

July 18 – July 31, 2023

Systems announcements

We will update this section with information about MN–ITS availability, technical information and other systems announcements when necessary.

Medical Assistance renewal deadline extended to Aug. 31 for people whose paperwork is overdue for Aug. 1 coverage

As Medicaid renewals resume across the country, Minnesota continues the challenging work to ensure eligible people retain their health care coverage. Last month, following Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approval, Minnesota delayed procedural closures for people who failed to return renewal paperwork. The one-month delay allowed DHS and its partners to conduct further, expanded enrollee outreach. In the intervening weeks, thousands of individuals and families who would have lost coverage submitted their paperwork to retain coverage.

The initial plan had been to delay closures for only the first renewal cohort of people who would have lost coverage July 1. Given the effectiveness of the additional outreach, and given some of the expanded efforts just began, we are working with CMS to extend the deadline to Aug. 31 for the second renewal cohort of people who would have lost coverage Aug. 1. This includes Medical Assistance enrollees whose case is in either MAXIS or the Minnesota Eligibility Technology System (METS). In addition to more outreach to enrollees, the extra month will allow us to assess and adapt when we have more complete information about the first cohort's closure rate in early August.

About 56,000 people, or 23,500 households, with an August renewal have yet to turn in their renewal paperwork and are receiving notices that their coverage is closing. We want these Medical Assistance enrollees to know they still should submit renewal paperwork during the extension, and they need to do it as soon as possible. Delays put them at risk for coverage gaps that will need to be remedied later. Submitting paperwork now saves expense and burden for all involved. In addition to closed coverage notices, DHS will also reach out to these enrollees via text and voice message in enrollees' preferred language.

Please note, coverage will still end Aug. 1 for the July renewal cohort who had their renewal deadline extended from June 30 to July 31 but have not responded to their renewal. (pub. 7/26/23)

Use #CaringCareerMN to help share employment opportunities with prospective employees

The Follow Your Heart to a Caring Career campaign has one primary goal: to help Minnesota employers attract and hire people to provide care and support services. Use the Follow Your Heart to a Caring Career campaign to grow awareness about your business and brand, and expand your reach to prospective employees.

- Use #CaringCareerMN on your posts about hiring events so [CareerForce](#) and others can amplify your message.
- Use the social media graphics posted on CareerForce's [Follow Your Heart to a Caring Career graphics](#) webpage.
- Share CareerForceMN posts regarding a Caring Career.

CareerForce can help you find the workers you need in other ways, too. Refer to CareerForce's [Follow Your Heart to a Caring Career employer resources](#) webpage, which includes a recording of the July 13 employer information session, for other recruitment and engagement ideas. (pub. 7/26/23)

DHS has changed the risk level for home care nurse providers

Effective June 1, 2023, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) lowered the [risk level](#) for [eligible home care nurse providers](#) from a moderate risk level to a limited risk level. Home care nursing agencies remain at moderate risk level.

Also, DHS will no longer conduct site visits for home care nurse provider enrollment applications submitted **after June 1, 2023**. The home care nurse provider enrollment applications DHS received before June 1, 2023, are still subject to site visits.

Call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411, option #4, if you have questions about this message. (pub. 7/25/23)

Autism and related conditions community conversation scheduled in Mahnomen

Join the Minnesota Department of Human Services and White Earth Nation for dinner and a conversation about autism and related conditions Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023, at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen. Everyone is welcome to attend and be a part of this free in-person event. You can connect, share experiences, ask questions, and learn about resources to help support children and young adults under 21 with autism and related conditions. Related conditions include fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and trauma-related diagnoses.

Conversation topics

We will share information on:

- Health care
- Education
- Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) benefits
- Accessing Medical Assistance
- Waivers
- MnCHOICES assessment

Event details

Time: 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Date: Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023

Location: Shooting Star Casino (777 S. Casino Road, Mahnomen, Minn. 56557)

RSVP: Email veronica.roy@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Visit the [Minnesota autism resource portal](#) for more information about this event and a list of other events. (pub. 7/25/23)

Register for personal care assistant (PCA) Steps for Success training

Registration is now open for PCA Steps for Success training scheduled for **September 6-8, 2023**. You can register for this training on the PCA Steps for Success workshop webpage. Click on the [Registration and cost](#) link to register online.

Contact the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 with any questions. (pub. 7/20/23)

Batch transactions submitted July 17 may need to be resubmitted

Minnesota Department of Human Services was unable to process inbound batch transactions (270, 271, 837D, 837I and 837P) submitted July 17, 2023, between 10:20 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. You need to resubmit your batch transaction if you submitted a batch transaction and did not receive a 999 acknowledgment.

Refer to the [5010/D.0 compliance](#) webpage for more information. Call the [Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Resource Center](#) at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this message. (pub. 7/18/23)

Phase 4 electronic visit verification (EVV) and community-based services manual (CBSM) updates

Phase 4 EVV (home health services) will launch in October 2023. Review the [Electronic visit verification](#) webpage under the Required services tab for the list of home health service codes. Review the [EVV start date for home health providers](#) eList announcement for more information about the launch.

We have added new CBSM webpages for EVV policies. Review the [New EVV policy changes](#) eList announcement for more information about the updates.

