

First Friday Forum

HCA Update
April 2, 2021

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Agenda

- ▶ Public Health Emergency (PHE)
- ▶ 1095-B
- ▶ Compact of Free Association (COFA) Islander programs
- ▶ Consumer notices workgroup
- ▶ Postpartum coverage
- ▶ Retro
- ▶ Questions

Public health emergency

Public health emergency

- ▶ The Public Health Emergency (PHE) was renewed and extended through April 20, 2021.
- ▶ According to the [HHS letter to Governors*](#), the PHE could be extended through the rest of 2021.
- ▶ HCA and its partners continue to maintain coverage for Apple Health clients by extending Apple Health benefits during the PHE. HCA will continue to share updates as new information becomes available.

*Source: https://f.datasrvr.com/fr1/621/80970/PHE_Extension.HHS_letter_to_Governors.pdf

Temporary changes to Apple Health

- ▶ The one-time federal stimulus payment of up to \$2800 for joint filers or \$1400 for individual tax filers as well as \$1400 for qualifying children is not countable for Apple Health eligibility.
- ▶ For Classic Apple Health, this income is not considered a resource for 12 months following the receipt of payment.
- ▶ There has been an extension of \$300 per week of additional Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation through September 6, 2021. The additional weekly benefit is also not countable towards Apple Health eligibility.

COVID-19 resources

- ▶ **Apple eligibility and COVID-19:**
HCAAHEligCovid19@hca.wa.gov
- ▶ **HCA Information on COVID-19:**
hca.wa.gov/coronavirus
- ▶ **HCA Training & education resources:**
hca.wa.gov/stakeholder-training
- ▶ **HCA Reference guides:**
hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/reference-guides

Washington Listens

[WAListsens.org](https://www.walistsens.org) helps people manage stress and anxiety they may be experiencing because of COVID-19.



1095-B

1095-B

- ▶ Apple Health recipients can now access their 2020 and older 1095-B tax forms from their Washington Healthplanfinder dashboard.
- ▶ An account is needed to access the 1095-B form online. Accounts can be created at any time by visiting wahealthplanfinder.org.
- ▶ Visit hca.wa.gov/1095-B for more information.
- ▶ The link to the 1095-B is not available in the WAPlanfinder app. However, clients can access the form from their mobile phone by going to wahealthplanfinder.org.

1095-B and Non-MAGI Apple Health

- ▶ Individuals who are aged, blind, disabled or receiving long-term services and supports can request their 1095-B by:
 - ▶ Using the Apple Health Contact Us webform.
 - ▶ Visit fortress.wa.gov/hca/p1contactus
 - ▶ Select 1095-B from drop-down menu
- ▶ Calling the Medical Assistance Customer Service Center (MACSC) at 1-800-562-3022.

COFA Islander programs



COFA Islander programs and Medicaid



Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Revision

- Implement rule changes to support Medicaid restoration



System Enhancements

- Identify and resolve system barriers
- Support accurate program eligibility



Community Engagement

- Develop outreach materials
- Partner with community advocates
- Share information and updates via webinars, virtual summits and social media posts



Special Enrollment Period (SEP)

- ▶ Outside of open enrollment, COFA Islanders may enroll in a Qualified Health Plan (QHP) during a SEP. Qualifying life events may include marriage, permanent move, or tax reconciliation.
- ▶ The health plan may ask for documentation to verify the reported change.
- ▶ Visit wahbexchange.org/special-enrollment-period to view HBE Special Enrollment Qualifying Events for more information.

Newly eligible SEP

To be considered for this SEP:



- ▶ Complete an application at wahealthplanfinder.org
- ▶ Contact the Health Care Authority:
 - ▶ Email: COFAQuestions@hca.wa.gov
 - ▶ Phone: 1-800-547-3109

Program staff will review the application and confirm COFA Islander Health Care eligibility and request a newly eligible SEP.

Outreach efforts

- ▶ COFA Islander programs events!
 - ▶ Facebook live event: Tuesday, April 13 at 4:00 p.m.
 - ▶ Webinar coming up in May!
- ▶ Sign up for GovDelivery today!
public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAHCA/subscriber/new

Subscription Topics

- Apple Health (Medicaid) programs and eligibility
- General information and updates 
- COFA Islander programs 

Total enrolled

Total enrolled as of 3/29/2021

COFA Islander Health Care	COFA Islander Dental Care
2058	1089

Consumer notices workgroup

Consumer notices workgroup

The Consumer Notices Workgroup (CNW) is a collaboration between HCA, consumers and stakeholders consisting of community partners and legal advocates.

The mission of the CNW is to work together to improve all Apple Health notices by:

- ▶ Formatting the notices to increase readability
- ▶ Using plain talk language
- ▶ Increasing consumer confidence

Visit the [Consumer Notices workgroup webpage](#)* to see what the workgroup has been working on!

*Source: hca.wa.gov/about-hca/apple-health-medicaid/consumer-notices-workgroup

Consumer notices workgroup

The CNW is always looking for new members to add to our fun and creative workgroup.

Consumers can receive a quarterly \$50 gift card for their participation.

If you know of any consumers wanting to participate in our workgroup, please contact Paige.Lewis@hca.wa.gov.

Postpartum coverage

Postpartum coverage

In the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), states can elect to extend coverage for postpartum Medicaid coverage from 60 days to 12 months postpartum.

[State Senate Bill 5068*](#), which is pending state legislation, would direct HCA to extend this coverage to all postpartum women and also connect this coverage to anyone in the postpartum period (regardless if they received coverage at the time their pregnancy ended).

HCA will continue to share updates as they become available, and we learn more from our federal partners.

*Source: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5068&Year=2021&Initiative=False>

Retro

MAGI retro

Oldest received date	Cases to be worked
3/29/2021	2



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