California CalAIM 1115 Demonstration: Justice-Involved Initiative
CalAIM 1115 Demonstration Rationale and Goals
National Context for California’s 1115 Demonstration Request

Until now, due to a provision of federal Medicaid law known as the “inmate exclusion,” inpatient hospital care was the only service that could be covered by Medicaid for individuals considered an “inmate of a public institution.”

- In 2018, Congress passed the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act (SUPPORT Act) which requires HHS to provide guidance to states on how to seek 1115 demonstration authority to waive the inmate exclusion to improve care transitions to the community for incarcerated individuals.

- Prior to HHS’ release of guidance, California, along with 14 other states, submitted 1115 demonstration requests to provide pre-release services to justice-involved populations.

- California has received approval to authorize federal Medicaid matching funds for select Medicaid services for eligible justice-involved individuals in the 90-day period prior to release from incarceration in prisons, county jails, and youth correctional facilities.

California is the first state in the nation to get federal approval to provide pre-release services.
Justice-Involved Initiative Goals

The demonstration approval represents a first-of-its-kind section initiative, focused on improving care transitions for incarcerated individuals.

With the implementation of this demonstration, DHCS hopes to achieve the following:

**Advance health equity:** The issue of poor health, health outcomes, and death for incarcerated people is a health equity issue because Californians of color are disproportionately incarcerated—including for mental health and SUD-related offenses. These individuals have considerable health care needs but are often without care and medications upon release.

**Improve health outcomes:** By implementing this initiative, California aims to provide a targeted set of services in the pre-release period to establish a supportive community reentry process, help individuals connect to physical and behavioral health services upon release, and ultimately improve physical and behavioral health outcomes.

**Serve as a model for the rest of the nation:** California is the first state to receive approval for this initiative. We hope our model will serve as a blueprint for the dozen additional states with pending justice-involved 1115 waivers.
The CalAIM Justice-Involved Initiative is Comprised of Pre-Release and Reentry Components

CalAIM justice-involved initiative support justice-involved individuals by providing key services pre-release, enrolling them in Medi-Cal coverage, and connecting them with behavioral health, social services, and other providers that can support their reentry.

Initiatives Include:

- Pre-Release Medi-Cal Application Processes
- 90 Days Services Pre-Release (1115 Waiver)
- Behavioral Health Links
- Community Supports
- Enhanced Care Management
- Justice Reentry and Transition Providers

Reentry
Justice-Involved Initiative Timeline

January 1, 2023

• Pre-Release Medi-Cal Application Mandate: requires all counties to facilitate enrollment in Medi-Cal for individuals who are incarcerated.

January 1, 2024

• Enhanced Care Management for the Population of Focus for Adults and Youth who are transitioning from incarceration.

October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2026

• 2-Year Period for Correctional Facilities to Go Live with 90-Day Pre-Release Services
• Correctional Facilities will have a six-month readiness assessment review and approval process prior to the go-live date.
Eligible Correctional Facilities

» State law requires the following correctional facilities to provide Medi-Cal services in the 90-days prior to release:
  • State Prisons
  • County Jails, Detention Centers, Detention Facilities
  • County Youth Correctional Facilities

» Pre-release services will only be provided to individuals prior to leaving a correctional facility and reentering the community.

» 90-Day Pre-Release Services do not include:
  • State forensic mental health hospitals (i.e. Department of State Hospital facilities)
  • City Jails
  • Federal Prisons
Eligibility Criteria for Pre-Release Services

Medi-Cal-eligible individuals who meet the pre-release access screening criteria may receive targeted Medi-Cal pre-release services in the 90-day period prior to release from correctional facilities. DHCS developed detailed definitions for qualifying criteria, based on extensive stakeholder feedback (See Appendix).

Criteria for Pre-Release Medi-Cal Services

Incarcerated individuals must meet the following criteria to receive in-reach services:

✓ Be part of a Medicaid or CHIP Eligibility Group, and
✓ Meet one of the following health care need criteria:
  – Mental Illness
  – Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
  – Chronic Condition/Significant Clinical Condition
  – Intellectual or Developmental Disability (I/DD)
  – Traumatic Brain Injury
  – HIV/AIDS
  – Pregnant or Postpartum

Note: All Medi-Cal/CHIP eligible youth incarcerated at a youth correctional facility are eligible to receive pre-release services and do not need to demonstrate a health care need.

Medi-Cal Eligible:

- Adults
- Parents
- Youth under 19
- Pregnant or postpartum
- Aged
- Blind
- Disabled
- Current children and youth in foster care
- Former foster care youth up to age 26

CHIP Eligible:

- Youth under 19
- Pregnant or postpartum
Covered Pre-Release Services

- Reentry case management services;
- Physical and behavioral health clinical consultation services provided through telehealth or in-person, as needed, to diagnose health conditions, provide treatment, as appropriate, and support pre-release case managers’ development of a post-release treatment plan and discharge planning;
- Laboratory and radiology services;
- Medications and medication administration;
- Medication assisted treatment/medications for addiction treatment (MAT), for all Food and Drug Administration-approved medications, including coverage for counseling; and
- Services provided by community health workers with lived experience.

In addition to the pre-release services specified above, qualifying individuals will also receive covered outpatient prescribed medications and over-the-counter drugs (a minimum 30-day supply as clinically appropriate, consistent with the approved Medicaid State Plan) and durable medical equipment (DME) upon release, consistent with approved state plan coverage authority and policy.
Questions?

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