

## Medicaid Expansion 1115 Waiver – COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

4/10/2020

### Q: Why can't the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) process the approval of Nebraska's 1115 waiver?

A: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CMS has notified us that approval of Nebraska's 1115 waiver will not be able to be completed at this time.

### Q: Will Medicaid expansion still start on October 1?


A: Yes. Medicaid expansion will happen on time. Even without this waiver approval, applications will still begin to be accepted on August 1, and benefits will begin on October 1.

### Q: How does this affect the Basic/Prime structure for the expansion population?

A: Most newly eligible Nebraskans will start with the Basic benefits package, which is a comprehensive benefits package that includes the following services:

- Ambulatory
- Emergencies
- Hospitalization
- Maternity and Newborn
- Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services, including Behavioral Health
- Prescription Drugs
- Rehabilitative & Habilitative Services and devices
- Laboratory Services
- Preventive, wellness, and chronic disease management
- Other services such as: long-term care, non-emergency medical transportation, and durable medical equipment





Newly eligible Nebraskans who are 19 or 20 years old, pregnant, or medically frail will receive the Prime benefits package, which is the Basic benefits package plus:

- Dental Services
- Vision Services; and
- Over-the-counter medications

With the future approval of the 1115 demonstration waiver, beneficiaries receiving the Basic benefits package will have the opportunity to earn the enhanced Prime benefit package.

**Q: What about retroactive benefits?**

A: Retroactive benefits will remain available under the same conditions as today.