Look for upcoming updates on policies for EVV, a welcome letter to home health providers and an informational session announcement in the coming weeks. (pub. 7/18/23)

New online video about early childhood screening and referral process available

The [Communicating with Families During the Child Screening Process](#) online video is a new resource to help primary care providers, pediatricians, care coordinators and other professionals use effective communication strategies with families throughout the early childhood screening process. Developing partnerships with families during routine well-child visits is critical to ensure early and accurate identification for further assessment.

The video includes:

- Suggestions for ways the family can help support their child's healthy development between screenings
- Recommendations for referral and follow up
- Links to early screening and intervention resources.

Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) created the video in partnership with the University of Minnesota Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) and Bright Works (formerly Metropolitan Educational Cooperative Service Unit). Go to the Minnesota Autism Resource Portal [Videos and Podcasts](#) webpage to access this video and others. Use the [Contact us](#) form to ask DHS questions or request more information. (pub. 7/18/23)

All contracted managed care organization providers must enroll with Minnesota Health Care Programs

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) will start the screening and enrollment process for managed care organization (MCO) in-network-only providers on July 17, 2023. MCO in-network only providers who are currently providing services or wish to provide services to members enrolled in managed care organizations must enroll and meet the MHCP requirements.

Actively enrolled fee-for-service providers who have an existing contract with an MCO will not need to go through the screening and enrollment process again.

Refer to the [Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment \(MPSE\) portal training](#) page for MPSE training on how to use the MPSE portal to enroll.

Refer to the enrollment process for contracted MCO providers on the [Enroll with MHCP](#) webpage for more information. (pub. 7/17/23)

DHS will repeal certain rules governing PCA services and seeks public comment

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) intends to repeal certain rules governing personal care assistance (PCA) services and required documentation associated with the services and seeks public comment. You can find the official [Notice of Intent to Repeal Obsolete Rules \(PDF\)](#) on the [Rulemaking Docket](#) webpage.

You can submit comments or request a hearing on the [proposed repeal](#) (or both) via:

- Email (preferred): Vanessa.vogl@state.mn.us

- U.S. Mail:
Vanessa Vogl
Administrative Law Office, Minnesota Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 64254
St. Paul, MN 55164-0254
- Fax: 651-431-7714
- TTY users may call 800-627-3529

We will accept comments and requests for a hearing until 4:30 p.m. on **Sept. 22, 2023**. (pub. 7/17/23)

July 5 warrant checks will be mailed July 12, 2023

Some providers may experience a delay in receiving checks for the July 5, 2023, warrant date. We will mail the delayed checks on July 12, 2023, to providers who have not received a July 5 warrant check. You should allow up to 10 business days to receive your check. If you do not receive your check by July 19, please call the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 to open a case.

MHCP recommends all providers sign up to be paid through EFT or direct deposit. EFT payments are a convenient alternative to receiving paper checks. Review Electronic funds transfer (ETF) or direct deposit information under Enrolling as an MHCP provider on the [Enroll with Minnesota Health Care Programs](#) webpage. (pub. 7/12/23)

Claims for customized living services provided in settings not in compliance will deny starting July 1, 2023

To comply with the [federal Home and Community-Based Services waiver rule](#), all customized living settings or 24-hour customized living settings in operation on or after Jan. 11, 2021, are limited to serving people on the Brain Injury (BI) and Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) waivers who are 55 years of age or older.

Lead agencies cannot authorize customized living services for people younger than 55 on the BI and CADI waivers in settings that are subject to the age limitation. For a list of these settings, refer to the Community-Based Services Manual page: [Customized living provider settings only allowed to serve people on the BI and CADI waivers who are age 55 and older](#).

Effective for dates of service starting July 1, 2023, the Minnesota Department of Human Services will deny claims for customized living services provided in settings subject to the age limitation to people younger than 55 on BI and CADI waivers. Claims that deny will show a claim status code of 142 in MN-ITS and a remark code of M143 on the remittance advice.

Review the Disability Services Division eList announcement [MMIS claims edit to address CL age limitation for BI and CADI waivers](#) for more information. (pub. 7/12/23)

Updates to Substance Use Disorder 1115 Demonstration provider enrollment

Review the following 1115 Demonstration provider enrollment dates.

Providers requiring Jan. 1, 2024, enrollment date

The following substance use disorder (SUD) providers are required to enroll in the [1115 Demonstration](#) by Jan. 1, 2024:

- Minnesota residential treatment providers licensed by the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) and enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP)
- Minnesota withdrawal management providers licensed by DHS and enrolled in MHCP
- Out-of-state residential SUD providers enrolled in MHCP

Providers requiring Jan. 1, 2025, enrollment date

The following SUD providers are required to enroll in the demonstration by Jan. 1, 2025:

- Minnesota nonresidential treatment providers licensed by DHS and enrolled in MHCP
- Hospital-based residential treatment providers licensed by DHS and enrolled in MHCP

Tribally licensed providers may elect to participate in the demonstration.

