



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

The Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (the Department) announced in January a temporary pause on prior authorization requests (PARs) for a series of pediatric long-term home health services and home health therapies. Those included PARs for pediatric long-term home health Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) services, and home health physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech language pathology therapy services. The temporary pause was scheduled to end on June 1, 2022, at the earliest.

Effective Feb. 28, 2022, the pause will extend through March 2024 and will now include:

- Pediatric long-term home health CNA services
- Pediatric long-term home health therapies: occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology therapy
- Pediatric long-term home health intermittent skilled nursing

The two-year pause allows the Department time to engage with stakeholders, train providers on operational changes, evaluate benefit policy, and notify Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid program) members before the pause is lifted. This also gives the Department time to ensure full compliance with federal and state policy while keeping Health First Colorado members and their needs front and center.

Join us at noon on Friday, March 4, when the Department will host a session for CNA providers and family caregivers. The purpose is to understand the service needs from the family caregiver perspective. The forum will help the Department and its partners identify actionable issues and areas of opportunity. Register [here](#). Visit [Colorado.gov/hcpf/par-updates](https://colorado.gov/hcpf/par-updates) for more information.