

Public Forum on Progress of the TennCare Demonstration

Published May 22, 2023

The Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration is providing official notification, pursuant to 42 CFR § 431.420(c) and the Special Terms and Conditions of the TennCare Demonstration, that a public forum is being held to accept comments on the progress of the TennCare Demonstration.

The TennCare Demonstration

TennCare is a comprehensive Medicaid reform project, consisting of innovations in multiple aspects of the Medicaid program, including eligibility, benefits, and service delivery systems. The primary goals of the TennCare Demonstration include providing high-quality care to members, improving health outcomes for members, and providing members with access to safe and appropriate home and community-based services (HCBS).

To advance these goals, the TennCare Demonstration authorizes several programmatic flexibilities, including—

- Extending eligibility to certain groups that would not be eligible for Medicaid under the State Plan;
- Covering a more robust package of benefits than that authorized under the Medicaid State Plan;
- Use of a single, statewide managed care service delivery system;
- Operating the CHOICES program to provide targeted HCBS and other LTSS to persons who are elderly or who have physical disabilities;
- Operating the Employment and Community First CHOICES program to provide targeted HCBS to individuals who have intellectual or other developmental disabilities;
- Operating a Katie Beckett program for children with disabilities or other complex medical needs;
- Providing financial support to hospitals and safety net providers who furnish care to Medicaid and uninsured populations; and
- Various operational efficiencies.

In addition, the TennCare Demonstration authorizes the State to claim federal matching dollars for Designated State Investment Programs (subject to certain conditions), the use of



a closed formulary, and the temporary suspension of TennCare members convicted of TennCare fraud.

Through the TennCare Demonstration, Tennessee demonstrates that the careful use of a single, statewide service delivery system can enable delivery of high-quality care to all members without spending more than would have been spent had Tennessee maintained a traditional Medicaid program.

A variety of resources are available online to provide information about the TennCare Demonstration. Key concepts and principles related to the demonstration project are outlined in the [agreement](#) between TennCare and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) defining the terms and conditions under which the demonstration may operate. Other documents that portray the TennCare program at various points in time—and, therefore, relate directly to the progress of the Demonstration—include quarterly and annual reports, budget presentations, and enrollment data, all of which may be accessed online at <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics.html>.

TennCare Public Forum

Each year, TennCare holds a public forum to accept comments from members of the public on the progress of the TennCare Demonstration.

TennCare's next public forum will be held on June 23, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Central Time.

The following options are available for persons who wish to comment on the progress of the TennCare Demonstration.

In-Person. TennCare's public forum will take place in Room 320.3E of the TennCare building, 310 Great Circle Road in Nashville. Individuals planning to attend in person are encouraged to arrive a few minutes before the event start time in order to be checked in at the front desk.

Virtual. Individuals wishing to participate in TennCare's public forum virtually may register to do so here: [Registration Link](#).



Written Comments. Individuals are not required to attend the public forum to provide input on the progress of the TennCare Demonstration. Individuals who wish to submit written comments on the progress of the TennCare Demonstration may do so through either of the following options:

- Comments may be mailed to Aaron Butler, Director of Policy, Division of TennCare, 310 Great Circle Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243.
- Comments may be sent by email to public.notice.tennCare@tn.gov.

The last day on which comments will be accepted is June 23, 2023.

Individuals with disabilities or individuals with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in the forum and who may require language or communication assistance to do so should contact TennCare’s Office of Civil Rights Compliance (OCRC) at least 10 days in advance. OCRC’s contact information is:

Call Toll-Free:	1-855-857-1673
TRS:	Dial 711 and ask for 1-855-857-1673
Email:	HCFA.fairtreatment@tn.gov
Civil Rights Notice:	https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/members-applicants/civil-rights-compliance.html