These enrollment requirements are according to [Minnesota Statute 256B.0759, subdivision 2](#). Send an email to 1115demonstration.dhs@state.mn.us if you have questions or would like assistance in completing your enrollment application. (pub. 7/12/23)

Behavioral Health Fund eligibility guidelines updated for state fiscal year 2024

The Minnesota Department of Human Services has updated the [Behavioral Health Fund Eligibility Guidelines for State Fiscal Year 2024 \(DHS-6770\) \(PDF\)](#). Refer to the Behavioral Health Division's [Behavioral Health Fund eligibility guidelines updated for State Fiscal Year 2024](#) e-memo for more information. (pub. 7/12/23)

Minnesota Women, Infant and Children (WIC) extends medical formulas substitutions

Minnesota WIC is extending medical formula substitutions through Aug. 27, 2023. MN WIC participants should use the [Minnesota WIC Medical Formulas Substitutions \(PDF\)](#) list through Aug. 27, 2023.

Alternate Mead Johnson formulas, including larger can sizes of WIC contract formula, are also available through Aug. 27, 2023. Refer to the Minnesota Department of Health's [WIC and Health Care Providers](#) webpage for more information. (pub. 7/5/23)

2023 MinnesotaCare tax rate is 1.6 percent; claims to be reprocessed

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, the MinnesotaCare tax rate was lowered to 1.6 percent for the provider, hospital, surgical center, wholesale drug distributor, and legend drug use taxes. The MinnesotaCare tax rate for 2022 was 1.8 percent. Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) reimbursement includes a rate add-on that equals the tax rate to reimburse providers for MHCP's share of the tax.

We updated our system with the new tax rate and will reprocess claims that were submitted and paid at the higher add-on rate.

Providers do not need to take action. We will provide information about reprocessing these claims when available.

Watch for a future Provider News message on this webpage. (pub. 7/03/23)

REVISED: Medical Assistance renewal deadline extended to Aug. 1 for people whose renewal paperwork is overdue for July 1 coverage

This message has been updated to announce we've received federal permission to extend the July 1 deadline to Aug. 1 for the first group of families and children renewing their Medical Assistance since the pandemic. Minnesota extended the Medical Assistance renewal deadline to Aug. 1 for 39,000 Minnesotans whose renewal paperwork is overdue for July 1 coverage. But people should still send in their renewal form and any required documentation as soon as possible to avoid gaps in their health insurance.

The state is working with the federal government to avoid ending Medical Assistance coverage for people who may still qualify, but face barriers such as not receiving the form in the mail. Medical Assistance is Minnesota's Medicaid program.

"We don't want anyone to lose their health insurance," said Minnesota Department of Human Services Commissioner Jodi Harpstead. "Our goal is for every eligible Minnesotan to keep their Medical Assistance."

The Minnesota Department of Human Services received federal permission to extend the July 1 deadline to Aug. 1 for the first group of families and children renewing their Medical Assistance since the pandemic. The extra month will let the department and its partners find and connect with people in that group who haven't responded yet. The extension also means that no eligible Minnesotans will lose Medical Assistance just before the Independence Day weekend. Having

insurance makes it easier to get health care and supports the health and well-being of people and their families and communities.

People who have already been determined to no longer qualify for Medical Assistance will still lose coverage July 1. Some are newly qualified for MinnesotaCare beginning on that date. Others can get help finding other insurance options through MNsure, the state's health insurance marketplace.

Refer to the mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage webpage for more information about Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare renewals. (pub. 6/22/23, rev. 6/29/23)

Remote adult day services option is available starting July 1, 2023

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) authorized licensed adult day service providers to deliver services in alternative ways during the COVID-19 peacetime emergency. Alternative adult day services as outlined in the [COVID-19](#) section of the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Manual will end on June 30, 2023. Adult day services will resume with a new method to deliver services remotely starting July 1, 2023, for licensed adult day service providers.

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) providers who choose to provide the remote adult day services option will need to contact their licensor or contact the HCBS Help Desk at 651-431-6624 to request approval of adding remote adult day service to their license. Review the [Community-Based Services Manual \(CBSM\) - Adult day services](#), under the provider standards and qualifications section for additional licensing requirements. Providers can use the [DHS licensing information lookup](#) to search for adult day services providers that are approved for remote services.

Once approved by DHS Licensing, MHCP is requiring providers to submit an updated [HCBS Programs Service Request \(DHS-6638\) \(PDF\)](#) along with the [Waiver Services Remote Support Provider Assurance Statement \(DHS-8059\) \(PDF\)](#) to add remote adult day services to their enrollment record.

Review the [Permanent remote adult day services option available July 1, 2023](#), Aging and Adult Services and Disability Services divisions eList announcement for information about policy, training, rates and authorization.

If you have questions regarding this message, use the [DSD Contact Form](#) for disability waivers or email dhs.aasd.hcbs@state.mn.us for Elderly Waiver and Alternative Care services. (pub. 6/28/30)

DHS sends Services Employees International Union Healthcare Minnesota and Iowa contract terms for 2023-2025

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) sent Personal Care Assistance (PCA) Choice agencies and Financial Management Service (FMS) providers a memo in their MN-ITS PRVLTR folder on June 23, 2023, with a summary of the new terms of the contract between the Services Employees International Union (SEIU) Healthcare Minnesota and Iowa and the State of Minnesota. The subject of the memo was "Services Employees International Union (SEIU) Healthcare Minnesota and Iowa Contract Requirements for 2023-2025."

