



Date: October 2, 2017

To: Medically Dependent Children Program Providers
Managed Care Organizations

Subject: Temporary Extension of Medicaid for Certain Medically Dependent Children Program Waiver Program Recipients Who Lose Supplemental Security Income and Medicaid

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is notifying Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) waiver providers of a new process to temporarily extend Medicaid eligibility for certain individuals who lose Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and are enrolled in the MDCP waiver program. With a denial of SSI, Medicaid is automatically ended. This letter is for informational purposes regarding a process change affecting certain individuals receiving MDCP waiver services and does not affect the providers' current business practices.¹

Effective September 23, 2017:

- An individual who is 17 years of age or younger who loses SSI benefits and Medicaid² due to an increase in income may continue to be Medicaid eligible for 30 days after the date of denial of Medicaid, if the individual is enrolled in MDCP.
- An individual who is 18 through 20 years of age who loses SSI and Medicaid due to an increase in Disabled Adult Children's benefits may continue to be Medicaid eligible for 60 days after the date of denial of Medicaid, if the individual is enrolled in MDCP.

With implementation of this policy change, individuals who lose Medicaid as described above will receive the following documents at their mailing address currently on file with the Health and Human Services Commission:

- H1296, Notice of SSI Medicaid Ending;
- TF0001, Notice of Case Action; and
- Form H1200, Application for Assistance - Your Texas Benefits.

¹ This change is not related to HB 3292, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, relating to continuing medical assistance for certain individuals.

² This information letter does not apply to situations in which the individual loses eligibility for SSI due to an increase in income but continues to be eligible for Medicaid.

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H1296, Notice of SSI Medicaid Ending, informs the individual of the denial date of the SSI and Medicaid along with the reason for the denial. The notice also provides information about who may be eligible for other types of Medicaid available, and informs the individual of ways to apply for Medicaid.

Form H1200 is a Medicaid application and must be completed and returned within the required timeframe described in the TF0001 to determine the individual's ongoing eligibility for Medicaid.

TF0001, Notice of Case Action, informs the individual of the temporary Medicaid coverage dates; informs the individual of the need to complete and return the enclosed Medicaid application for a determination of ongoing eligibility for Medicaid; and provides the required timeframe for returning the Medicaid application.

If requested by the individual or their legally authorized representative, the service coordinator may assist with completing and submitting the Medicaid application and follows current policy specific to the individual's MDCP waiver program.

If the Health and Human Services Commission does not receive the Medicaid application within the timeframe described on the TF001 or if the individual's SSI benefits are not reinstated by the Social Security Administration prior to the end date of the temporary extension of Medicaid, the individual will lose Medicaid financial eligibility for the MDCP waiver program.

An individual or the individual's authorized representative may apply for benefits with the Health and Human Services Commission in one of the following ways:

- **Apply online:** Visit the Health and Human Services Commission website at: yourtexasbenefits.com
- **Call:** 2-1-1 or 1-877-541-7905; select a language and press 2 to apply over the phone or ask for a paper application to be mailed.
- **Apply in person:** call 2-1-1 or 1-877-541-7905; select a language and press 1 to ask for the nearest Health and Human Services Commission's office location.

An individual or the individual's authorized representative may contact the Social Security Administration for SSI-related eligibility questions:

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- **Online at:** www.socialsecurity.gov
- **Call:** 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- **Visit:** Find a local Social Security Administration office by zip code search at: secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp

For questions about this notice, please contact us at HHSC Managed Care Initiatives: Managed_Care_Initiatives@hhsc.state.tx.us. If an individual needs assistance submitting Medicaid application documents, please contact the individual's managed care organization.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

[signature on file]

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