

Policy Statement

Health Information Office, Eligibility Division

Subject: Medicaid Eligibility of Individuals Residing in Community Corrections Facilities (or "Halfway Houses")

Effective Date: June 1, 2016

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy Statement is to advise County Departments of Human/Social Services, Medical Assistance and application assistance sites, Department of Public Safety (DPS) funded Community Corrections facilities (sometimes referred to as "Halfway Houses"), and other stakeholders of a change in Medicaid eligibility policy for individuals residing in Community Corrections facilities. This Policy Statement provides policy and procedures for handling Medicaid applications and supersedes any previous guidance regarding the inability for individuals residing in Community Corrections facilities to be eligible for Medicaid-covered services.

This Policy Statement provides that Medicaid-covered services are available to residents of Community Corrections facilities who would otherwise be Medicaid eligible, including individuals who reside at the facility involuntarily.

Background

Historically, individuals residing in Community Corrections facilities were not eligible for Medicaid-covered services because of guidance from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). For many years, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department) has been leading the effort and working with our partners at DPS to provide access to health care to the residents in Community Corrections facilities and overturn the historical guidance provided by the federal government. Efforts included numerous letters from the Department, stakeholders, members of Congress, the Governor and Attorney General that requested the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services expand coverage to these individuals.

Community Corrections is a sentencing or placement alternative to incarceration. On a given day, there are approximately 4,000 individuals participating in one of 33 residential Community Corrections programs funded through DPS throughout the state. Residents have an average stay of between six and seven months. The residential programs are run by a combination of public providers, non-profit providers, and private organizations. However, all Community Corrections providers must perform similar levels of core supervision and treatment practices according to professional standards for management and operations set by the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice. Community Corrections programs require residents to gain employment so that they can participate in conventional society. Residents are also required to attend educational classes and treatment according to their individualized treatment needs.

On April 28, 2016, CMS issued [SHO#16-007](#) (the Letter). The Letter clarifies when Medicaid-covered services are available to individuals residing in state or local, private or publicly operated, community corrections facilities. Pursuant to the Letter, Medicaid-covered services are now available for Medicaid-eligible individuals living in community corrections facilities unless residents do not have “freedom of movement and association” while living in the facility.

The Department has collaborated with DPS and has identified which Community Corrections facilities allow residents freedom of movement and association as the term is defined in the Letter. Freedom of movement and association means that residents:

- (1) are not precluded from working outside the facility in employment available to individuals who are not under justice system supervision;
- (2) can use community resources (e.g., libraries, grocery stores, recreation, and education) at will; and
- (3) can seek health care treatment in the broader community to the same or similar extent as other Medicaid enrollees in the state.

Policy

The Department and DPS have determined that Community Corrections facilities, allow residents freedom of movement and association and meet the definition as provided by CMS. Medicaid-covered services are available to residents of Community Corrections facilities who would otherwise be Medicaid-eligible, including individuals who reside at the facility involuntarily.

This Policy Statement applies to all Community Corrections facilities, except for Gateways: Through the Rockies located at 2739 E. Las Vegas St., Colorado Springs, CO 80906. Gateways: Through the Rockies is a ten-person facility located on the grounds of a state



correctional facility and does not provide residents freedom of movement and association, and their health care is provided through another arrangement with the county.

Procedure or Information

The Department encourages current residents of Community Corrections facilities to apply for Medicaid, and for new residents to apply when they begin their residency in a Community Corrections facility. Individuals may apply online at [Colorado.gov/PEAK](https://colorado.gov/PEAK). Applicants who apply online may receive a real-time eligibility determination. Community Corrections facility residents applying for Medical Assistance through PEAK should not indicate that they are incarcerated in the application.

Also, Community Corrections facilities can work with Medical Assistance (MA), Certified Application Assistance Sites (CAAS), and other eligibility partners to assist their residents with enrolling into Medicaid in-person. A list of MA Sites by county is attached to this Policy Statement. County Departments of Human/Social Services also can assist with an in-person application.

With the exception of the Gateways: Through the Rockies facility, County Departments of Human/Social Services and application assistance sites shall treat applications from individuals that live in Community Corrections the same as applications received from a member that lives outside of a government-run public institution. County Departments of Human/Social Services or application assistance sites will need to submit a CBMS Help Desk Ticket requesting an override to authorize Medical Assistance when the application in CBMS indicates that the individual is residing in a Community Corrections facility (or Halfway House). This is a temporary solution to authorize Medical Assistance until a permanent system change is implemented.

Staff contacts:

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Medical Assistance (MA) Site Directory

Call or visit one of the MA Sites listed below for help in completing an application or to obtain status on an existing application for Medicaid.

Appointments are not required to drop off applications. To reduce your wait time, you should call to schedule an appointment at one of the MA Sites listed.