PCA Choice and FMS providers are responsible for knowing the information contained in the memo and for implementing the terms on their effective dates. Some effective dates start July 1, 2023. (pub. 6/26/23)

MHCP has sent personal care assistance Steps for Success certificates for the May 24-26 workshop

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) has sent providers who attended the [PCA Steps for Success](#) workshop on May 24-26, 2023, their certificates of completion via the email address they used to register for the Steps for Success training. Providers who completed the training should have received the certificate by the end of the business day on June 26, 2023. If you have any questions, call the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411. (pub. 6/26/23)

DHS has updated the collocated setting policy for Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) updated the collocated setting policy to include exceptions based on the status of the HCBS waiver settings, effective June 12, 2023.

Collocated settings refer to when a single provider leases or owns more than one service setting located on the same or adjacent property, the lead agency can only authorize services in **one** of the settings.

Collocated setting policy and exceptions apply to the following services through the Brain Injury (BI), Community Alternative Care (CAC), Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) and Developmental Disabilities (DD) waivers:

- [Adult day services](#), including [adult day bath](#) and [family adult day services](#)
- [Community residential services](#)
- [Customized living or 24-hour customized living](#)
- [Day support services](#)
- [Family residential services](#)
- [Integrated community supports](#)
- [Prevocational services](#)

This collocated setting policy update does **not** apply to Alternative Care (AC) or Elderly Waiver (EW).

Review [Updates to collocated setting policy](#) Disability Services Division (DSD) eList announcement for more information on current collocated setting policy and new collocated setting exceptions. (pub. 6/22/23)

Temporarily suspended psychotherapy service limitations billing update

We published a provider news message on Feb. 7, 2023, announcing that we would be temporarily suspending service limitations for psychotherapy effective Jan. 1, 2023. We have not completed updating our billing system and we are aware claims exceeding the original limits are denying. We are currently updating the system to allow claims to be paid for these services without authorization. You should continue to bill for each date of service, and we will reprocess denied claims when the system work is complete. Call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411, option #1, if you have questions about this message. (pub. 6/22/23)

Medical Assistance for Payment of Long-Term Care Services (MA-LTC) eligibility policy: Resuming Renewals Update webinar scheduled

Minnesota Department of Human Services will hold an MA-LTC eligibility policy: Resuming Renewals Update webinar on Tuesday, June 27 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

This webinar will focus on the MA-LTC eligibility policies associated with resuming MA-LTC renewals and will include information about the new ex parte renewal process and the MA asset disregard. We will answer questions following the presentation. The presentation will address long-term care provider questions about MA-LTC eligibility policy. Call the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about provider payment and billing policies.

You may register for this webinar by visiting the [MA-LTC Eligibility Policy: Resuming Renewals Update webinar Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 1 to 2:30 p.m.](#) webpage. We will announce additional dates and times for more webinars later. (6/22/23)

Hospital-grade breast pump claims and accessory kits

We reprocessed hospital-grade breast pump claims (HCPCS code E0604) for dates of service from Jan. 1, 2023, through May 25, 2023, as they were priced incorrectly in our system. The reprocessed claims will be on the July 5, 2023, remittance advice. We corrected pricing for E0604 based on a set rental rate. Accessory kits used with E0604 are now

coded A9999 and claims require a pricing attachment with the manufacturer's suggested retail price or invoice. (pub. 6/22/23)

Housing Stabilization Services providers required to submit newest version of Professional Statement of Need (DHS-7122) beginning July 17, 2023

Housing Stabilization Services providers and qualified professionals must complete housing stabilization service assessments using the newest version of the [Professional Statement of Need \(DHS-7122\) \(PDF\)](#) beginning July 17, 2023. We posted the newest version of the Professional Statement of Need (DHS-7122) in October of 2022.

If a person had a Professional Statement of Need assessment completed on an outdated form before July 17, 2023, the assessment is still valid for up to 12 months and will be accepted as documentation when submitting [Housing Stabilization Eligibility Requests \(DHS-7948\)](#).

Review the [Helpful Tips for Housing Stabilization Services Eligibility Requests \(PDF\)](#) for more guidance on eligibility requests and the Professional Statement of Need. Email dhshousingstabilization@state.mn.us if you have questions about these resources. (pub. 6/20/23)

Incontinence products quantity limit changes effective July 1, 2023

Quantity limits for disposable briefs, diapers, underwear, pull-ons, liners, shields, guards, pads and garments (HCPCS T4521-T4535, T4538, T4533-T4544) will be covered up to 400 units per product or combination of products per month before authorization is required effective July 1, 2023. Product combinations more than one size apart are not permitted. Refer to the [Equipment and supplies resources webpage for the list of covered incontinence products](#). Quantity limits for underpads (T4541-T4542) will be covered up to 100 units per month before authorization is required. We will update the [Incontinence Products](#) section of the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Manual July 1, 2023. Call the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this message. (pub. 6/14/23)

DHS ends requirement for qualified professionals to use electronic visit verification during PCA supervision

Through the first two phases of [electronic visit verification](#) (EVV) implementation, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has received stakeholder feedback. Based on this valuable feedback, DHS has decided to end the requirement for qualified professionals to use EVV when supervising Minnesota Health Care Programs-enrolled personal care assistance (PCA) providers, effective immediately.

