



Arkansas ARPA 9817

Provider Incentive Program

January 20, 2022

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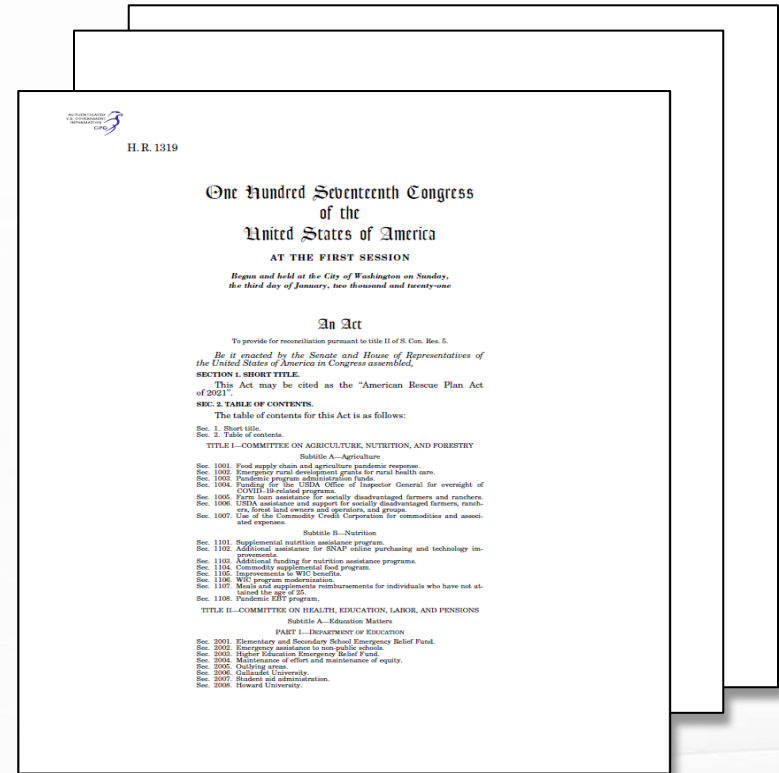
Agenda

- ARPA 9817 Overview
- Provider Incentive Program Overview
- Review Questionnaire Purpose
- Question and Answer Period

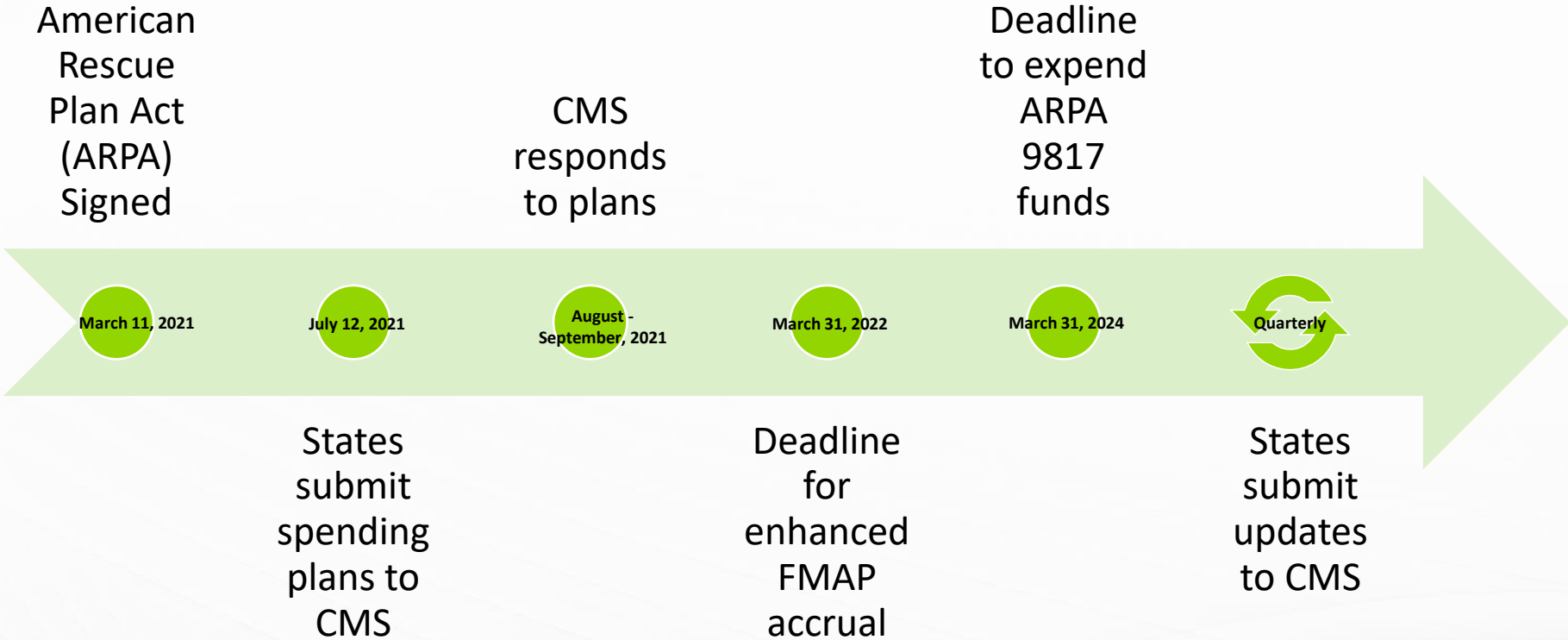
ARPA 9817 Overview

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: Additional Support for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services

