. DATE RECEIVED  
August 24, 202118. DATE APPROVED  
10/28/2021**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL  
January 1, 2022

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL

21. TYPED NAME

James G. Scott

22. TITLE

Director, Division of Program Operations

23. REMARKS

**STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT**

State of VIRGINIA

**AMOUNT, DURATION, AND SCOPE OF MEDICAL  
AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE CATEGORICALLY NEEDY  
and MEDICALLY NEEDY**

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Doula Services

Doula services will be used to provide support for pregnant individuals throughout the perinatal period, which may improve birth-related outcomes. Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. Section 440.130(c), doula services are provided as preventive services and must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within his or her scope of practice under state law to prevent perinatal complications and/or promote the physical and mental health of the beneficiary.

**Service Description:**

Virginia intends to provide doula services for pregnant individuals during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. Doulas support the pregnant individual throughout the pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum experience, with the goal of improving outcomes for birthing parents and infants. Doulas offer support, guidance, evidence-based education, practical support during childbirth, and linkages to community-based resources. Service components include:

- Perinatal support services, including newborn care, to prevent adverse outcomes;
- Labor support; and
- Coordination with community-based services, to improve beneficiary outcomes

**Qualified Provider Specifications:**

Doula services shall be provided by qualified individuals who are at least 18 years of age. Doulas must:

- Complete doula training, which must include core competencies (perinatal support services, labor support), community-based/cultural competency training, and care coordination. Doula trainings must be approved by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH); and
- Be certified by a state certifying entity designated by VDH.

**Limits:**

- Any service limits may be exceeded based upon medical necessity.
- Service authorization is required if more than eight prenatal/postpartum visits are required, and if services are required more than six months after delivery.

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TN No. 21-013

Approval Date 10/28/2021

Effective Date 1-1-2022

Supersedes

TN No. New Page

## STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State of VIRGINIA

### METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATE - OTHER TYPES OF CARE

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#### Doula Services

Doula services may be reimbursed from the date of confirmed conception through 180 days (six months) after delivery, contingent on the client maintaining Medicaid eligibility. Virginia will reimburse up to 8 prenatal/postpartum visits and attendance at birth. Any service limits may be exceeded based upon medical necessity. Service authorization is required if more than eight prenatal/postpartum visits are required, and if services are required more than six months after delivery.

Each prenatal/postpartum service visit shall be billed and reimbursed separately. A unit of service is 15 minutes. An initial prenatal visit has a maximum unit capacity of six (6) units to account for assessment while all other visits have a maximum capacity of four (4) units.

During the postpartum period, an additional value-based incentive payment will be made if the Doula performs at least one (1) postpartum service visit and the client is seen by an obstetric clinician for one (1) postpartum visit after a labor and delivery claim. A second additional value-based incentive payment will be made if the Doula performs at least one (1) postpartum service visit (this may be the same postpartum visit used for the first value-based payment) and the newborn is seen by a pediatric clinician for one (1) visit after a labor and delivery claim.

The Agency's fee schedule rates for doula services are set as of January 1, 2022, and are effective for services on or after that date. The rates are the same for both governmental and private providers. All rates are published on the State's website at <https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/for-providers/general-information/procedure-fee-files-cpt-codes/>.

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