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Topic: Medical Benefits

Subject: Overview of [June & July SSP Medical and TANF Program Changes](#)

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): CAF Self-Sufficiency only |

Message: CAF Self-Sufficiency medical programs will be undergoing significant policy changes in the next few months. One of the changes will also affect the way the Client Maintenance (CM) system handles TANF cases at redetermination. We want to give you a preview of what will be changing and why we're making the changes. Later this month a policy transmittal will be released detailing the rule and Family Services Manual changes. Additionally, from May 15 – 18, videoconferences detailing these changes have been scheduled at various sites throughout the State (see the attached list for times and locations).

June OHP-OPU Premium Requirement Changes

Effective June 1st, we will no longer impose 6-month penalties for non-payment of OHP Standard premiums. Also, clients with income of 10% or less of the Federal Poverty Limit (FPL) will no longer be required to pay premiums; they will be exempt and any past due premium arrearage will be removed.

Clients with income above 10% FPL will still be required to pay premiums of \$9 or higher, but they will not be disqualified for failure to pay during their certification. They will be required to pay when they reapply for OHP Standard.

Administrative Rules will be amended for June 1. CM system changes to support the new requirements will be implemented during May end of month processing and will

include removal of the ODQ and ADA coding and the addition of a new 10% or less FPL premium exemption code.

The OHP premium requirement changes are the result of legislative action during the last legislative session.

June CHP Certification Change

Effective June 1, children eligible for OHP-CHP will be put on 12-month certifications instead of the current 6-month. A new CM system "CHP" need/resource item will be added to track the 12-month certification.

The CHP certification expansion from 6 to 12-months is due to an OHP waiver amendment.

Administrative rules will be amended for June 1. CM system changes will be implemented during May end of month processing and in June.

June "Due Process" Requirements Changes

To meet legal "due process" requirements, we need to review for all medical programs prior to ending benefits and keep cases open while we make the eligibility decision. To meet due process, we will change the way we handle medical program redeterminations. One of the due process redetermination changes will also affect TANF clients:

- Beginning in June, a new monthly report will be created of OHP and EXT clients who may be eligible for MAA or MAF. The report will use FS income information to calculate which clients may be under the MAA/MAF income limits. Only OHP/EXT clients with non-TBA, non-SRS FS cases will be included in the report. If eligible for MAA or MAF, the cases should be converted prior to the end of their OHP/EXT eligibility. No new application is required.
- Effective June 30th, we can no longer automatically close OHP or EXT cases when the client has established a date of request (DOR) for medical before the end of the eligibility period. A new CM system code will be added that will allow eligibility workers to bypass the automatic closure of EXT and OHP cases for clients who have established a DOR by calling, writing or submitting a redetermination packet. Cases without the new code will still automatically close during CM system end of month processing, so it will be crucial that the new code be added as needed to prevent closure.
- Effective June 30th, TANF/MAA/MAF cases will automatically close based on their review date. A timely continuing 10-day notice will automatically be mailed to cases prior to closure. The same CM system code used for OHP and EXT cases who have established a DOR must be added to the TANF/MAA/MAF

cases to prevent automatic case closure for any client who has established a DOR for medical.

- To support the eligibility process and provide better income data, we will also be requiring MAA/MAF cases have at least one income need/resource item. If the family has no income, the CM system will require an EML or SLF need/resource of \$0.

The procedural changes are being implemented based on legal opinions from the Attorney General's office.

Administrative rules will be amended for June 1st. CM system changes will be implemented during May end of month processing and during June.

June Reapplication Mailing & Notice Changes

Effective with the June 7210 and 415F redetermination mailing, we will be revising the medical redetermination mailing process:

- Clients whose OHP or EXT medical review is due at the same time or one month later than their FS certification end date will be mailed a 415F "Application for Services" redetermination packet instead of the 7210 "OHP Application" reapplication packet. Clients who do not have a FS companion case but whose OHP or EXT is not carried at the Statewide Processing Center (5503) will be mailed the 415F packet. OHP only clients at 5503 will still be mailed the 7210 reapplication packet.
- Children turning 19 on OHP, EXT, MAA or MAF cases will be mailed a reapplication packet. They will also be mailed a courtesy notice advising them they are aging off of their medical program and must reapply.
- OHP-OPP women will be mailed a reapplication packet the month before their protected eligibility ends.

The reapplication packet mailing changes are being revised at field request and to provide better customer service. We're hoping it will help reduce the number of reapplications clients must submit, help match redetermination periods and reduce confusion for 19 year olds and OHP-OPP clients.

July Citizenship Requirement

The federal government has passed a new law requiring all Medicaid program clients provide documentation of citizenship. The new requirements do not affect non-citizens; their documentation requirements are unchanged.

The new citizenship requirements have not been finalized, but we have been told the following:

- All Medicaid clients, adults and children, must have documentation of citizenship at application and redetermination. Adults must also provide identification to support their citizenship documentation. Children are not required to provide ID, their parents may attest to their identity.
- A new citizenship field will be added to the CI Person/Alias Update screen accessed from the CI-FIND screen. Eligibility workers will be able to review and update the field to manage citizenship issues. Clients marked with a “V” (for verified) will have met the citizenship requirements. In July, we hope to be able to use available, federally approved data, to update the field and reduce the number of times clients will need to be pended for citizenship.

Administrative rules will be amended for July 1st. CI system changes will be implemented in June or July.

Training

“**June 2006 Medical Program Policy Changes**” training detailing these changes have been scheduled at various sites throughout the State (see the attached list for times and locations). You can begin signing up for the training on May 10th using the online training registration.

We will also be revising the Family Services Manual and issuing transmittals to provide more information about the policy and training.

Questions?

Please direct questions to the Medical Program Analysts at the generic “SSP-Policy, Medical” GroupWise address or to:

Joyce Clarkson 503 945-6106
Michelle Mack 503 947-5129
Michael Avery 503 945-6072

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contact(s):	See above list		
Phone:		Fax:	
E-mail:			