



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING

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John W. Hickenlooper, Governor • Susan E. Birch MBA, BSN, RN, Executive Director

January 25, 2013

Re: Child Health Plan Plus and Medicaid Program Changes

Dear County and Medical Assistance Site Director:

The Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) and Medicaid programs would like to inform you about the following changes in our programs:

CHP+ HMO Enrollments

Effective January 1, 2013, children on CHP+ will be passively enrolled into a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) if there is more than one HMO option in their county. Choosing an HMO will no longer occur when the family fills out the application; the HMO selection question will be removed from both the online and the paper applications.

After a child has been determined eligible for CHP+, the parent or guardian will have 90 days to change the HMO selection by calling CHP+ Customer Service at 1-800-359-1991.

CHP+ is Expanding Eligibility to State Employees

Effective January 1, 2013, CHP+ will be expanding eligibility to children and pregnant women of State employees who have access to State of Colorado health insurance. CHP+ rules (10 CCR 2505-3 120.1.B) still require those clients who have had health insurance through their employer and their employer pays more than 50% of their premium to wait three months before being qualified for CHP+. Prenatal women and State employees applying for their children may apply after January 1, 2013.

The CHP+ at Work Program

This program will be eliminated as of December 31, 2012. CHP+ at Work was a pilot program available to employees of Denver Health and Hospital Authority to help qualified families pay a portion of the premium for their health plan offered at work. These children and pregnant women will be able to apply for CHP+. This is a qualifying event and there is not a 3 month waiting period for them.

Increasing Medicaid Income Eligibility for Pregnant Women

Effective January 1, 2013, the Medicaid income level for pregnant women will increase from 133% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 185% FPL. Women enrolled in the CHP+ Prenatal Care Program within this income bracket will move from CHP+ to Medicaid effective January 1, 2013. This change implements Senate Bill 11-250, which was passed as a condition of renewing the CHP+ Prenatal Care Program waiver and to comply with federal law. An automatic Mass update has been performed to move these women from CHP+ to Medicaid.

Aligning Medicaid Eligibility for Children at 133% FPL

Effective January 1, 2013, the Medicaid income threshold for children ages 6 through 18 will be increased from 100% to 133% FPL. Children already enrolled in CHP+ and whose families have income between 100% to 133% FPL will be moved to Medicaid at Renewal, Redetermination or when eligibility is re-run due to a change in circumstance. Children in the same family may now be enrolled in the same program.

Training was conducted for all of these changes in December 2012. The training materials can be located at our website at www.colorado.gov/hcpf and click Partners and Researchers > County and Medical Assistance Site > Training and Reference Documents > Training events.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Christine.Martinez@state.co.us for CHP+ questions or Medicaid.Eligibility@hcpf.state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Christine Martinez
CHP+ Program Specialist

Marivel Guadarrama
Eligibility Policy Section Manager

cc: Valerie Baker-Easley- Managed Care, Medicaid and CHP+ Manager
William Heller, CHP+ Division Director

Attachment: January 2013 Family Medicaid FPL Guidelines