

Department of Human Services Tip Sheet: Clients Enrolled in Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program)

Attribution to Primary Care Medical Provider for Individuals Outside of Child Welfare/Foster Care

Attribution Overview

- For the purposes of Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program), **attribution** is the method of identifying a patient-provider health care relationship.
- When an individual is enrolled to receive Colorado Medicaid benefits, they are identified as a **Health First Colorado member**.
- Once enrolled, the **Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF)**:
 - Attributes the member to a **primary care medical provider (PCMP)**
 - Assigns the member to a **Regional Accountable Entity (RAE)**

NOTE: All foster care children who are eligible for Health First Colorado also get attributed to a PCMP and assigned to a RAE. Refer to the separate tip sheet regarding attribution for individuals in child welfare/foster care.

Initial Attribution

STEP 1: HCPF will **automatically attribute a newly enrolled member to a PCMP** based on one of these methods.

Attribution Methods	
Utilization	A member who has received care previously has a claims history. If this utilization history was with a PCMP over the last 18 months, the member will automatically be attributed to that practice. If a child has history with a PCMP, it is ideal to have this child remain with this provider.
Family Connection	A member who has no history with a PCMP will be attributed to a practice if someone in the member's household has a history with a PCMP, if the practice is appropriate. (For example, an adult will not be attributed to a pediatric practice.)
Proximity	If a member cannot be attributed based on either utilization or family connection, the member will be attributed to the nearest appropriate PCMP in the member's region. This proximity is based on the address at time of enrollment.

STEP 2: Once the member is attributed to a PCMP, HCPF will **assign the member to a RAE** based on location of the PCMP's practice.

STEP 3: The Health First Colorado enrollment broker will **send a letter notifying the member of the PCMP and RAE assignment**.

Members Have a Choice

A member, or parent/guardian, may choose a different PCMP **at any time** by contacting **Health First Colorado Enrollment** via one of these avenues:

Online: Enroll.HealthFirstColorado.com
Phone: 303-839-2120 or 1-888-367-6557 (State Relay 711)
In Person: Available at Glendale office (member can arrange by calling the main number)

Ongoing Attribution

The process described above is used to attribute newly enrolled members to a PCMP. PCMP to PCMP reattribution is also completed every six months via one of the following methods. **But member choice always takes precedence.**

- If a member develops a stronger relationship with another provider, the member will be attributed to that PCMP.
- If the member moves and starts seeing a new PCMP, the member will eventually be attributed to that provider, unless they chose their provider by calling the enrollment broker.
- If a member loses and regains eligibility within 60 days, the member will be reattributed to their previous PCMP.
- Members who lose eligibility for 60 days or more will be attributed as a newly enrolled member and will go through the process stated above.