

November 15, 2024

Donna Stidham, Chief of Managed Care  
AIDS Health Foundation  
6255 West Sunset Blvd., 21st Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90028

**RE: Alternative Access Standard Request**

Dear Donna Stidham:

AIDS Health Foundation has requested that the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) consider the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 14197(e)(1)(B) alternative access standard for time or distance. This alternative access standard request allows the MCP to provide justification that their delivery structure is capable of delivering the appropriate level of care notwithstanding the network adequacy time or distance standards.

DHCS has reviewed and approved the request for an alternative access standard. This alternative access standard does not preclude the MCP from meeting the other Annual Network Certification requirements. MCPs must reapply annually.

DHCS reserves the right to revoke this alternative access standard should concerns regarding quality of care are discovered through avenues such as grievances and appeals reporting and/or timely access survey results.

Sincerely,

Sean Barber, Chief  
Managed Care Networks and Access Branch  
California Department of Health Care Services