

FACT SHEET
Kansas “*Working Healthy*” State Plan Amendment (SPA)

Official Program Name: *Working Healthy*

Date SPA Submitted: August 24, 2006

Date SPA Approved: September 7, 2006

Date SPA to be Implemented: January 1, 2007

Date SPA Expires: Not Applicable

SUMMARY

On August 24, 2006, the Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) submitted a benchmark SPA request to offer Personal Assistance Services (PAS) and related services to beneficiaries eligible for *Working Healthy*, the State’s Medicaid buy-in program. The benchmark State plan option provides States with the opportunity to offer an alternative benefit package to beneficiaries without regard to comparability of services. This will be beneficial for Kansans with disabilities for the following reasons:

- The State will aid in the improvement of the health of persons with disabilities by providing person-centered care to meet their unique needs.
- The flexibility of this option permits Kansas to design a benefit package that meets the needs of a working population requiring PAS to live and work in the community.
- Individuals with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and traumatic brain injuries will be able to self-direct their PAS and related services and to receive these services at home, at work, and in the community, thereby facilitating their ability to become employed.

BENEFITS AND ELIGIBILITY

- Individuals categorically eligible in the State’s Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (TWWIIA) Basic Medicaid buy-in program with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and traumatic brain injuries, who require PAS and related services. This optional Medicaid buy-in eligibility group is comprised of working individuals between the ages of 15 and 65 years old who, except for their income and resource levels, are eligible to receive SSI.

- All participants must be eligible for the State's *Working Healthy* program in order to receive the service. Participants must:
 1. Have a developmental disability, physical disability, or traumatic brain injury;
 2. Be 16 to 64 years of age;
 3. Be determined disabled by the Social Security Administration;
 4. Have earned income verified by FICA/SECA payments;
 5. Have countable net income no higher than 300% of the Federal Poverty Level; and
 6. Have assets no higher than \$15,000.
- These individuals will be given the opportunity to voluntarily opt out of traditional Medicaid coverage and into benchmark coverage. This option will be available Statewide.
- In addition to the traditional State plan services, individuals enrolled in this program will receive additional benefits tailored to specific health needs, including:
 - o Person-centered assessments;
 - o PAS such as assistance with ADLs, IADLs, and health-maintenance activities that are permitted under State law;
 - o Independent Living Counseling such as information, training and assistance necessary for individuals to direct and manage their personal assistance and related services and service budgets;
 - o Assistive Services such as items or equipment that will improve independence, employment and/or health and safety.
- Enrollment will be dependent on available employment opportunities throughout the State.
- State is providing Medicaid coverage through a Secretary-approved benchmark plan under section 1937 of the Social Security Act as added by the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA).
- The State anticipates implementing *Working Healthy* on January 1, 2007.