



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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Accountable Care Collaborative Member Attribution—Response to COVID-19

Fact Sheet June 2020

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has negatively impacted the health and financial well-being of many Coloradans. As a result of these unprecedented changes, the Department is planning for a significant increase in Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid program) enrollment. To prepare for these new members and ensure new members can access quality primary care services quickly, the Department is changing its methodology for attributing members to a Primary Care Medical Provider (PCMP) based on geographic proximity. Instead of geographically attributing members to the closest available PCMP, the Department will limit geographic attribution to a list of Department identified safety net providers and Essential Community Providers who have expertise in caring for large numbers of Health First Colorado members and who have the capacity to accept new members. The Department respects and appreciates the care every PCMP provides members and will continue to attribute members to all PCMPs based on a member choice, member utilization, and family relationships. The Department will monitor and assess the effect of this change in geographic attribution and will make adjustments as necessary.

Member Attribution

A central principle of the Accountable Care Collaborative is that members have a focal point of care. To achieve this, the Department automatically attributes all enrolled members to a PCMP. Members are automatically attributed to a PCMP based on the member having seen the PCMP recently, a family member’s existing attribution to a PCMP or geographic proximity. Once members are attributed to a PCMP, they are then assigned to the [Regional Accountable Entity \(RAE\) region](#) in which the PCMP’s practice site is located. The RAE is responsible for promoting members’ physical and behavioral health.

Additional details on the attribution methodology can be found in the [member attribution fact sheet](#) and [attribution frequently asked questions](#).

Revised Geographic Attribution Methodology

For new members without utilization history over the previous 18 months or a family connection to an appropriate provider, the Department will limit the geographic attribution of members to a Department list of identified safety net providers and Essential Community

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Providers (for information see [Essential Community Providers webpage](#)) contracted as PCMPs. The Department worked with the RAEs to create this list of PCMPs based on the following criteria:

- Include PCMPs who have capacity to accept new members
- Include providers with Medicaid expertise: Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Centers and Department-designated Essential Community Providers
- Include key providers that are not designated Essential Community Providers but who serve critical populations or regions, such as pediatric providers
- Exclude PCMPs that are currently closed, such as most School Based Health Centers
- Exclude family planning PCMPs that might not be appropriate for all new members
- Prioritize delivery of high-quality care to members

These initial criteria are designed to enable the Department and the RAEs to most effectively connect new members with PCMPs who have demonstrated their capacity to serve a significant percentage of Health First Colorado members. The Department will monitor the effect of this new process to ensure members have access to care and will make adjustments as necessary. In the future, the Department may expand the criteria to include consideration of PCMP performance on quality and cost outcomes, as well as population expertise.

The Department respects and appreciates the care every PCMP provides Health First Colorado members. All PCMPs will continue to have new members attributed to them based on member choice, claims history and family connection.

All members have the ability to choose a different PCMP at any time. Members can change their PCMP at [Enroll.HealthFirstColorado.com](https://enroll.healthfirstcolorado.com) or by calling Health First Colorado Enrollment between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 303-839-2120 or 888-367-6557 (State Relay: 711).

For more information, visit CO.gov/HCPF/ACCPHase2.

Or Contact Matthew Sundeen
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