*Additional application assistance information can be found on the Mapping Tool at the following link:
<http://www.colorado.gov/apps/maps/hcpf.map>*

ADAMS COUNTY			
Advanced Patient Advocacy at North Suburban Medical Center 9191 Grant Street Thornton, CO 80229 M - F; 7:30 am – 4:00 pm 1(877)-215-7736	Children's Hospital (DH) 13123 East 16 th Avenue Aurora, CO 80045 M - F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (303) 602-2300	Servicios de La Raza At Historic City Hall 22 S. 4 th Avenue Brighton, CO 80601 Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (303) 953-5943	
ARAPAHOE COUNTY			
Colorado Access 11100 E. Bethany Drive Suite 100, Aurora, CO 80014 M - F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (303) 755-4138	Advanced Patient Advocacy at Swedish Medical Center 01 E. Hampden Avenue Englewood, CO 80113 1 st Monday of each Month 8:00 am – 4:30 pm 1(877)-215-7736	Advanced Patient Advocacy at Medical Center of Aurora 1400 S. Potomac Street Suite 200 Aurora, CO 80012 8:00 am – 4:30 pm 1(877)-215-7736	
DENVER COUNTY			
Advanced Patient Advocacy (APA) 4590 Geneva Street Denver, CO 80238 M – F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm 1(877) 215-7736	Advanced Patient Advocacy at Rose Medical Center 4567 E. 9 th Avenue Denver, CO 80220 3 rd Tuesday of each Month 8:00 am – 4:30 pm 1(877)-215-7736	Advanced Patient Advocacy at P/SL 1719 E. 19 th Avenue Denver, CO 80218 4 th Wednesday of each Month 8:00 am – 4:30 pm 1(877)-215-7736	Denver Health (DH) Hospital & Authority Mailing Address: 723 Delaware Street Denver, CO 80204 Customer Service (all locations) (303) 602-2300
723 Delaware Street (DH) Denver, CO 80204 M – F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (303) 602-2300	Eastside Family Health Center (DH) 501 28th Street Denver, CO 80205 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:45 pm (303) 602-2310	La Casa/Quigg Newton Family Health Center (DH) 4545 Navajo Street Denver, CO 80211 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:45 pm (303) 602-2310	Lowry Family Health Center (DH) 1001 Yosemite Street Denver, CO 80230 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:45 pm (303) 602-2310
Montbello Family Health Center (DH) 12600 E. Albrook Drive Denver, CO 80239 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:45 pm (303) 602-2310	Park Hill Family Health Center (DH) 4995 E. 33 rd Avenue Denver, CO 80207 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:45 pm (303) 602-2310	Sandos Westside Family Health Center (DH) 1100 Federal Blvd. Denver, CO 80207 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:45 pm (303) 602-2310	Westwood Family Health Center (DH) 4320 West Alaska Place Denver, CO 80219 Third week of each month M – F; 8:00 am – 4:30 pm (720) 321-0425

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.
www.colorado.gov/hcpf



DENVER COUNTY			
Women's Care Clinic (DH) 790 Bannock Street Pavilion C Denver, CO 80204 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (303) 602-2310	Pueblo StepUp HealthSet 2420 W. 26 th Avenue Suite D450 Denver, CO 80211 M – F; 8:30 am – 5:00 pm (303) 765-8851	Servicios de La Raza 3131 W. 14 th Avenue Denver, CO 80204 M – F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (303) 953-5940	Denver Indian Health & Family Services (DIHFS) 1633 Fillmore Street Suite GL-1 Denver, CO 80206 M – F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (303) 953-6600
DOUGLAS COUNTY			
Advanced Patient Advocacy at Sky Ridge Medical Center 10101 Ridge Gate Parkway Lone Tree, CO 80124 2 nd Friday of each Month 8:00 am – 4:30 pm 1(877)-215-7736			
EL PASO COUNTY			
Pueblo StepUp Colorado Springs SET Clinic 2864 S. Circle, Suite 450 Colorado Springs, CO 80906 M – F; 7:30 am – 4:00 pm (719) 719-776-8872	Peak Vista Community Health Centers 340 Printers Parkway Colorado Springs, CO 80910 M – F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (719) 344-6430	Peak Vista Community Health Centers 3207 North Academy Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80917 M – F; 7:30 am – 4:00 pm (719) 344-6430	Peak Vista Enrollment Services 2828 International Circle, Ste. 120 Colorado Springs, CO 80910 M – F; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (719) 344-6430
FREMONT COUNTY			
Pueblo StepUp at St. Thomas More Medical Center 1338 Phay Avenue Canon City, CO 81212 (719) 719-776-8872 Please call for appointment			
JEFFERSON COUNTY			
Jefferson County Schools (JEFFCO) 1829 Denver West Dr. #27 Golden, CO 80401 M – F; 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (303) 982-1144	Advanced Patient Advocacy at Lutheran Medical Center 8300 W. 38 th Avenue Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 M – F; 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (877) 215-7736		
PUEBLO COUNTY			
Parkview Medical Center 405 West 15 th Street Suite 115 Pueblo, CO 81003 M – F; 8 am – 4:30 pm (719) 584-4508	Pueblo Step-Up 1925 E Orman Avenue Suite 640A Pueblo, CO 81004 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (719) 557-5886	CHICAA 301 N. Main Street Suite 111 Pueblo, CO 81003 M – F; 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (719) 696-2396 Saturday by appt. only	

