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Breaking News

Medicaid and CHP+ 2014 Monthly Income Guidelines

New income levels are in place effective April 1, 2014. Click here to see the corresponding agency letter. Click here to see the MAGI Medicaid monthly maximum income guidelines. Click here to see the MAGI CHP+ monthly maximum income guidelines.

New Provider Search Feature

The Department launched a new online Medicaid Provider search feature which you can find here. The feature allows you to search for Colorado Medicaid providers by county for the following three categories: physicians, dentists or all providers. Additionally, you can see the Medicaid Providers on a map and zoom in to your local community. The red dots represent the providers and by left clicking on the red dot, the detailed provider information will show up on the screen.

At a Glance

Please note it is the responsibility of providers to ensure their contact information is accurate and up-to-date. If providers need to update their information, they should call 1-800-237-0757.

PEAK Enhancements

The most recent set of PEAK enhancements occurred on April 28, 2014. The enhancements seek to improve the PEAK consumer experience.

- **PEAK Mail Center with E-Noticing**
- **Creating an Account Made Easier**
- **PEAK Application Status Checker**
- **Level of Care Self-Assessment Added**

For more information on the most recent PEAK upgrades, see the April 17 edition of [ACA Implementation News](#).

Post-Build Call for Community-Based Organizations

A post-build summary call to discuss PEAK system performance and known issues for Community-Based Organizations will be held on May 1, 2014, from 3:00 p.m.-3:45 p.m. To join the Post-Build Follow-Up Call for CBOs, dial 1-877-820-7831, and enter the following passcode when prompted: 349141#.

PEAK Support Call for Community-Based Organizations

The PEAK Support Call will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2014, at 12:00 p.m. To join the PEAK Support Call, dial 1-712-432-0220, and enter the following passcode when prompted: 5642211#.

Legislative Update

The 2014 legislative session will adjourn by midnight on May 7, 2014.

The Department has three bills:

1. [SB14-067 Aligning State Medicaid Eligibility Categories with Federal Law \(Sen. Aguilar/ Rep. Singer\)](#)

This legislation would consolidate the numerous eligibility categories (now obsolete under federal law) in statute into four categories with standardized age and income limits. The four categories are: children, pregnant women, parents and caretakers, and adults. This legislation alignment will not affect current eligibility requirements or the services clients receive.

Status: This bill was officially signed into law on Thursday, February 27, 2014.

2. [SB14-143 Nursing Facility Provider Fee Clarification \(Joint Budget Committee bill\)](#)

This legislation is needed to clarify that prior year rate adjustments, including settlements and appeals, will be handled through a payment process in the following year through the Nursing Facility Provider Fee.

Status: Awaiting the Governor's signature

3. [HB 14-1308 DHS/HCPF Transfer of Authority \(Joint Budget Committee bill\)](#)

Technical in nature, this legislation is a continuation of multiple Department's authority for transfers and over expenditures. Specifically this allows HCPF the ability to continue

to transfer Medicaid funds to the Department of Human Services for administering programs paid for by Medicaid. This legislation also continues the Department's over expenditure authority but prohibits our ability to use it for administrative purposes.
Status: This bill was officially signed into law on Friday, April 18, 2014.

For more information, contact [MaryKathryn Hurd](#).

ACA Resources

ACA Enrollment Update

The Department and Connect for Health Colorado recently released their latest ACA enrollment metrics following the close of private insurance open enrollment. Between October 1, 2013, and March 31, 2014, more than 305,700 Coloradans have signed up or been approved for health care coverage through either Medicaid or Connect for Health Colorado. Since October 1, 2013, Medicaid has enrolled 178,508 individuals under the Medicaid expansion. Connect for Health Colorado has enrolled 127,233 Coloradans in private health insurance coverage since the beginning of open enrollment. For more Medicaid enrollment metrics, including by gender, age and county of residence click [here](#). For additional metrics from Connect for Health Colorado click [here](#).

Joint ACA Communications Webinar

The Department has collaborated with Connect for Health Colorado and the Division of Insurance to record a communications webinar for our partners and stakeholders. The webinar is less than 30 minutes, goes over what the key messages are for clients and applicants following the close of the private insurance open enrollment period, and gives community partners ideas on what they can do to help after open enrollment. To view the webinar click [here](#).

