



# Future Authority of KanCare Public Meetings

Since 2013, the KanCare program has operated under the authority of a Section 1115 demonstration waiver. The state is considering changing from the 1115 waiver to different Medicaid authorities.

## **WHO WILL BE AFFECTED:**

This proposed change would not affect Medicaid eligibility or the benefits KanCare offers and would not affect the daily experience of Medicaid beneficiaries or providers. It would also not affect the three KanCare managed care organizations (MCOs). The proposed change would affect the way Kansas state government agencies interact with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

## **WHAT WILL BE AFFECTED:**

Changing Medicaid authorities would make managed care more permanent in the KanCare program. It would also remove most of the federal limits on Medicaid spending but would not require the state to spend any more or any less on Medicaid.

## **WHEN:**

The current KanCare 1115 waiver expires on December 31, 2023. The state must apply to the federal government to renew or change the waiver by December 31, 2022.

## **WHY:**

The current KanCare 1115 waiver includes hard limits on how many federal dollars Kansas can spend. These spending limits are getting in the way of state investments in Medicaid. Changing to different Medicaid authorities would let Kansas make needed investments in mental health and disability programs, without putting the state at risk of having to repay the federal government.