

## 2023 Parental Fee Changes

### Background

New legislation eliminates parental fees for parents whose children are enrolled in Medical Assistance (MA) under the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (TEFRA) option or accessing Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) through a waiver program. Effective July 1, 2023, parents will no longer be assessed a parental fee for children enrolled in these programs.

See DHS [Bulletin #23-21-21 DHS Eliminates Parental Fees for Children Receiving MA under the TEFRA Option and HCBS Waivers for more information.](#)

### Commonly Asked Questions

**Q. Do I still need to pay the parental fee bills through June 30, 2023?**

A. Yes, you are still responsible for the billing from the Parental Fee Unit through June 30, 2023. You may receive paperwork requesting tax information needed to determine your fee for services that occurred before July 1, 2023.

- If you have a recurring payment option, you will need to go to [DHS web payments page](#) and stop payments. You can do this by selecting “click here to stop an existing recurring payment.”
- If you have a recurring payment through your bank, you need to contact your bank to end the recurring payment.

**Q: What HCBS waiver programs does this policy change apply to?**

A: Effective July 1, 2023, parental fees will no longer be assessed for children who receive services through the following HCBS waiver programs:

- Brain Injury (BI)
- Community Alternative Care (CAC)
- Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI)
- Developmental Disabilities (DD)

**Q: Are there circumstances in which I may still have to pay a parental fee?**

A: Yes, it is possible. Parental fees may still be assessed for parents of children placed in a regional treatment center when MA pays the cost of care and for children in 24-hour out of home placement. Use the County Parental Fee Referral form (DHS-2982) to assess a parental fee for parents of children placed in regional treatment center when MA pays the cost of care and for children in 24-hour out of home placement.

**Q: My child was placed in 24-hour out of home placement. Will I have to pay a parental fee even if my child is enrolled in TEFRA or HCBS?**

A: Yes, it is possible. Parental fees may still be assessed for a child enrolled in MA-TEFRA or a child receiving HCBS through a waiver program when the child is placed in 24-hour out of home placement. For additional information, contact the Parental Fee Unit at 651-431-3806 or 800-657-3751.

**Q. Was I billed for the fee that started July 1, 2023?**

A. No, there was no billing for those who no longer have a fee effective July 1, 2023.

**Q. If I got a new bill and feel I should not have, what do I do?**

A. Contact the Parental Fee Unit at 651-431-3806 or 800-657-3751 to confirm whether your child is included in the fee elimination.

**Q. Is my child's MA still open?**

A. The Parental Fees Unit does not open or close MA. You can contact your local county or tribal social service office or the phone number for members on the back of your health plan or Minnesota Health Care Program card to verify the MA is open.

**Q: Will enrollees who apply on or after July 1, 2023, but have retroactive coverage before July 1, 2023, be subject to parental fees?**

A: If they apply on or after July 1, 2023, and have retroactive coverage before July 1, 2023, they will not be assessed a parental fee for the retroactive months.

**Q: Are instructions to end automatic or recurring payments set up through the Department of Human Services (DHS) payments website available online?**

A: There is a button on the [DHS web payments page](#) to stop recurring payments. There is only one method to stop payment. Currently, most individuals are not going to the right link to end auto payments. If an autopayment is set up through a bank, the parents of enrollees will need to contact the bank to end the payments.

**Q: How do people find out about the balance owed and bring their account to zero?**

A: Complete paperwork you receive from DHS, including requests for tax information, so you can have your premiums reconciled for premiums assessed before July 1, 2023. For additional questions or concerns, contact at the Parental Fee Unit at 651-431-3806.

**Q: Are there any other changes to the MA-TEFRA or HCBS disability waiver program application or eligibility requirements because of the legislation?**

A: There are no changes to TEFRA eligibility requirements or HCBS waiver eligibility requirements. Also, there is no change to the HCBS waiver application process or the State Medical Review Team (SMRT) referral process. The only change to the TEFRA application process is that the Supplement to MNSure Application for Health Coverage and Help Paying Costs (DHS-6696A) is no longer needed to determine eligibility. Workers must use data from the MNSure online application or paper application (DHS-6696) and request more information as needed.

## **For More Information**

Families interested in learning more about MA-TEFRA or HCBS waiver programs for your child or to apply can do the following:

- Contact your [local county or tribal agency](#) to apply for Medical Assistance for your child and get help on steps for a TEFRA application.
- Request a MnCHOICES Assessment from the [local county or tribal agency](#).
- Learn more about [MA-TEFRA on the Disability Hub MN](#).