



First Friday Forum

Francesca Matias
Medicaid Eligibility Policy Manager
Office of Medicaid Eligibility and Policy
April 3, 2020

COVID-19

Temporary Changes

In response to the public health emergency surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19, the Health Care Authority (HCA) will take steps to ensure individuals maintain continuity of their Apple Health (Medicaid) coverage.

Terminations

HCA and DSHS will temporarily stop terminations for all recipients of Apple Health unless the individual:

- Requests termination;
- Is no longer a Washington state resident; or
- Deceased

Renewals

HCA will be extending Apple Health coverage to households who have a renewal due in March or April.

Self-attestation is being accepted for non-MAGI Applications and renewals.

If an individual was closed in March for no renewal, coverage will automatically be reinstated.

Verification Requests

Individuals who request additional time to provide verification may be granted an additional 30 days to provide verification.

Individuals who require additional time and keep in contact with HCA may request additional time on a case by case basis.

HCA will be flexible with individuals on what types of verification they are able to provide during this time.

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Premiums

If an individual has been affected by COVID-19, they may have their CHIP balances written off if:

- They are unable to pay the CHIP premium; or
- Not currently eligible for CHIP due to past due premium payments.

Individuals can call 1-800-562-3022 if they need their premiums temporarily suspended.

Apple Health for Worker's with Disabilities (HWD) Premium

If an individual receiving HWD had a reduction of income, lost a job or temporarily furloughed, they may be able to continue coverage and have their premiums waived.

Call 1-800-871-9275

If they are also receiving Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS), contact their Public Benefit Specialist at DSHS Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA).

See: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ALTSA/resources>

Individuals quarantined in Washington

If an individual was visiting Washington state, became sick and now quarantined here, they may qualify for coverage and treatment for COVID-19.

Call HCA at 1-800-562-3022.

More information on COVID-19

For more information and resources on how HCA is responding to COVID-19, please go to:

<https://www.hca.wa.gov/information-about-novel-coronavirus-covid-19>

Questions?

MEDS email:

AskMAGI@hca.wa.gov

Managed Care questions:

HCAMCPrograms@hca.wa.gov

Email verification:

Apple@hca.wa.gov

Data requests:

HCADData@hca.wa.gov