For more information refer to the Disability Services Division (DSD) eList announcement [EVV PCA supervision update](#). (pub. 6/13/23)

Targeted Case Management (TCM) interactive video (ITV) billing update

Beginning May 12, 2023, TCM services delivered via ITV will require the appropriate place of service to be listed on the claim. You will need to submit claims using place of service 02 or 10 as follows:

- Place of service 02: ITV contact provided other than the client's home. The client is not located in their home when receiving TCM service through ITV.
- Place of service 10: ITV contact provided in the client's home. The client is located in their home when receiving TCM service through ITV.

We are updating the system to reflect this requirement. You must bill for each date of service beginning May 12, 2023, with the appropriate place of service on your claim. Your ITV claims will deny until we update the system, but we will reprocess your denied ITV claims after the system updates have been implemented. We will update you with a message on this webpage when the system updates are complete.

Review the [TCM face-to-face contact waiver modifications end, and new Interactive Video standards guidance provided](#) bulletin for more information. (pub. 6/13/23)

Recruitment campaign for direct care professionals launched by Minnesota's Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

DEED, Minnesota Department of Human Services and many other partners are working together to recruit more direct care professionals. Providers are encouraged to browse the [Follow Your Heart to a Caring Career employer resources](#) webpage and the [Follow Your Heart to a Caring Career](#) webpage with brief descriptions of the many caregiving career options, resources and application information. (pub. 6/13/23)

DHS extends temporary waiver allowing certain family members to be paid for providing PCA services

During the COVID-19 federal public health emergency, personal care assistance (PCA) agencies were temporarily allowed to hire the following types of family members to be paid to provide PCA services to individuals enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP):

- Parents
- Stepparents
- Legal guardians of minors
- Spouses

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) previously communicated that the federal government announced the allowance for certain family members to provide PCA care to their MHCP-enrolled family member was ending on May 11, 2023, when the federal public health emergency ends. However, on Friday, May 5, 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) notified DHS of a change to federal policy that allowed DHS to apply for a six-month extension to this allowance. The temporary allowance will now continue through **November 11, 2023**.

What this means for PCA agencies and family members who have been providing PCA services:

After May 11, 2023, PCA agencies can continue to hire and pay the family members listed in this message to provide PCA services to members enrolled in MHCP through **November 11, 2023**.

DHS has added a memo in PCA agencies MN-ITS mailbox for additional information. Call the MHCP Provider Resource Center for further information at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411, Option 4; or email HCSD.DHS@state.mn.us for DSD-related questions and DHS.AASD.HCBS@state.mn.us for AASD-related questions. (pub. 5/12/23)

How providers can help with health care program eligibility renewals

The state needs help from partners and providers in communicating about restarting renewals to help Minnesotans maintain their coverage of Medical Assistance (MA) and MinnesotaCare. Providers have a unique and trusted relationship with members. The importance of clear and consistent communications cannot be overstated since many Minnesota families and individuals with public health care coverage have never been through the renewal process.

Help spread the word

- Refer to the [How providers can help with health care program eligibility renewals](#) webpage for talking points and resources to share when connecting with members. Most materials are available in English as well as Hmong, Russian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese.
- Remind members of these critical things to know about eligibility renewals.
 - Updating contact information is the most important thing most members can do right now.
 - Without an accurate mailing address, renewal packets cannot be delivered.
 - Understanding the rolling renewal "cohort" cycle is important. When it becomes available, the renewal date lookup tool will be a powerful resource for members and those helping members through the process.
 - Submitting complete, accurate and timely renewal paperwork is essential to avoid gaps in coverage.

Like all states, Minnesota has maintained health care coverage for its Medicaid enrollees during the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2020, as a condition of the Federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the Minnesota Department of Human Services stopped verifying eligibility annually for its public health care programs. At the end of 2022, Congress passed legislation requiring states to return to standard Medicaid eligibility procedures, which includes an annual eligibility review through a renewal process, in spring 2023.

Call the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 with questions about this message. (pub. 5/12/23)

Coverage for uninsured Medical Assistance (MA) coverage group (Major program TT) ends May 11, 2023

Coverage for the MA coverage group (Major program TT) ends May 11, 2023, with the end of the federal public health emergency. Major program TT was authorized by the Minnesota Legislature during the COVID-19 federal public health emergency for those who are uninsured to cover testing, diagnosis of COVID-19, access to receive vaccines and treatment related to COVID-19. Refer to [COVID-19 Testing](#) in the COVID-19 section of the Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Manual for more information. Call the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this message. (pub. 5/9/23)

Important information about the end of the federal public health emergency for housing stabilization services providers and personal care assistance agencies

On May 1, 2023, we sent memos to MN-ITS mailboxes of Minnesota Health Care Programs-enrolled housing stabilization services (HSS) providers and personal care assistance (PCA) agencies with active MN-ITS mailboxes outlining changes for these programs that go into effect **May 12, 2023**, after the federal public health emergency ends May 11, 2023. Memos can be found in the **PRVLTR** folder of the **Miscellaneous Received** section of your MN-ITS mailbox. Call the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 for assistance if you did not receive a memo or cannot find one. (pub. 5/1/23)

Updated webpage and new tools help Minnesotans keep their health insurance as renewals resume in public health care programs

Minnesota Department of Human Services refreshed the [Renew My Coverage](#) webpage and will launch new tools in the coming weeks to make it easier for Minnesotans to keep their health insurance now that annual member eligibility renewals have resumed in public health care programs. Please share this information with the members you serve.

