

by Express Lane agencies described in section 1396a(e)(13)(F) of this title, information described in paragraph (2) or (3) of section 1320b-7(a) of this title, vital records information about births in any State, and information described in sections 653(i) and 1396a(a)(25)(I) of this title) is authorized to convey such data or information to the State agency administering the State plan under this subchapter, to the extent such conveyance meets the requirements of subsection (b).

**(b) Requirements for conveyance**

Data or information may be conveyed pursuant to subsection (a) only if the following requirements are met:

(1) The individual whose circumstances are described in the data or information (or such individual's parent, guardian, caretaker relative, or authorized representative) has either provided advance consent to disclosure or has not objected to disclosure after receiving advance notice of disclosure and a reasonable opportunity to object.

(2) Such data or information are used solely for the purposes of—

(A) identifying individuals who are eligible or potentially eligible for medical assistance under this subchapter and enrolling or attempting to enroll such individuals in the State plan; and

(B) verifying the eligibility of individuals for medical assistance under the State plan.

(3) An interagency or other agreement, consistent with standards developed by the Secretary—

(A) prevents the unauthorized use, disclosure, or modification of such data and otherwise meets applicable Federal requirements safeguarding privacy and data security; and

(B) requires the State agency administering the State plan to use the data and information obtained under this section to seek to enroll individuals in the plan.

**(c) Penalties for improper disclosure**

**(1) Civil money penalty**

A private entity described in the<sup>1</sup> subsection (a) that publishes, discloses, or makes known in any manner, or to any extent not authorized by Federal law, any information obtained under this section is subject to a civil money penalty in an amount equal to \$10,000 for each such unauthorized publication or disclosure. The provisions of section 1320a-7a of this title (other than subsections (a) and (b) and the second sentence of subsection (f)) shall apply to a civil money penalty under this paragraph in the same manner as such provisions apply to a penalty or proceeding under section 1320a-7a(a) of this title.

**(2) Criminal penalty**

A private entity described in the<sup>1</sup> subsection (a) that willfully publishes, discloses, or makes known in any manner, or to any extent not authorized by Federal law, any information obtained under this section shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more

than 1 year, or both, for each such unauthorized publication or disclosure.

**(d) Rule of construction**

The limitations and requirements that apply to disclosure pursuant to this section shall not be construed to prohibit the conveyance or disclosure of data or information otherwise permitted under Federal law (without regard to this section).

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XIX, §1942, as added Pub. L. 111-3, title II, §203(d)(1), Feb. 4, 2009, 123 Stat. 47.)

AUTHORIZATION FOR STATES ELECTING EXPRESS LANE OPTION TO RECEIVE CERTAIN DATA DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY AND CORRECT AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE

Pub. L. 111-3, title II, §203(e), Feb. 4, 2009, 123 Stat. 49, provided that: "The Secretary shall enter into such agreements as are necessary to permit a State that elects the Express Lane option under section 1902(e)(13) of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)(13)] to receive data directly relevant to eligibility determinations and determining the correct amount of benefits under a State child health plan under CHIP or a State plan under Medicaid from the following:

"(1) The National Directory of New Hires established under section 453(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(i)).

"(2) Data regarding enrollment in insurance that may help to facilitate outreach and enrollment under the State Medicaid plan, the State CHIP plan, and such other programs as the Secretary may specify." [For definitions of "CHIP", "Medicaid", and "Secretary", see section 1(c) of Pub. L. 111-3, set out as a Definitions note under section 1396 of this title.]

**§ 1396w-3. Enrollment simplification and coordination with State health insurance exchanges**

**(a) Condition for participation in Medicaid**

As a condition of the State plan under this subchapter and receipt of any Federal financial assistance under section 1396b(a) of this title for calendar quarters beginning after January 1, 2014, a State shall ensure that the requirements of subsection (b) is<sup>1</sup> met.

**(b) Enrollment simplification and coordination with State health insurance exchanges and CHIP**

**(1) In general**

A State shall establish procedures for—

(A) enabling individuals, through an Internet website that meets the requirements of paragraph (4), to apply for medical assistance under the State plan or under a waiver of the plan, to be enrolled in the State plan or waiver, to renew their enrollment in the plan or waiver, and to consent to enrollment or reenrollment in the State plan through electronic signature;

(B) enrolling, without any further determination by the State and through such website, individuals who are identified by an Exchange established by the State under section 18031 of this title as being eligible for—

(i) medical assistance under the State plan or under a waiver of the plan; or

<sup>1</sup> So in original.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be "are".