- ARPA Section 9817
 - “enhance, expand or strengthen HCBS”
 - 10% FMAP increase
 - States can expend funds between 4/1/21 to 3/31/24
 - Time-limited, non-recurring
 - Target one or more activities as described in State Medicaid Director’s (SMD) Letter, dated May 13, 2021 (SMD-21-003)



ARPA 9817: Timeline of Events



HCBS Spending Plans

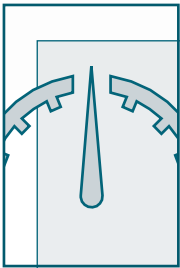
ARPA 9817 HCBS Spending Plans must adhere to the guidance provided by CMS. Plans must:



Expand, enhance, or strengthen HCBS



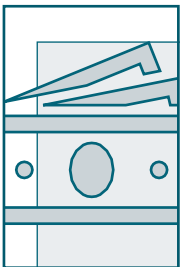
Supplement not supplant existing state funds



Not impose stricter eligibility standards, methodologies, or procedures as of April 1, 2021



Not reduce existing services in amount, duration, or scope as of April 1, 2021



Maintain HCBS provider payments at a rate no less than those in place as of April 1, 2021



Fund activities included in the SMD Letter

Provider Incentive Program Design

Provider Incentive Program: Categories Authorized by SMD Letter

Expand Provider Capacity

- *Expanding self-directed programs. Creating financial incentives to expand the number, retention rates, and expertise/skills of the direct care workforce. Providing nursing facilities or other institutional settings with funding to convert to assisted living facilities or to provide adult day services, respite care, or other HCBS.”*

Specialized Payments

- *Provide hazard pay, overtime pay, and shift differential pay for home health workers and direct support professionals that are not already included in the service rate/rate methodology. Provide adult day centers with funding to make physical, operational, or other changes to safely deliver services during the COVID-19 PHE.”*

Workforce Recruitment

- *Conduct activities to recruit and retain home health workers and direct support professionals. Offer incentive payments to recruit and retain home health workers and direct support professionals.”*

Provider Incentive Program: Expand Provider Capacity

Expansion

- Expand number of staff
- Improve DSP* retention rates

DSP Training and Skill Development

- Paid new hire training
- Incentives for training and / or certification

*Direct Service Provider

Provider Incentive Program: Specialized Payments – Hazard Pay

Positive COVID-19 services

- Incentive payment for DSP to provide or continue to provide services to Medicaid beneficiaries currently diagnosed with COVID-19.

Emergency back-up services

- Incentive payment for DSPs who provide services over and above those outlined in the person centered service plan (PCSP) due to the activation of the beneficiary's emergency back-up plan.

Emergency placement

- Incentive payment for DSPs who provide services on short notice to beneficiaries who access emergency placement (e.g., due to suspected / substantiated abuse, neglect, and / or exploitation).

Provider Incentive Program: Workforce Recruitment and Retention

Hiring bonus

- New DSPs receive a bonus payment after the first 60 days of employment.

Retention bonus

- Bonus payment for DSPs who exceed 6 continuous months of service with the same employer.

PHE service award

- One-time financial award for DSPs who delivered services to beneficiaries for at least 3 continuous months during calendar years 2019, 2020 and / or 2021.

Vaccine incentive

- One-time incentive payment for DSPs who confirm receipt of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Recruitment Activities

- Conduct or participate in recruitment activities

Retention Activities

- Develop recognition and reward programs, train HR staff, enhance onboarding practices

Incentive Portal and Training and Technical Assistance

ARPA 9817 Provider Incentive Portal

The web-based provider grant portal will house all information and processes for providers to apply for, manage, and track the provider incentive program.

- Application page will allow providers to identify programs for participation
 - Providers can check the status of grant applications
- Providers will communicate progress on selected initiatives
 - Provide information on incentive distribution
 - Certify adherence to incentive requirements

ARPA 9817 Provider Training and Technical Assistance Center

The T/TA Center is designed to provide information and assistance to provider related to activities in the ARPA 9817 HCBS Spending Plan

- T/TA Center will be maintained by Guidehouse staff
- Providers may access T/TA through a dedicated email address:
 - arpa9817-provider-ta-center@guidehouse.com
- T/TA page will be available on provider portal
 - Frequently asked questions
 - Training modules

Provider Questionnaire

Provider Questionnaire

Purpose: To collect provider information for use as reference to inform the distribution of ARPA 9817 Provider Incentive payments.

Limitation: Information provided in the questionnaire will not replace or override DHS distribution amounts.

DHS will use questionnaire responses to identify disparities between provider records and DHS records related to claims, provider types, and billing codes.

DHS will communicate with providers regarding discrepancies.

Provider Questionnaire

DHS will use questionnaire responses to identify disparities between provider records and DHS records related to claims, provider types, and billing codes.

- Provider Demographics
 - Information that identifies the provider
 - Information that clarifies the services provided
 - Number of unique individuals served
- Program and Service Information
 - Medicaid program and provider type
 - Service codes and amounts claimed

Provider Questionnaire

Question types and desired responses.

1. Provider Name

Input the provider's name as it is found in the Arkansas Medical Information System (MMIS).

*

Enter your answer

Text boxes will accept any type of text. Review responses.

11. Provider Type and Procedure Codes: Autism 1915(c) Waiver

Autism 1915(c) Waiver

Provider Type: 06/AX

Associated procedure codes: H2019 U2

- Provider delivers services under the provider type and procedure code(s)
- No services provided under the Autism 1915(c) Waiver

Some responses will allow 1 choice, while others will accept multiple responses.

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