

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
San Francisco Regional Office  
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)  
San Francisco, CA 94103-6706



**DIVISION OF MEDICAID & CHILDREN'S HEALTH OPERATIONS**

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June 24, 2015

Mari Cantwell, Chief Deputy Director  
California Department of Health Care Services  
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Dear Ms. Cantwell:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving California's request to renew the Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) Waiver, Control Number CA17.R09. This renewal is effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020.

This action renews the SMHS Waiver that expires on June 30, 2015. CMS granted this waiver to mandate enrollment into County Mental Health Plans (CMHPs) for the delivery of Specialty Mental Health Services, and understands the longstanding and important role they play in providing these services.

After working closely with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) during the previous renewal period, an overarching concern continues to be program integrity monitoring and compliance. Because of this, adherence to the attached Special Terms and Conditions is required as a condition of approval.

Thank you for your cooperation during the waiver amendment review process. We appreciate your staff's commitment to working with CMS to provide mental health services to the State's Medi-Cal beneficiaries. If you have any questions, please contact Bev Hogaboom at (415) 744-3580 or [Beverly.Hogaboom@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Beverly.Hogaboom@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Hye Sun Lee  
Acting Associate Regional Administrator  
Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

cc: Debbie Dombrowski, CMS Central Office  
Dina Kokkos-Gonzales, DHCS, Chief, Waivers Analysis Branch

Attachment

5. The state will provide to CMS the annual grievance and appeals reports by November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Since DHCS is in the process of revising the reporting form, the first report will be provided by January 31, 2016. The state will notify CMS by December 1, 2015 if it is unable to meet the January 31, 2016 deadline.
6. All information required to be published pursuant to these STCs, will be placed in a standardized and easily accessible location on the state's website.
7. The state must, within the timeframes specified in law, regulation, or policy statement, come into compliance with any changes in federal law, regulation, or policy affecting the Medicaid or CHIP programs that occur during this waiver approval period, unless the provision being changed is expressly waived or identified as not applicable.