(ii) child health assistance under the State child health plan under subchapter XXI;

(C) ensuring that individuals who apply for but are determined to be ineligible for medical assistance under the State plan or a waiver or ineligible for child health assistance under the State child health plan under subchapter XXI, are screened for eligibility for enrollment in qualified health plans offered through such an Exchange and, if applicable, premium assistance for the purchase of a qualified health plan under section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (and, if applicable, advance payment of such assistance under section 18082 of this title), and, if eligible, enrolled in such a plan without having to submit an additional or separate application, and that such individuals receive information regarding reduced cost-sharing for eligible individuals under section 18071 of this title, and any other assistance or subsidies available for coverage obtained through the Exchange;

(D) ensuring that the State agency responsible for administering the State plan under this subchapter (in this section referred to as the “State Medicaid agency”), the State agency responsible for administering the State child health plan under subchapter XXI (in this section referred to as the “State CHIP agency”) and an Exchange established by the State under section 18031 of this title utilize a secure electronic interface sufficient to allow for a determination of an individual’s eligibility for such medical assistance, child health assistance, or premium assistance, and enrollment in the State plan under this subchapter, subchapter XXI, or a qualified health plan, as appropriate;

(E) coordinating, for individuals who are enrolled in the State plan or under a waiver of the plan and who are also enrolled in a qualified health plan offered through such an Exchange, and for individuals who are enrolled in the State child health plan under subchapter XXI and who are also enrolled in a qualified health plan, the provision of medical assistance or child health assistance to such individuals with the coverage provided under the qualified health plan in which they are enrolled, including services described in section 1396d(a)(4)(B) of this title (relating to early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment services defined in section 1396d(r) of this title) and provided in accordance with the requirements of section 1396a(a)(43) of this title; and

(F) conducting outreach to and enrolling vulnerable and underserved populations eligible for medical assistance under this subchapter or for child health assistance under subchapter XXI, including children, unaccompanied homeless youth, children and youth with special health care needs, pregnant women, racial and ethnic minorities, rural populations, victims of abuse or trauma, individuals with mental health or substance-related disorders, and individuals with HIV/AIDS.

## **(2) Agreements with State health insurance exchanges**

The State Medicaid agency and the State CHIP agency may enter into an agreement with an Exchange established by the State under section 18031 of this title under which the State Medicaid agency or State CHIP agency may determine whether a State resident is eligible for premium assistance for the purchase of a qualified health plan under section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (and, if applicable, advance payment of such assistance under section 18082 of this title), so long as the agreement meets such conditions and requirements as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe to reduce administrative costs and the likelihood of eligibility errors and disruptions in coverage.

## **(3) Streamlined enrollment system**

The State Medicaid agency and State CHIP agency shall participate in and comply with the requirements for the system established under section 18083 of this title (relating to streamlined procedures for enrollment through an Exchange, Medicaid, and CHIP).

## **(4) Enrollment website requirements**

The procedures established by State under paragraph (1) shall include establishing and having in operation, not later than January 1, 2014, an Internet website that is linked to any website of an Exchange established by the State under section 18031 of this title and to the State CHIP agency (if different from the State Medicaid agency) and allows an individual who is eligible for medical assistance under the State plan or under a waiver of the plan and who is eligible to receive premium credit assistance for the purchase of a qualified health plan under section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to compare the benefits, premiums, and cost-sharing applicable to the individual under the State plan or waiver with the benefits, premiums, and cost-sharing available to the individual under a qualified health plan offered through such an Exchange, including, in the case of a child, the coverage that would be provided for the child through the State plan or waiver with the coverage that would be provided to the child through enrollment in family coverage under that plan and as supplemental coverage by the State under the State plan or waiver.

## **(5) Continued need for assessment for home and community-based services**

Nothing in paragraph (1) shall limit or modify the requirement that the State assess an individual for purposes of providing home and community-based services under the State plan or under any waiver of such plan for individuals described in subsection (a)(10)(A)(ii)(VI).<sup>2</sup>

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XIX, § 1943, as added Pub. L. 111-148, title II, § 2201, Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 289.)

