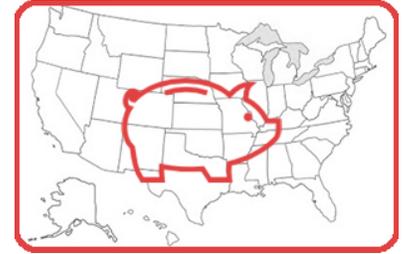


# States Can Offer or Require Medicaid Managed Care

## Using Waivers for Cost-Effectiveness



### Medicaid lets states implement a managed care model

By implementing managed care, where a state pays insurers a set monthly amount for each person the insurer covers, states hope to increase the cost-effectiveness and quality of their Medicaid services. States accomplish this goal by first obtaining Medicaid waivers provided for in Sections 1915(a) and (b) of the Social Security Act. A 1915(a) waiver lets a state create a voluntary managed care program; under 1915(b), managed care enrollment is required. Either one can be used statewide or in specific areas.<sup>1</sup> Currently, 24 1915(a) and 64 1915(b) waivers are in effect in the U.S.<sup>12</sup>

### 4 examples of managed care programs for mental health and people with disabilities:

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>1915(a) waivers:</b><br/><b>voluntary enrollment</b></p> | <p><b>Wisconsin Children Come First</b><br/>CCF provides wraparound care coordination for children and youth ages 0-19 with diagnosed mental health concerns.<br/><a href="#">Children Come First</a></p>   | <p><b>Minnesota Special Needs Basic Care</b><br/>SNBC serves people with disabilities ages 18-64 who have Medical Assistance; enrollees may have a care coordinator or navigator to help them get care and support services.<br/><a href="#">Special Needs Basic Care</a></p>  |
| <p><b>1915(b) waivers:</b><br/><b>mandatory enrollment</b></p> | <p><b>Louisiana Coordinated System of Care</b><br/>Since 2015, all Medicaid beneficiaries receive their mental health and substance use treatment through a managed care organization via CSoC.<br/><a href="#">Coordinated System of Care</a></p>  | <p><b>Utah Prepaid Mental Health Plans</b><br/>Medicaid recipients are enrolled in the PMHP contractor serving their county of residence for inpatient hospital and outpatient mental health services.<br/><a href="#">Prepaid Mental Health Plans</a></p>                   |

### Help shape Medicare in Illinois

State residents can get involve in this process, both in selecting the experiments that are undertaken and in helping guide how their particular program is structured. A state's Medicaid agency is a good starting point.<sup>2</sup> Illinois's Medicaid agency is the Department of Healthcare and Family Services; visit HFS' [Care Coordination](#) section for details on the state's various managed care programs..

**Bottom line: States can tailor their Medicaid programs to achieve cost-effectiveness**

Sources:

1. Medicaid.gov <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/managed-care/authorities/index.html>
2. Medicaid.gov [https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demo/demonstration-and-waiver-list/waivers\\_faceted.html](https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demo/demonstration-and-waiver-list/waivers_faceted.html)