

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Thank you for subscribing to the “1332 Waiver Information” list serve.

This message is to inform you that today (March 31, 2022) the Washington Health Benefit Exchange (Exchange) posted the DRAFT Washington Section 1332 Waiver Application and is starting the official 30-day public comment period for this Application.

Public Comment Period: March 31, 2022 – May 2, 2022

Washington’s Draft Section 1332 Waiver Application is available at:

<https://www.wahbexchange.org/about-the-exchange/what-is-the-exchange/legislation/1332-waiver-information/>.

How to Provide Public Comment

Attend a virtual public comment meeting:

- Register to attend either of the two virtual public comment meetings scheduled for April 12 and April 13, 2022
 - These virtual meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to submit comments regarding Washington’s 1332 Waiver Application.
 - These meetings will be conducted via Teams.
 - Each meeting will cover the same information, so there is no need to attend both
 - Comments provided during each meeting will be included in the Final Section 1332 Waiver Application that is submitted.
 - Dates and Times:
 - April 12, 2022 (5:00pm - 6:30pm PST)
 - [Register to attend](#)
 - April 13, 2022 (12:00pm - 1:30pm PST)
 - [Register to attend](#)

To request additional information about these meetings, or to request accessibility services for either meeting, please email: WA1332@wahbexchange.org.

Submit written public comment by 12:00pm PST on May 2, 2022:

- Send an email to: WA1332@wahbexchange.org
 - Please include “Public Comment” in the subject line of your email
 - Written comments will be included in full in the Final Section 1332 Waiver Application that is submitted

What is a Section 1332 Waiver Application? Why is Washington State Submitting a 1332 Waiver Application?

In the 2021, the Washington State Legislature directed the Exchange to explore coverage pathways Washington residents who do not currently qualify for state or federal affordability programs. The Legislature authorized the Exchange to seek a federal 1332 waiver for this purpose and required a state-based solution no later than plan year 2024. If approved, the 1332 waiver will provide access to federally non-subsidized health and dental coverage through *Washington Healthplanfinder* to all Washington residents, regardless of immigration status, starting in plan year 2024.

- To learn more about the 1332 waiver and sign up to receive email updates, visit: <https://www.wahbexchange.org/about-the-exchange/what-is-the-exchange/legislation/1332-waiver-information/>

If approved, this waiver will also allow newly eligible individuals and families to benefit from the Cascade Care Savings (state premium assistance) program, launching in plan year 2023.

- To learn more about Cascade Care Savings and Cascade Care Plans, visit: <https://www.wahbexchange.org/about-the-exchange/what-is-the-exchange/cascade-care/>

1332 Waiver Timeline

March 31, 2022: Draft Washington Section 1332 Waiver Application released for public comment

March 31- May 2, 2022: State public comment period, including:

- Tribal consultation
- 2 public comment meetings

May 2022: Exchange incorporates public comments, and Final 1332 Waiver Application is submitted

Summer 2022: CMS conducts application completeness review and federal 30-day public comment period (expected)

Following Waiver approval (requested by August 2022): Exchange will participate in community-led engagement to inform waiver implementation efforts, and make necessary *Washington Healthplanfinder* system updates

November 1, 2023: Open Enrollment begins for PY 2024 (waiver in effect)