



HEALTH CARE
AUTHORITY

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

September 20, 2024

RE: Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 24-19: Second Public Comment for SPA 24-0004, Doula and Lactation Services

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's Health Care Authority (HCA) Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments process, this letter is to inform you that the HCA, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting a second round of comments until 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) **Monday, October 21, 2024**, regarding state plan amendment (SPA) 24-0004, Doula and Lactation Services. The state inadvertently excluded the Doula reimbursement methodology from the relevant reimbursement pages. Additionally, the state has amended the implementation date of this SPA.

Effective October 1, 2024, New Mexico MAD will be adding coverage for Doula services as a new reimbursable preventative service for individuals navigating pregnancy-related care before, during, and after a pregnancy or childbirth; and adding coverage for Lactation Provider services as a new reimbursable preventative to increase access to education and management to prevent and solve breastfeeding problems and encourage support to breastfeeding mother–infant.

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/> **Tribal Notification 24-19**.

Important Dates

Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) Monday, October 21, 2024. 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 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 any contact information provided by the commenter.

Tribal Leadership may request a government-to-government consultation by **Monday, October 21, 2024**. This request may be made to: Theresa.Belanger@hca.nm.gov or by calling (505) 670-8067.

Sincerely,

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

Dana Flannery
State Medicaid Director