



March 11, 2022

CCN: 274086

Kyle Fouts, Administrator  
Montana State Hospital  
100 Grant Way  
Warm Springs, Montana 59756

Dear Administrator:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) notified you on February 18, 2022, that your hospital, Montana State Hospital, no longer meets the requirements for participation in the Medicare program because of deficiencies that represented an immediate jeopardy to patient health and safety. The Medicare provider agreement of your hospital was scheduled to terminate on March 13, 2022.

In light of the significant access to care issues for psychiatric hospital services, during the March 10, 2022, meeting, you, state leadership and CMS discussed consideration of a Systems Improvement Agreement (SIA) for your organization. We have decided to consider entering into a SIA with your hospital. Pursuant to a SIA, CMS would require that your hospital conduct a root cause analysis of all areas leading to non-compliance, engage an independent party to assist with developing and implementing corrections to deficiencies. During the duration of a SIA, your hospital will have the opportunity to demonstrate sustained compliance with the Medicare participation requirements.

The March 13, 2022 termination date is extended as we consider entering into a SIA. If the SIA is agreed upon, the termination date will be extended consistent with the provisions of the SIA.

You may contact Benton Williams [Benton.Williams@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Benton.Williams@cms.hhs.gov) if you have questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

CDR Dianna Wardlow-Dotter, Division Director  
CMS Kansas City & Denver  
Survey Operations Group, Center for Clinical Standards & Quality

cc.

Charlie Brereton, Chief of Staff, MT DPHHS, and Health Care Policy Advisor to Governor Gianforte  
Adam Meier, Director, MT DPHHS  
Carter Anderson, Inspector General, MT DPHHS