

93.778-7

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

State Project/Program: SICKLE CELL PATIENT SERVICE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Federal Authorization: Social Security Act, XIX, As Amended; Public Laws 89-97, 90-248, and 91-56, 42 U.S.C. 1396, et---42 CFR parts 430 through 456, 1002, 1007 seq., as amended; Public Laws 92-223, 92-603, 93-66, 93-233, 96-499, 97-35, 97-248, 98-369, 99-272, 99-509, 100-93, 100-202, 100-203, 100-360, 100-436, 100-485, 100-647, 101-166, 101-234, 101-239, 101-508, 101-517, 102-234, 102-170, 102-394, 103-66, 103-112, 103-333, 104-91, 104-191, 104-193, 104-208 and 104-134; Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Public Law 105-33

State Authorization: General Assembly of North Carolina 1973 Session Ratified Bill Chapter 570 – House Bill 32
NC Administrative Code 10A NCAC 43H .0101-.0314 General Statutes 108A-54; 108A-55 (Medical Assistance)

**N. C. Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health**

Agency Contact Person – Program

Justin Calhoun
(919) 707-5717
Justin.Calhoun@dhhs.nc.gov

Agency Contact Person – Financial

Samantha Radel
(919) 623-3312
Samantha.Radel@dhhs.nc.gov

Address Confirmation Letters To:

SFY 2026 audit confirmation reports for payments made to Counties, Local Management Entities (LMEs), Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), Boards of Education, Councils of Government, District Health Departments and DHSR Grant Subrecipients will be available by mid-October at the following web address:
<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/about/administrative-offices/office-controller/audit-confirmation-reports>

At this site, click on the link entitled “Audit Confirmation Reports (State Fiscal Year 2025-2026)”. Additionally, audit confirmation reports for Nongovernmental entities receiving financial assistance from DHHS are found at the same website except select “Non-Governmental Audit Confirmation Reports (State Fiscal Years Oct’ 2023-2026)”.

The auditor should not consider the Supplement to be “safe harbor” for identifying audit procedures to apply in a particular engagement, but the auditor should be prepared to justify departures from the suggested procedures. The auditor can consider the supplement a “safe harbor” for identification of compliance requirements to be tested if the auditor performs reasonable procedures to ensure that the requirements in the Supplement are current.

The grantor agency may elect to review audit working papers to determine that audit tests are adequate.

Auditors may request documentation of monitoring visits by the State Agencies.

This State compliance supplement must be used in conjunction with the OMB 2026 Compliance Supplement which is scheduled to be issued in May 2026. The OMB supplement will include "Part 3 - Compliance Requirements," for the types that apply, and "Part 6 - Internal Control." If a federal Agency issued guidance for a specific program, this will be included in "Part 4 - Agency Program". The OMB Compliance Supplement is Section A of the State Compliance Supplement.

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The North Carolina Sickle Cell Syndrome Program was established to oversee the provision of testing, education, genetic counseling, psychosocial support, medical referral, and specialty care services for patients diagnosed with sickle cell syndrome and other abnormal hemoglobin. The objective is to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with these disorders and to increase the quality of life for those affected. This is accomplished through a vigilant newborn screening component and supportive care coordination throughout the life cycle of the patient. Patient education and genetic counseling are major components of the Sickle Cell Syndrome Program. In addition, education about sickle cell disease and prevention is extended to communities throughout North Carolina.

II. PROGRAM PROCEDURES

Funds are allocated from the N.C. General Assembly and Medicaid administrative match. The contracts are awarded to three governmental institutions and as a sole source waiver to three major medical centers because of the medical expertise of their staff, their access to research studies and their geographic locations through the State. A Request for Applications (RFAs) process was used to fund community-based sickle centers. These centers were founded through the efforts of local citizens who were concerned about sickle cell patients in their local areas. They were originally funded through the ratification of House Bill 32 in 1973. Currently, one community-based center is funded under the current Request for Applications.

This program is partially funded with Medicaid Administrative funds, which are subject to certain compliance requirements not specifically addressed within this supplement. The Auditor should refer to Supplement #93.778-1 written by the DHHS/Division of Medical Assistance to apply audit testing with respect to the Medicaid Administrative funds as described therein.