For more information or questions, contact ACAImplementation@hcpf.state.co.us.

Increase Enrollment

This section of At a Glance features Family Health Coordinators, counties and others on the front lines assisting Medicaid and CHP+ clients. The Q & A will highlight successful local strategies for reaching clients.

Spotlight: Kalisha Crossland, Family Health Coordinator

Location: Durango, Colorado (Serving clients in La Plata, Archuleta, San Juan, Montezuma and Dolores Counties)

Number of Years Working with Medicaid clients: 2

Question: What has worked well in reaching your community?

Answer: Collaborating and creating partnerships with local community organizations and agencies has been the most effective form of outreach for me as a Family Health Coordinator. My service area encompasses roughly a 200+



mile radius in Southwest Colorado. Many of my clients are in remote or isolated areas, so it's very important that they know where to go and who to contact for Medicaid/CHP+ assistance, referrals and resources.

I attend several monthly and quarterly Health Services Collaboration meetings in various counties, where I get to discuss my program and make connections with other resources in the area. These meetings provide an opportunity to obtain and share information that is pertinent to effective case management and provide the pathways for our clients to access care. Collaborating and problem solving with peers from other agencies like the Department of Human/Social Services, Public Health Departments, and Care Coordination Teams, help create a team-like environment across counties, which works towards supporting the full life cycle of client care.

Enrolling clients into Medicaid and CHP+ is important, but it is equally as important to educate clients of community resources, where to access care, and educate them on preventative health care services available.

Key Statistics: Since December 2013, I've had 750 client interactions and have helped 64 families enroll in Medicaid/CHP+.

If you or someone you know is a Family Health Coordinator with a story or best practices for outreach to share in a future edition of At a Glance, contact [Jeff Helm](#).

Eligible but Not Enrolled Children

The Department recently announced it has enrolled more than 22,700 children since October 1, 2013 who were previously eligible for Medicaid or CHP+, but had not yet enrolled in coverage. Since October 1, 2013, more than 14,450 new children have enrolled in Medicaid. Additionally, more than 8,250 new children are now receiving coverage through CHP+. This increase in enrollment is a result of multiple outreach and awareness efforts at the state and local level, including improvements to the online application process for Medicaid and CHP+. For more information please see our press release [here](#).

Colorado.gov/HCPF/ShareYourStory

The Department is looking for personal stories about how Medicaid or CHP+ has made a positive impact on you, a client or patient. Client stories can help the Department educate other Coloradans about the benefits of health insurance coverage. With a client's permission, we may also use their story when talking with the media or elected officials. We will not share a client's story without their written permission. For more information or if you know of a client that may be willing to share their personal story with us visit Colorado.gov/hcpf/ShareYourStory.

Improve Health Outcomes

Community First Choice Friday Morning Collaborative Webinar Series

The [Friday Morning Collaborative](#) is a coalition of national aging and disability organizations working together to protect and strengthen Medicaid home and community-based services. With support from [The SCAN Foundation](#), the coalition is hosting ongoing webinars to provide information and resources to state advocates.

Community First Choice Option Webinar: State Consideration and Implementation

- Friday, May 16
- 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET/12:00-1:30 p.m. MT
- [Register now](#)

This webinar will feature insights from three states (Colorado, Montana, and Oregon) that are actively considering or implementing the Community First Choice Option.

The Community First Choice Option provides states with a new opportunity and financial incentive to expand access to home and community-based services to individuals with disabilities and seniors.

Space is limited, so please [register early](#) and share lines when possible. The webinar will be recorded and posted online.

For more information, contact [Martha Beavers](#).

Accountable Care Collaborative Seeks Stakeholder Feedback

The Department is seeking stakeholder input and feedback on the future of the Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC).

The Department and the [Colorado Health Institute](#) are traveling to stakeholder meetings across the state to discuss the ACC and learn about successful policies and supports. These meetings are open to the public and will help to develop the next iteration of Colorado's groundbreaking system of health care delivery.

Please consider attending a stakeholder meeting if you're interested in helping to shape the ACC's Strategic Plan, or want to inform the development of the upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Regional Care Collaborative Organizations (RCCOs). For information about the location and time of the meetings click [here](#). Click [here](#) to see the schedule of events.

For more information, please contact [Kathryn Jantz](#).