Members should look for:

- A new envelope design to help renewal paperwork stand out better in mailboxes. Envelopes are now marked with a blue circle with the text "Important information enclosed."
- A new [document upload tool](#) that allows members to skip the postage and upload their annual eligibility renewal documents online. Enrollees can also submit renewal paperwork by postal mail, dropping it off at their county or tribal office, fax or by giving their information verbally over the phone.

Members will soon be able to:

- Use a new renewal date lookup tool to find out when to watch their mail for renewal information.
- Receive text messages from the number "28343" when it's time to fill out and submit their renewal paperwork.

We are committed to ensuring that eligible Minnesotans retain their public coverage when renewal processes resume as required by Congressional legislation that [states to return to standard Medicaid eligibility procedures](#). On the [Renew my coverage](#) webpage, we have created a one-stop shop for Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare members with all the information they need about how to keep their insurance.

The most important thing enrollees can do now to prepare for their renewal is to [Update their contact information](#). Members who have moved in the last three years should update their address, phone number and email, so they can be reached.

Renewal information will be mailed to members in monthly waves or “cohorts” each month for the next 12 months. The first group of Minnesotans due for their renewal paperwork will get their renewal information mailed within the next few weeks. (pub. 4/27/23)

Help DHS communicate the member eligibility renewal process

Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) needs your help communicating the eligibility renewal process to the 1.5 million Minnesotans who rely on the state’s public health care programs for their health insurance.

The annual eligibility renewals process for Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare was paused during the COVID-19 pandemic to help Minnesotans access care and maintain high insurance coverage rates in the state. However, renewals must restart as the federal public health emergency ends. This means that one in four Minnesotans will need to have their eligibility for their public health insurance reviewed to ensure they can keep the coverage. They must complete the renewal process to keep their insurance and avoid gaps in coverage. Learn more about this on the [Overview: Resuming public health care program renewals](#) webpage.

DHS is committed to ensuring that eligible Minnesotans retain their public coverage when renewals restart, and connect newly ineligible Minnesotans with other coverage options during this process. Communications will be a core component in achieving those goals. It’s important for members to understand that they need to update their contact information, including their home address, phone number and email, if they’ve moved in the last three years.

We have created resources for providers to help get the word out about the renewal process. You can find them on our [Planning for the end of the federal continuous coverage requirements: Preparing for renewals](#) webpage. Please pass these resources on to communications teams in your organization and share them with members to encourage them to update their contact information. Resources are available in multiple formats and translated versions, which may be co-branded with your logo, and include:

- Videos
- Communications DHS has sent to members
- Broad communications for resuming renewals (digital ads, social media posts, flyer, renewal webpage template)
- Communications for members about when their renewal takes place (print materials, talking points, copy for targeted mail)
- Communications for members at the time of their renewal
- Communication toolkits by audience
- Resources created by other organizations

Please do not instruct members to contact counties for renewal date information. We will send members their enrollment packets based on the month they originally enrolled. We will introduce a tool that allows members to look up their enrollment date later.

We have also launched:

- A [Be prepared to renew](#) webpage for members that includes links for members on when they can expect their renewal to take place, answers to common questions, information on how to prepare for their renewal, trusted partners to connect with like navigators and managed care organizations, and how to sign up for updates and news
- A statewide, public-facing [Renewal Dashboard](#) on renewal processing
- A timeline of the project to restart renewals in public health care programs on the [Know when to expect your eligibility renewal](#) webpage

Members can visit mn.gov/dhs/mycontactinfo to find out more. We appreciate any support and cooperation in this important work for the Minnesotans we serve. (pub. 4/25/23)

Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase for claims paid in federal fiscal year 2023 continues; COVID-19 FMAP decreases to 5% for certain claims paid April 1 – June 30, 2023

Beginning with claims paid on or after Oct. 1, 2022, coinciding with the beginning of the federal fiscal year until Sept. 30, 2023, regular FMAP is 50.79% (1905(b) of Social Security Act).

Review the [Federal Financial Participation in State Assistance Expenditures; Federal Matching Shares for Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and Aid to Needy Aged, Blind, or Disabled Persons for October 1, 2022 Through September 30, 2023](#) Federal Register webpage for more information.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 provides a phase-down approach to the elimination of 6.2% COVID FMAP, decreasing the COVID FMAP to 5% for claims paid effective April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law No. 116-127, section 6008) provided a temporary increase of 6.2% in the FMAP rate for Medical Assistance claims paid from Jan. 1, 2020 – March 31, 2023, for the following services for children, parents or guardians with children under 19, individuals 65 and older and individuals blind or disabled:

- Individualized Education Program
- Rule 5 Children's Residential includes Institutions for Mental Disease, which receives a change in state funds equal to the federal fund change.
- County-provided Targeted Case Management services (Child Welfare, Mental Health and Vulnerable Adult-Developmental Disability)

The 5% COVID-19 phased down FMAP and the Federal Fiscal Year FMAP change to 50.79% does not apply to adults without children whose eligibility was gained under the Affordable Care Act and some other populations already receiving an enhanced FMAP.