Funds that are awarded to the subrecipient are comprised of State and Medicaid administrative funds. The proportion for FY 2025-2026 is 67% State and 33% Medicaid. Federal funds drawn by the State supporting this activity must only be used for Medicaid recipients. The subrecipient has no requirement to account separately for federal and State dollars in its budget and expenditures. The authorization for the Division of Public Health to draw the Medicaid administrative funds comes through a memorandum of agreement with the Division of Medical Assistance, DHHS. A copy of this agreement may be obtained from Candice DuVernois at the Division of Public Health, (919) 817-4230.

III. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Noted below in the following matrix are the types of compliance requirements (Types) for this federal program identified by either the federal or State agency with a “Y” that are subject to the audit. The auditor must determine if the Type noted by “Y” has a direct and material effect on the federal program for the auditee. If the Type is determined to be subject to audit, the auditor must use the OMB 2026 Compliance Supplement, Part 3 and Part 4 (if an OMB supplement is issued) in addition to this State supplement to perform the audit.

If the State determines that the federal requirement does not require testing at the local level or if the State modifies the federal requirements, this is discussed in the supplement under the type of compliance requirement. Auditors are not expected to test requirements that have been noted with an “N.”

A	B	C	E	F	G	H	I	J	L	M	N
Activities Allowed or Unallowed	Allowable Costs/Cost Principles	Cash Management	Eligibility	Equipment/ Real Property Management	Matching, Level of Effort, Earmarking	Period Of Performance	Procurement Suspension & Debarment	Program Income	Reporting	Subrecipient Monitoring	Special Tests and Provisions
Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y

A. Activities Allowed or Unallowed

Sickle Cell funds may be used only for the purpose of providing direct patient services that include education, counseling, and case management services. This is a general statement; therefore, it is necessary to refer to each contract and its Attachment B – Scope of Work.

B. Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

All grantees that expend State funds (including federal funds passed through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services) are required to comply with the cost principles described in the [N. C. Administrative Code at 09 NCAC 03M.0401](#).

E. Eligibility

Testing, education, counseling, and care coordination services are provided at no charge to all eligible persons requesting services. However, financial assistance for medical services is provided based on eligibility requirements stated in the NC Administrative Code (NCAC), 10A NCAC 43H.0110 Eligibility requirements. They are as follows:

1. Eligibility requirements for medical services shall be based on income and diagnosis. In order to be considered for medical services, the individual must be diagnosed as achieving one of the following disorders:
 - a) Sick cell anemia,

- b) Sickle cell hemoglobin D disease,
 - c) Sickle cell hemoglobin C disease,
 - d) Sickle cell beta thalassemia, or
 - e) Sickle cell hemoglobin that coexist with other abnormal hemoglobin with symptomatic abnormal clinical manifestations.
2. Financial eligibility for sickle cell syndrome program medical services shall be determined in accordance with rules found in the NC Administrative Code 10A NCAC 45A.

F. Equipment and Real Property Management

Equipment must be accounted for in accordance with the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer Policies Manual, Chapter 20, Fixed Assets Policy.

Title to equipment costing in excess of \$2,500.00 acquired by the Contractor with funds from this contract shall vest in the contractor, subject to the following conditions.

- 1. The Contractor shall use the equipment in the project or program for which it was acquired as long as needed. When equipment is no longer needed for the original project or program or if operations are discontinued, the Contractor shall contact the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for written instructions regarding disposition of equipment.
- 2. When acquiring replacement equipment, the Contractor may use the equipment to be replaced as trade-in against replacement equipment or may sell said equipment and use the proceeds to offset the costs of replacement equipment subject to written approval of the Division of Public Health.
- 3. For equipment costing in excess of \$2,500.00, equipment controls and procedures shall include at a minimum the following:
 - a) Detailed equipment records shall be maintained which accurately include the:
 - i. Description and location of the equipment, serial number, acquisition date/cost useful life and depreciation rate.
 - ii. Source/percentage of funding for purchase and restrictions as to use or disposition.
 - iii. Disposition data, which includes date of disposal and sales price or method used to determine fair market value.
 - b) Equipment shall be assigned a control number in the accounting records and shall be tagged individually with a permanent identification number.
 - c) Biennially, a physical inventory of equipment shall be taken and results compared to accounting and fixed asset records. Any discrepancy shall immediately be brought to the attention of management and the governing board.
 - d) A control system shall be in place to ensure adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage, or theft of equipment and shall provide for full documentation and investigation of any loss or theft.
 - e) Adequate maintenance procedures shall be implemented to ensure that equipment is maintained in good condition.

