

POLICY BRIEF

Cuyahoga County Board of Health Ryan White HIV/AIDS Part A Program

Medicaid Program: Group VIII Work Requirement and Community Engagement 1115 Demonstration Waiver

In January 2018, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced guidelines for states to test incentives that make participation in work or other community engagement a requirement for continued Medicaid eligibility

In February 2018, Ohio Medicaid proposed to implement a work requirement, effective July 1, 2018 (House Bill 49).

Individuals enrolled in the Medicaid expansion group (known as Group VIII) must adhere to the work requirement to obtain Medicaid benefits. Individuals exempt from the requirement are the following: if they are over age 55, enrolled in school or an occupational training program, participating in an alcohol and drug addiction treatment program, or have an intensive physical health care need or serious mental illness.

To comply with the work requirement, expansion enrollees would need to demonstrate they work at least 20 hours a week or are engaged in other allowable activities, including job search, education and training, or unpaid work in certain cases.

New enrollees must meet the requirement when they enroll, and current enrollees must meet the requirement during their annual eligibility renewal.

Failure to comply with the requirements would mean loss of Medicaid benefits.

Proposal for this Medicaid waiver is currently open for public comments until March 13, 2018. If you are interested in providing public comments, please visit the website in the link for additional information: <http://www.medicaid.ohio.gov/RESOURCES/PublicNotices/GroupVIII-WRCE-1115.aspx>