<sup>2</sup>Probably means subsection (a)(10)(A)(ii)(VI) of section 1396a of this title.

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(C), (2), (4), is classified generally to Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

**§ 1396w-3a. Requirements relating to qualified prescription drug monitoring programs and prescribing certain controlled substances**

**(a) In general**

Subject to subsection (d), beginning October 1, 2021, a State—

(1) shall require each covered provider to check, in accordance with such timing, manner, and form as specified by the State, the prescription drug history of a covered individual being treated by the covered provider through a qualified prescription drug monitoring program described in subsection (b) before prescribing to such individual a controlled substance; and

(2) in the case that such a provider is not able to conduct such a check despite a good faith effort by such provider—

(A) shall require the provider to document such good faith effort, including the reasons why the provider was not able to conduct the check; and

(B) may require the provider to submit, upon request, such documentation to the State.

**(b) Qualified prescription drug monitoring program described**

A qualified prescription drug monitoring program described in this subsection is, with respect to a State, a prescription drug monitoring program administered by the State that, at a minimum, satisfies each of the following criteria:

(1) The program facilitates access by a covered provider to, at a minimum, the following information with respect to a covered individual, in as close to real-time as possible:

(A) Information regarding the prescription drug history of a covered individual with respect to controlled substances.

(B) The number and type of controlled substances prescribed to and filled for the covered individual during at least the most recent 12-month period.

(C) The name, location, and contact information (or other identifying number selected by the State, such as a national provider identifier issued by the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) of each covered provider who prescribed a controlled substance to the covered individual during at least the most recent 12-month period.

(2) The program facilitates the integration of information described in paragraph (1) into the workflow of a covered provider, which may include the electronic system the covered provider uses to prescribe controlled substances.

A qualified prescription drug monitoring program described in this subsection, with respect to a State, may have in place, in accordance with applicable State and Federal law, a data-sharing agreement with the State Medicaid pro-

gram that allows the medical director and pharmacy director of such program (and any designee of such a director who reports directly to such director) to access the information described in paragraph (1) in an electronic format. The State Medicaid program under this subchapter may facilitate reasonable and limited access, as determined by the State and ensuring documented beneficiary protections regarding the use of such data, to such qualified prescription drug monitoring program for the medical director or pharmacy director of any managed care entity (as defined under section 1396u-2(a)(1)(B) of this title) that has a contract with the State under section 1396b(m) of this title or under section 1396d(t)(3) of this title, or the medical director or pharmacy director of any entity that has a contract to manage the pharmaceutical benefit with respect to individuals enrolled in the State plan (or under a waiver of the State plan). All applicable State and Federal security and privacy laws shall apply to the directors or designees of such directors of any State Medicaid program or entity accessing a qualified prescription drug monitoring program under this section.

**(c) Application of privacy rules clarification**

The Secretary shall clarify privacy requirements, including requirements under the regulations promulgated pursuant to section 264(c) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1320d-2 note), related to the sharing of data under subsection (b) in the same manner as the Secretary is required under subparagraph (J) of section 1395w-104(c)(5) of this title to clarify privacy requirements related to the sharing of data described in such subparagraph.

**(d) Ensuring access**

In order to ensure reasonable access to health care, the Secretary shall waive the application of the requirement under subsection (a), with respect to a State, in the case of natural disasters and similar situations, and in the case of the provision of emergency services (as defined for purposes of section 1395w-104(c)(5)(D)(ii)(II) of this title).

**(e) Reports**

**(1) State reports**

Each State shall include in the annual report submitted to the Secretary under section 1396r-8(g)(3)(D) of this title, beginning with such reports submitted for 2023, information including, at a minimum, the following information for the most recent 12-month period:

(A) The percentage of covered providers (as determined pursuant to a process established by the State) who checked the prescription drug history of a covered individual through a qualified prescription drug monitoring program described in subsection (b) before prescribing to such individual a controlled substance.

(B) Aggregate trends with respect to prescribing controlled substances such as—

(i) the quantity of daily morphine milligram equivalents prescribed for controlled substances;

(ii) the number and quantity of daily morphine milligram equivalents pre-