- f) Procedures shall be implemented which ensure that adequate insurance coverage is maintained on all equipment. A review of coverage amounts shall be conducted on a periodic basis, preferably at least annually.
- 4. The Contractor shall ensure all subcontractors are notified of their responsibility to comply with the equipment conditions specified in this section.

Prior written approval from Department must be obtained before purchasing equipment valued over \$2,500.00. Institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations shall use procurement procedures that conform to applicable federal law and regulations and standards identified in OMB 2 CFR Part 200. All non-federal entities shall follow federal laws and implement regulations applicable to procurements, as noted in federal agency implementation of the OMB 2 CFR Part 200 and Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter I, Chapter II, Part 200.

G. Matching, Level of Effort, Earmarking

Matching, level of effort, and earmarking does not apply at the local level.

I. Procurement and Suspension and Debarment

All grantees that expend federal funds (received either directly from a federal agency or passed through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services) are required to conform with federal agency codifications of the grants management common rule accessible on the Internet at https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl.

All grantees that expend State funds (including federal funds passed through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services) are required to comply with the procurement standards described in the North Carolina General Statutes and the North Carolina Administrative Code, which are identified in the State of North Carolina Agency Purchasing Manual accessible on the Internet at http://www.pandc.nc.gov/documents/Procurement_Manual_5_8_2013_interactive.pdf.

Nongovernmental subrecipients shall maintain written Procurement policies that are followed in procuring the goods and services required to administer the program. This applies to the subrecipients of this supplement.

Entities are prohibited from contracting with or making subawards under covered transactions to parties that are suspended or debarred or whose principals are suspended or debarred.

L. Reporting

Financial Reporting:

Monthly expenditure reports (DHHS 2481): The Contractor shall submit to the Division a monthly reimbursement request and, upon approval by the Division, receive payment within 30 days. The original expenditure report, DHHS 2481, shall be submitted to the Division Contract Administrator. The Contractor shall have up to thirty (30) days from last day of contract for close out (UNC contracts have 60 days), completion and submission of the final monthly expenditure report related to this contract period. If this contract is terminated, the Contractor is required to complete a final accounting report and to return any unearned funds to the Division within 60 days of the contract termination date. All payments are contingent upon fund availability.

Performance Reporting:

Contractors, including community-based organizations and medical centers, are required to submit all client data in the NC DPH WCS-Web database from June 1st to May 31st and a mid-year and end of year narrative report (see Community-based Organization Contract Attachment and Medical Center Contract Attachment for details).

N. Special Tests and Provisions

The medical center contractors are contracted to provide initial diagnostic visits for newborns diagnosed with abnormal hemoglobin. The medical center contractors are contracted to provide the processing fees associated with the hemoglobinopathy screening of biological parents of newborns. The parents cannot be billed for these costs.

Suggested Audit Procedures

The auditor must get a list of children's names that have been seen for the first time and verify with the billing office that they were not charged for that evaluation. The list will be provided by the pediatric hematologist's office at the medical center.

Conflicts of Interest and Certification Regarding No Overdue Tax Debts

All non-State entities (except those entities subject to the audit and other reporting requirements of the Local Government Commission) that receive, use, or expend State funds (including federal funds passed through the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services) are subject to the financial reporting requirements of G. S. 143C-6-23 for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2007. These requirements include the submission of a Conflict-of-Interest Policy (see G. S. 143C-6-23(b)) and a written statement (if applicable) completed by the grantee's board of directors or other governing body that the entity does not have any overdue tax debts as defined by G. S. 105-243.1 at the federal, State or local level (see G. S. 143C-6-23(c)). All non-State entities that provide State funding to a non-State entity (except any non-State entity subject to the audit and other reporting requirements of the Local Government Commission) must hold the sub grantee accountable for the legal and appropriate expenditure of those State grant funds.