



CMS Snapshot

December 12-19, 2024

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, December 12 through 2pm Thursday, December 19, 2024.

News Releases

*December 13- [CMS Roundup \(December. 13, 2024\)](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides an at-a-glance summary of news from around the agency.

*December 13- [HHS Makes it Easier for States to Support Employment and Training Services to Help Noncustodial Parents Financially Support their Children](#). *Employment Services Shown to Improve Earnings and Payment Regularity*. Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), announced a new rule to give state and Tribal child support programs the flexibility to use federal funding to provide employment and training services for eligible noncustodial parents. These services have been shown to improve earnings and the likelihood of collecting child support payments that directly improve the lives of children and families.

*December 18- [HHS Office for Civil Rights Settles with Delaware to Enforce Federal Disability Rights Laws](#). *This action marks OCR's second Olmstead agreement in 2024 resolving a complaint involving an individual's unnecessary institutional confinement*. Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), announced a resolution agreement with the State of Delaware Department of Health and Social Services to enforce Federal disability rights laws.

*December 19- [HHS Office for Civil Rights and U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Rhode Island Reach Agreement with the State of Rhode Island to Resolve Violations of Federal Disability Laws for Children with Disabilities in State Care](#). *Agreement ensures that children who are hospitalized are transitioned to family settings with services and prevents children from experiencing unnecessary psychiatric hospitalizations*. Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in partnership with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Rhode Island, entered into a proposed consent decree with the State of Rhode Island to resolve the joint OCR and U.S. Attorney May 2024 findings that Rhode Island's unnecessary placement of children with behavioral health disabilities in a psychiatric hospital violates federal civil rights laws.

Blogs

*December 15- [The clock is ticking! Open Enrollment ends in 1 month](#). Do you hear that? It's the clock ticking towards the *January 15* deadline. You still have time to apply for, renew, or change 2025 health insurance.

*December 16- [Medicare Advantage Value-Based Insurance Design \(VBID\) Model to End after Calendar Year 2025: Excess Costs Associated with the Model Unable to be Addressed by Policy Changes](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is terminating the Medicare Advantage (MA) [Value-Based Insurance Design \(VBID\) model](#) at the end of 2025 due to the model's substantial and unmitigable costs to the Medicare Trust Funds.

*December 17- [Lessons from CMS' Acute Hospital Care at Home Initiative](#). *Danielle N. Adams, RN, BSN, MSN, Ashby J. Wolfe, MD, MPP, MPH, Jessica M. Warren, RN, BSN, MA, and Dora L. Hughes, MD, MPH*. The COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) challenged hospital bed capacity severely limiting access to critical medical services in patients' time of need. In response, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) collaborated with outside experts to develop what ultimately became the Acute Hospital Care at Home (AHCAH) initiative, which is set to expire on December 31, 2024, unless Congress takes action to extend it.