Medicaid Adult Dental Benefit

On April 1, 2014, the Department implemented the first phase of a limited [Adult Dental Benefit](#). This new benefit will provide Medicaid enrolled adults, age 21 years and over, an annual dental benefit of up to \$1,000 in dental services.

The adult dental benefit is available to all adult Medicaid clients and will be implemented in two phases:

Phase I: April 1, 2014 – Basic adult dental preventive, diagnostic and minor restorative dental services (such as x-rays and minor fillings) and treatment planning will be available. The Phase I adult dental benefit is generally limited to the dental services that are currently offered to children and do not require a prior authorization request (PAR).

Phase II: July 1, 2014 – More comprehensive adult services such as root canals, crowns, partial dentures, periodontal scaling and root planing. Other procedures requiring prior authorization will also be available.

More information is available in the Provider Bulletins and on the Department website [here](#).

Medicaid Dental Providers Wanted

The Department has developed a new Medicaid [Dental Provider Enrollment Webinar](#) to help dental providers better understand how Medicaid works, who it covers, the benefits it covers and [the benefits of becoming a Medicaid dental provider](#). It also includes links to help providers with completing the [Provider Application](#). Please share this information with your colleagues and dental providers that may be interested in enrolling.

Finding a Medicaid Dental Provider

Clients may search for dental providers in their area by visiting the Department [website](#). You'll see two links to help clients find a list of providers that includes dentists and hygienists by name or by county. Below the dental section, you'll see a link to locate all Medicaid providers, with an option to see all providers on a map.

For more information on Medicaid Adult Dental Benefits, contact [Dawn McGlasson](#).

Medicaid Children's Dental Benefit

The [45-Day Public Comment Period](#) for the draft [Children's Dental Benefit Coverage Standard](#) has ended. We received robust feedback with regard to this draft and are in the process of making several policy changes.

The revised draft will be available for further comment prior to presentation of the Children's Dental rule to the Medical Services Board in June.

If you would like to view some of the comments we received during the 45-Day Public Comment Period, visit the [Benefits Collaborative web site](#) and click on the Dental Listening Log link found in the right hand column (comments received over the past 45 days begin on line 253 of the log; further comments and responses will be posted shortly).

Important dates regarding the Children's Dental Benefit:

- Tuesday, May 27 (9:00 a.m.) – [Public Rule Review Meeting](#)
- Friday, June 13 (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) – Initial reading of Children's Dental Rule in front of [Medical Services Board](#).
- Friday, July 11 – Tentative: Second reading for final adoption of Children's Dental Rule in front of Medical Services Board.

Children's Orthodontia Benefit

The revised Children's Orthodontia Benefit will not go to the Medical Services Board at the same time as the revised Children's Dental Benefit.

We have asked Oregon Health Science University's [Medicaid Evidence Based Decisions Project](#) (MED) team to independently review the research and data provided to us by various Benefits Collaborative participants before making further policy decisions. Once the review is complete, we will revise the Orthodontia standard and provide a copy to those who participated in the Benefits Collaborative, for comment.

For more information, contact [Kimberley Smith](#).

Contain Costs

Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC) Update

The ACC Program represents a committed effort to transform the Medicaid program into an integrated system of better care for all its members, and to lower costs for the State of Colorado.

Estimated enrollment in the ACC reached 520,000 as of April 1, 2014.

Medical Services Board

Public Rule Review Opportunities

Partners who are interested in a one-on-one discussion with Department staff about upcoming rules are invited to attend the Department's Public Rule Review Meeting. Information is available on the [Public Rule Review Meetings](#) web page. Reasonable accommodations for the meetings are provided upon request for persons with disabilities.

If you would like more information, or to be added to the Medical Services Board email distribution list, please contact [Judith Carey](#).

Employment Opportunities

Applying for state government jobs is easy. Applications are electronic, you will receive updates, and you do not need to answer any written questions until it is determined that you meet the minimum qualifications. Check out the [website](#) for State of Colorado jobs including the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing jobs.

The Department offers a competitive benefits package that includes the Public Employees' Retirement Account (PERA), a 401K or 457 retirement plan, health and dental insurance options, 10 holidays, and accrual of paid sick and vacation time.

The Department is a tobacco-free campus.

Enrollment

In March 2014, there were 976,972 Coloradans enrolled in Medicaid and 61,588 Coloradans enrolled in CHP+.

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