



**COLORADO**

Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

# Attribution of Foster Care Members to Primary Care Medical Providers

*Accountable Care Collaborative Phase II June 2018*

The goals of the Accountable Care Collaborative are to improve member health while containing costs. To make these goals a reality, all Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) members will be enrolled in the Accountable Care Collaborative, attributed to a Primary Care Medical Provider (PCMP) and assigned to a Regional Accountable Entity (RAE). This includes all foster care children who are eligible for Health First Colorado.

The RAE replaces the Regional Care Collaborative Organization and Behavioral Health Organizations and is responsible for promoting both physical and behavioral health. Each of the seven regions in the state has a single RAE for the region.

## Members Are Attributed to a PCMP and Assigned to a Regional Accountable Entity

It is important for members, including foster care children, to have a focal point of care, which is why the Department will automatically attribute all enrolled members to a PCMP. Once the member has been attributed a PCMP, they are then assigned to the RAE region in which the PCMP's practice site is located.

## How Attribution Works in Phase II of the Accountable Care Collaborative

### Attribution at the Start of Accountable Care Collaborative Phase II

Beginning July 1, all full-benefit Health First Colorado members (except for those enrolled in Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly [PACE]) will be enrolled into the Accountable Care Collaborative, attributed to a PCMP and assigned to a RAE. This includes all foster care children. Members will be automatically attributed to a PCMP in this way:

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1. **Utilization:** An ACC member that has a claims history with a PCMP over the last 18 months will be automatically attributed to that practice. Specifically, the member will be attributed to the practice location associated with the billing address on the claims.
2. **Family Connection:** A member that has no history with a PCMP will be attributed to a practice where someone in their household has a history, if the practice is appropriate. For example, an adult will not be attributed to a pediatric practice.
3. **Proximity:** If an ACC member cannot be attributed based on either utilization or family connection, the member will be attributed to the closest appropriate PCMP in the member's region.

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

Health First Colorado Enrollment will send members a letter to notify them of their PCMP and RAE assignment. Members may call Health First Colorado Enrollment to choose a different PCMP. If a foster care child moves and is seeing a new PCMP, the caseworker is encouraged to call Health First Colorado Enrollment on behalf of the child.

### Ongoing Attribution

- The process described above will be used to attribute new members to a PCMP.
- PCMP to PCMP reattribution will be done every six months. If a member develops a stronger relationship with another provider, the member will be attributed to that PCMP. If the member moves and is seeing a new provider within the past 18 months, the member will continue to be attributed to that provider.
- If a member loses and regains eligibility within 60 days, the member will be reattributed to the same PCMP. Members who lose eligibility for 60 days or more will be attributed as a newly enrolled member.

### What Does This Mean for Foster Care Children?

- It is important for all members to have a focal point of care, which is why the Department encourages members to establish a relationship with their PCMP. However, foster care children can receive services from any Health First Colorado primary care provider.
- If the foster care child is seeing a PCMP other than the one they are attributed to, their guardian should contact Health First Colorado Enrollment to change the PCMP.

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- Foster care children may change their PCMP at any time.
- Foster care children can receive services at any community mental health center as the centers will be credentialed at all RAEs.

### **Apply to become a Health First Colorado provider**

County departments that provide services reimbursed by Health First Colorado can apply to become a Health First Colorado provider. This would allow the county to look up children on the Provider Web Portal to see where children are attributed. See the Provider Web Portal [Quick Guide on Verifying Member Eligibility](#). [Apply to become a Health First Colorado provider here](#).

For counties not enrolled as a Medicaid provider and who do not have access to Colorado interChange system, county staff should contact the RAE who serves their region for assistance in accessing member enrollment and assignment information.

### **Next Steps**

Understanding the unique characteristics of the foster care population, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is committed to monitoring how attribution is working for foster care children. The Department plans to meet with Colorado Human Services Directors Association (CHSDA) in August.

## **For more information**

[CO.gov/HCPF/ACCPhase2](https://www.colorado.gov/HCPF/ACCPhase2)  
[ACC Phase II Attribution Frequently Asked Questions](#)

