



April Updates: Mitigation Strategies & New State Law

Navigator/Certified Application Counselor Statewide Webinar

April 5, 2023

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023

- Sets an end date of March 31, 2023 for the Medicaid continuous coverage policy.
- Authorizes additional Medicaid funding through 2023 to states that:
 - Conduct redeterminations in accordance with existing federal requirements;
 - Attempt to ensure they have up-to-date contact information for enrollees; and
 - Make a good faith effort to contact enrollees using more than one modality before terminating their coverage on the basis of returned mail.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is reviewing states compliance with conducting redeterminations per existing federal requirements. States not meeting these requirements must create and implement mitigation strategies approved by CMS.

What does this mean for Minnesota?

- Minnesota's Medicaid eligibility systems do not comply with certain federal requirements.
- DHS has been in discussions with CMS to identify acceptable mitigations for:
 - Conducting ex-parte renewals ("auto renewals") for Medical Assistance enrollees who are 65 or older, blind or who have a disability
 - Determining eligibility on all Medical Assistance bases before terminating coverage
 - Using blank renewal forms for Medical Assistance families and adults (in lieu of the required pre-populated form)
 - Accepting enrollee renewal information online and by phone.
- The mitigations provide important protections for enrollees.
- CMS must approve the mitigations, which require rapid implementation.
- To claim the enhanced federal match, the State needs to hold coverage terminations not based on program ineligibility until all mitigations are in place. We expect that we will need to hold these terminations only for non-MAGI Medicaid enrollees with a July renewal.
- Minnesota must commit to full compliance in IT systems by early Summer 2026.

COVID Unwinding Bill

The COVID Unwinding Bill was passed and signed by the Governor!

- Authority to maintain MA and MinnesotaCare, to comply with CMS guidance
- Unpaid premiums forgiveness, MA-EPD and MinnesotaCare
- MinnesotaCare premiums waived May 2023 – June 2024
- Periodic Data Matching suspended until after unwinding
- Temporary asset limit disregard for MA
- Appeals protections
- Authority to suspend certain procedural terminations for MA enrollees
- Additional funding for Navigators, county agencies and for DHS to administer the transition back to standard policies and operations

Questions?

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