



## OPERATIONAL MEMO

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<b>Title:</b> Sunsetting the LTC and Buy-In 60-Day Extension	<b>Topic:</b> Eligibility Policy
<b>Audience:</b> Eligibility Sites, Departments of Human/Social Services, Eligibility Application Partners, Medical Assistance sites	<b>Sub-Topic:</b> Implementation
<b>Supersedes Number:</b> N/A	<b>Division:</b> Eligibility Division
<b>Effective Date:</b> Jan. 1, 2025	<b>Office:</b> Medicaid Operations Office
<b>Expiration Date:</b> Jan. 1, 2027	<b>Program Area:</b> Eligibility
<b>Key Words:</b> Long-Term Care, LTC, Level of Care, LOC, PEAKPro, LTSS Streamline, Working Adults with Disability, WAWD, Children with Disability Buy-In, CBwD, LTSS Stabilization	
<b>Legal Authority:</b> Section 1902(e)(14)(A) of the Social Security Act	
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<b>Approved By:</b> Marivel Klueckman	

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### Purpose and Audience:

The purpose of this Operational Memo is to provide all Eligibility Sites, (county departments of human/social services, Medical Assistance (MA) Sites), and Eligibility Application Partners (EAP) with information about the sunsetting of the LTC and Buy-In Eligibility Extension. This extension covered all Long-Term Care (LTC) aid codes (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, Nursing Facility, and Home and Community Based Services) and Working Adults with Disability (WAWD) and Children with Disabilities (CBwD) Buy-In aid codes. The system updates implemented in 2024 with CBMS Project CPPM-9472 and 10612 will be removed with CBMS Project CPPM-10684 implemented on December 14, 2025 with an effective date of January 1, 2026. This memo will outline its impact on members, eligibility workers, and the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). This guidance is intended for anyone who works

with LTC, WAwD, and CBwD and should be shared with Medicaid eligibility staff, supervisors, and outside agencies, as appropriate.

### **Information:**

In February of 2024, the Department implemented Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Streamline, a multi-faceted project intended to create efficiencies between Case Management Agencies (CMAs) and eligibility partners by utilizing automation to send and receive Level of Care (LOC) referrals between the Care and Case Management tool (CCM) and the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). This created unintended consequences of implementing this project concurrent with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwind process. As a result, the Department implemented CPPM-9472 and CPPM-10612, which provided LTC and Buy-In members who were terminating with a 60-day extension to submit their renewal along with any necessary documentation. No longer a Colorado resident, death of the member, withdrawal, incarceration (secondary aid codes), over income, and over resources were exception reasons to the 60-day extension.

The Department received approval from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to apply the 60-day LTC and Buy-In extension through December 31, 2025. As a result, the Department will implement Project CPPM-10684 MA LTC and Buy-In Eligibility Extension - Sunset on December 14, 2025 to no longer grant eligibility extensions to LTC and Buy-In eligibility determinations made on or after January 1, 2026. 60-day extensions will continue to be applied through December 31, 2025. As a result, eligibility workers and members may continue to see extensions applied through April 30, 2026. After April 30, 2026, workers should no longer see the 60-day extension applied to any member in CBMS. Additionally, the letter sent to members who had their termination paused for 60 days notifying them why their termination was paused will no longer receive this letter. LTC and Buy-In members who will be terminating will receive the standard termination Notice of Action (NOA) with 10 day noticing and appeals rights. There is no change in logic or policy to the 90-day reconsideration period which begins at the end of the member's certification period. During this 90-day reconsideration period, if the member can submit all the required paperwork or work with their eligibility worker to resolve any issues with their case and is deemed eligible, their eligibility will be reinstated back to the beginning of the month the member is found eligible. The member may request retroactive medical coverage to cover any potential gap months if the member is found eligible for those months of coverage.

In Spring 2024, the Department also added a Pend Help Desk Ticket (HDT) record to all LTC and Buy-In members as an additional protection against terminations. The Department will be removing all remaining Pend HDT records in CBMS on December 5,

2025. To safeguard the accuracy of eligibility determinations, do not re-enter the LTC/Buy-In Pend HDT reason on any case.

The Department is working with the Staff Development Division (SDD) to ensure that all mentions of the 60-day eligibility extension are removed from existing training. As this project is reverting to standard processing logic in CBMS, no new additional training will be created apart from the CBMS Build Training Summary (Dec2025) which will be available on COLearn on December 5, 2025.

**Action To Be Taken:**

CPPM-9472 created the MA LTC and Buy-In Eligibility Extension COGNOS report. This report will continue to be available through June of 2026. After April 30, 2026, no additional members should be populated on the report.

With the removal of the LTC/Buy-In Pend HDT records on all cases as of December 5, 2025, do not utilize this Pend HDT reason. The Department will monitor the usage of this option and reach out to counties directly to remove this entry.

**Attachment(s):**

None

**HCPF Contact:**

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