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Periodic Review Report of Findings

Agency name	DEPT OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	12 VAC 30-150
Regulation title	Uninsured Medical Catastrophe Fund
Date this document prepared	3/26/2019

This information is required for executive branch review and the Virginia Registrar of Regulations, pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), Executive Order 14 (as amended, July 16, 2018), the Regulations for Filing and Publishing Agency Regulations (1 VAC7-10), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual for Publication of Virginia Regulations*.

Acronyms and Definitions

Please define all acronyms used in this Report. Also, please define any technical terms that are used in the document that are not also defined in the "Definition" section of the regulations.

"UMCF" means Uninsured Medical Catastrophe Fund.

Legal Basis

Please identify (1) the agency or other promulgating entity, and (2) the state and/or federal legal authority for the regulatory change, including the most relevant citations to the Code of Virginia or Acts of Assembly chapter number(s), if applicable. Your citation must include a specific provision, if any, authorizing the promulgating entity to regulate this specific subject or program, as well as a reference to the agency or promulgating entity's overall regulatory authority.

Section 32.1-325 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the Board of Medical Assistance Services to administer and amend the State Plan for Medical Assistance and to promulgate regulations. Section 32.1-324 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to administer and amend the State Plan for Medical Assistance and to promulgate regulations according to the

Board's requirements. The Medicaid authority as established by § 1902 (a) of the Social Security Act (42 USC § 1396a) provides governing authority for payments for services.

Alternatives

Please describe any viable alternatives for achieving the purpose of the regulation that were considered as part of the periodic review. Include an explanation of why such alternatives were rejected and why this regulation is the least burdensome alternative available for achieving its purpose.

This periodic review focuses on the DMAS regulations related to the Uninsured Medical Catastrophe Fund (UMCF). The *Code of Virginia* (1950) amended, § 32.1-324.3, established the UMCF on the books of the Comptroller and authorized DMAS to promulgate regulations that (i) further define an uninsured medical catastrophe, (ii) establish procedures for distribution of moneys in the Fund to pay for the costs of treating uninsured medical catastrophes, (iii) establish application procedures, and (iv) establish criteria for eligibility for assistance from the Fund and the prioritization and allocation of available moneys among applicants for assistance from the Fund.

These regulations are essential because they implement the GA mandate. There are no viable alternatives for achieving the purpose of the regulations.

Public Comment

Please summarize all comments received during the public comment period following the publication of the Notice of Periodic Review, and provide the agency response. Ensure to include all comments submitted: including those received on Town Hall, in a public hearing, or submitted directly to the agency or board. Please indicate if an informal advisory group was formed for purposes of assisting in the periodic review.

DMAS submitted its Notice of Periodic Review to the Town Hall on October 24, 2018. The comment period began on November 12, 2018 and ended on December 4, 2018. No public comments were received.

Effectiveness

Pursuant to § 2.2-4017, please indicate whether the regulation meets the criteria set out in Executive Order 14 (as amended, July 16, 2018), including why the regulation is (a) necessary for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare, and (b) is clearly written and easily understandable.

The primary advantage of the UMCF is that some uninsured Virginians have medical treatments for medically catastrophic illnesses that they otherwise may not have been able to receive because they could not pay for it. The advantage to the agency and the Commonwealth is that these regulations will specify patient criteria, service coverage requirements and limitations, and reimbursement requirements necessary to administer these public funds. The regulations are necessary for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare in that they create the UMCF program. The regulations are clearly written and easily understandable.

Decision

Please explain the basis for the rulemaking entity's decision (retain the regulation as is without making changes, amend the regulation, or repeal the regulation).

DMAS is recommending no changes in these regulations as they remain essential and have no negative impacts.

Small Business Impact

As required by § 2.2-4007.1 E and F of the Code of Virginia, include a discussion of the agency's consideration of: (1) the continued need for the regulation; (2) the nature of complaints or comments received concerning the regulation from the public; (3) the complexity of the regulation; (4) the extent to which the regulation overlaps, duplicates, or conflicts with federal or state law or regulation; and (5) the length of time since the regulation has been evaluated or the degree to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed in the area affected by the regulation. Also, discuss why the agency's decision, consistent with the stated objectives of applicable law, will minimize the economic impact of regulations on small businesses.

The regulations are not anticipated to have an adverse impact on small businesses.