

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Unwind Planning

Marivel Klueckman | Eligibility Division Director, HCPF
Natalie Coulter | Communications Director, HCPF



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Eligibility Updates

- **Temporary extension for all members- new CMS guidance on ex parte at individual level**
 - This is a positive effect to the member
 - Short-term system fix will be implemented in October 2023
 - Long-term system fix down the road
 - RAEs outreaching members
- **Ongoing 60-day extension for LTC members through June 2024**
 - Additional outreach coming from the Member Contact Center
 - CMS strategy that allows delay for a month, we pushed for two months
- **Both of these effective as of 9/5**
- **Reminded counties about Good Faith Extension**

CMS Strategies and Flexibilities

- HCPF reviewed the June 2023 strategies presented and considered system updates and timeframes for implementation
 - Very limited capacity for policy, operations, and systems to implement strategies
 - Currently flexibilities are set for ending with COVID Unwind, April 2024 and it takes us at 6-9 months to implement.
 - We were exploring the ‘at or below 100% FPL’ strategy but have implemented the renewal extension strategy. This may still be an option in the future.

*June 2023 CMS Strategies: <https://www.medicaid.gov/resources-for-states/downloads/state-strategies-to-prevent-procedural-terminations.pdf>

Flexibilities Colorado is Leveraging

Unhoused Flexibility

- Renew Medicaid eligibility for individuals with no income and no data returned on an ex parte basis (\$0 income strategy)

Streamlining Income Determinations

- Renew Medicaid eligibility based on financial findings from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Premium Resumption Delay

- Delay the resumption of Medicaid premiums otherwise approved under the state plan for members throughout Colorado's 12 month unwind phase

CO Specific Strategies and Flexibilities

- Customized CO implemented strategies to address the goal of mitigating procedural terminations
 - Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) to identify received renewals and start in eligibility system
 - Continuous ex parte system enhancements
 - Reformatting of the renewal packet in October 2023
 - Enhancements to the whereabouts unknown indicators for continuous coverage cases

Comms Updates

- Reconsideration language in PEAK
- Additional outreach from MCC for LTC folks re: additional 60 days to complete renewal
- Additional outreach from RAEs to folks up for renewal in Sept. re: additional 60 days for individual ex parte
- Exploring additional outreach during reconsideration period
- Transcreated toolkits- almost ready!

Questions?