Counties and providers do not need to do anything to receive the increased FMAP. Claims paid on the April 11, 2023, warrant until end of the quarter will be paid at the new 55.79% rate.

Contact the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this message. (pub. 4/6/23)

Federal COVID-19 public health emergency ends May 11

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra notified states that the federal COVID-19 PHE will end on May 11, 2023, in a [Letter to U.S. Governors renewing COVID-19 Public Health Emergency \(PHE\)](#). We will continue to communicate policy updates as this unfolds. (pub. 3/14/23)

Revised: End of temporary waiver allowing certain family members to be paid for providing PCA services

We have revised the family member types listed in this message to specify parents of minors and stepparents of minors. During the COVID-19 federal public health emergency, personal care assistance (PCA) agencies were temporarily allowed to hire the following types of family members to be paid to provide PCA services to individuals enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP):

- Parents of minors
- Stepparents of minors
- Spouses
- Legal guardians of minors

The federal government has announced that they are ending the public health emergency on May 11, 2023.

What this means for PCA agencies and family members who have been providing PCA services:

- After **May 11, 2023**, PCA agencies can no longer pay the family members previously listed to provide PCA services to members enrolled in MHCP to receive PCA care.

- MHCP is directing PCA agencies and families to work together with the lead agency (county, tribal government, or managed care organization) to develop an alternative plan for providing PCA services.

PCA agencies who have additional questions can contact the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 or use the [Disability Services Division Contact Form](#) to submit an inquiry. (pub. 2/28/23, rev. 3/6/23)

COVID-19 vaccines and administration codes update

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) posted a Provider News message on October 25, 2022, about the category of service edit occurring for the following COVID-19 vaccines and administration codes:

- Vaccine 91304
administration codes 0041A and 0042A
- Vaccine 91308
administration codes 0081A, 0082A and 0083A
- Vaccine 91311
administration codes 0111A, 0112A and 0113A
- Vaccine 91307
administration codes 0071A, 0072A, 0073A, and 0074A

The category of service edit is now fixed. We reprocessed claims back to the effective dates for the covered codes included in this message.

Find the effective dates for the covered codes on the [MHCP fee schedule](#) webpage or under [Vaccines](#) in the [Billing](#) section under Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the MHCP Provider Manual. (pub. 1/31/23)

2023 clinical trainings for EIDBI and other interested provider types

A series of clinical trainings will be held in 2023 for Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) providers and other interested provider types. Refer to the following dates, times, topics and learning objectives for each session.

- **Thursday July 27, 2023, noon to 1 p.m.: Family caregiver training and counseling**
 - Develop family-centered goals in the treatment plan
 - Review EIDBI Welcome Letter for Caregivers and other resources
 - Build relationships and work collaboratively with families
 - Registration is required on the [July EIDBI Clinical Training](#) webpage
- **Thursday August 31, 2023, 9 to 10 a.m.: Person-centered Individual Treatment Plan (ITP) development**
 - Apply a person-centered lens to ITP development and monitoring
 - Prioritize goals based on preferences of the person and family
 - Discuss examples of person-centered, observable and measurable goals
 - Registration is required on the [August EIDBI Clinical Training](#) webpage
- **Tuesday September 12, 2023, noon to 1 p.m.: Person-centered intervention practices**
 - Integrate person-centered practices into treatment planning and implementation
 - Apply proactive strategies and antecedent-based interventions
 - Discuss pairing opportunities and reinforcement
 - Registration is required on the [September EIDBI Clinical Training](#) webpage
- **Wednesday October 18, 2023, 9 to 10 a.m.: Long-term goal development and implementation**
 - Identify the purpose of long-term goals and transition planning
 - Generate person-centered, observable and measurable long-term goals
 - Access resources available to assist with transition planning
 - Registration is required on the [October EIDBI Clinical Training](#) webpage
- **Wednesday November 8, 2023, noon – 1 p.m.: Coordinating care and collaborating with other professionals**
 - Assess the impact of care coordination
 - Identify resources to facilitate collaboration
 - Discuss examples of coordination across service systems
 - Registration is required on the [November EIDBI Clinical Training](#) webpage

Continuing Education Unit (CEU) information

Continuing education credits will be offered for Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) through the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis ([MNABA](#)). All courses will be worth one credit unless otherwise noted. Link to access the CEUs is found under the Agenda section of the registration webpage. Certificates of participation will also be offered for others upon request to submit to their licensure or certification boards. (pub. 1/18/23)

Free Organizational Transformation webinars for Employment and Day Service providers

The Minnesota Transformation Initiative (MTI) in collaboration with the Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR) will hold quarterly trainings focused on organizational transformation to support community engagement and competitive employment. These trainings are free and open to any employment and day service provider in Minnesota.

Webinars will be held on the following dates from 1 - 2:30 p.m.:

- Aug. 17, 2023
- Nov. 16, 2023
- Feb. 15, 2024

Planned training topics include:

- Setting a vision and defining success for transformation
- Managing through change (including supporting staff, clarifying roles, identifying professional development, and communication with staff)
- Financial stability and sustainability
- Moving from center-based to community-based services
- Employer engagement

Each session will include perspectives and special considerations for rural providers.

