



Department of Health

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October 13, 2026 (updated from original October 2, 2026 message)

On August 13, 2026, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published a final rule in the Federal Register that limits federal Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHP) funding for certain gender-affirming medical care provided to minors. This rule is scheduled to take effect October 13, 2026, and prohibits the use of federal funding for puberty blockers, hormone therapy and surgical interventions when used for gender transition for Medicaid beneficiaries under 18 and CHP enrollees under 19. However, the rule does not prohibit states from using state-only funds to cover these services.

The New York State Department of Health is issuing this guidance to inform providers that they should continue to provide these Medicaid and CHP services as normal, which will be covered by state-only funding, consistent with the Federal Rule. The State is committed to ensuring that beneficiaries continue to receive these services.

This guidance is being reissued to notify providers that they should continue to bill as usual for these services. The Department will make the necessary system adjustments to ensure the State is in compliance with the Federal Rule.