Registration for each quarterly webinar will be sent through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) Employment First email list. Sign up to receive the email by visiting and scrolling to the bottom of the [Employment First](#) webpage. Trainings will be recorded, and recordings will be sent to all who register.

The Minnesota Transformation Initiative is a project funded by (DHS) to support the transition of people with disabilities receiving subminimum wages into competitive, integrated employment. Email Danielle Mahoehney at mahoe001@umn.edu for more information about MTI project activities. (pub. 10/6/22)

Training

DHS offers Managed Care Organization (MCO) in-network only provider enrollment training

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) is offering training sessions for using the Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment (MPSE) portal to enroll as a managed care organization in-network only provider with Minnesota Health Care Programs. These sessions are designed for contracted managed care organization providers and those who wish to contract with managed care organizations starting July 17, 2023.

- Wednesday, May 31, 2023, from 1 to 4 p.m. – [Register for May 31 MCO In-Network New Provider Enrollment](#)
- Monday, June 26, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – [Register for June 26 MCO In-Network New Provider Enrollment](#)
- Tuesday, July 25, 2023, from 1 to 4 p.m. – [Register for July 25 MCO In-Network New Provider Enrollment](#)
- Thursday, Aug. 17, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – [Register for Aug. 17 MCO In-Network New Provider Enrollment](#)

Providers can learn more about the MPSE portal by visiting the [MPSE portal site](#). These and additional MPSE trainings can be found on the [MPSE portal training site](#). Review the [frequently asked questions](#) about the MCO enrollment process for managed care organizations network providers for additional details. (pub. 5/23/23)

Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment (MPSE) portal live demonstrations

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) will be offering monthly live demonstrations of various functions in the [MPSE Portal](#). Live demonstrations take place on the first Wednesday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m. starting on **Sept 7, 2022**. There will be three categories of live demonstrations provided on a rotating basis. These live demonstrations are free of charge.

Categories of live demonstrations include:

- New Provider Enrollment
 - How to enroll in MPSE as a first-time provider
 - Shows the steps for enrollment from registration to submission
- Managing Enrollment Records
 - How to enroll new locations
 - How to update services, credentials, addresses, and other enrollment information
- Managing Affiliations
 - How to affiliate an individual provider to an organization
 - How to affiliate an organization to an individual provider
 - How to affiliate an organization to a direct support worker
 - How to affiliate a trading partner

Who should attend?

- Owners of MHCP-enrolled organizations or individual providers
- Employees of MHCP-enrolled organizations who maintain provider enrollment records
- Employees of MHCP-enrolled organizations who process affiliations
- Employees of MHCP-enrolled organizations responsible for MHCP compliance
- Anyone interested in learning more about the MPSE portal

Register for these demonstrations on the [MPSE portal training](#) webpage where you can also find on-demand videos and links to more information about the MPSE portal. (pub. 8/18/22)

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) on-demand video and online training updates

MHCP offers training for providers who provide services for members enrolled in MHCP. We have updated on-demand and online training opportunities on the [MHCP provider training](#) webpage.

On-demand videos

On-demand videos are arranged by category, including Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment Portal (MPSE), MN-ITS and Billing. Each video can be viewed in 10 minutes or less and provides instructions on a concept or technique.

Online training

Online training is arranged by content for all providers or specific providers. Training is led by an instructor who will help attendees navigate the Minnesota Department of Human Services website and locate and use MHCP provider information and other related webpages or internet-based applications such as MN-ITS. All instructor-led training is online only. (pub. 11/22/22)

Free online Resources and MN-ITS training available

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) offers free online training for MHCP-enrolled providers. Go to the [MHCP provider training](#) webpage to review the list of available training. (pub. 11/22/22, rev. 1/31/23, rev. 2/28/23, rev. 4/5/23, rev. 4/25/23)

Free online Provider Basics and MN-ITS training available

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) is offering free online Provider Basics Resources and MN-ITS training to all enrolled MHCP providers who bill fee-for-services claims. This training is being offered monthly beginning Mar. 10, 2021.

You will learn how to navigate the MHCP provider webpages and the MHCP provider manual, and how to use MN-ITS administration, mailbox and eligibility requests (270/271) features. Go to the [Provider Basics](#) webpage to register for this training.

Claim training is not provided in this training. See our [MHCP provider training](#) webpage to register for provider-specific claim training. (pub. 2/11/21)

On-demand training videos

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) offers free on-demand training videos arranged by category on the [MHCP provider training](#) webpage. Each video can be viewed in 10 minutes or less and provides instructions on a concept or technique. (pub. 12/13/22)

Free online Minnesota Provider Screening and Enrollment (MPSE) training available

Minnesota Health Care Programs is providing free online training for our MPSE online portal.

See the [MPSE portal training](#) webpage for registration, brief online tutorials to help prepare you for class and more information. (pub. 2/1/20, rev. 2/19/20, 7/27/22)

Additional information

- [Provider news and updates archive](#)
- [MHCP provider policies and procedures](#)
- [Latest Manual Revisions](#)
- [Grants and requests for proposals](#)

Call the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 if you have questions about this information.