

Health Care COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Talking Points

Use this document as a guide to help answer questions from Minnesota Health Care Program (MHCP) enrollees during the COVID-19 public health emergency. In this document “you” or “your” refers to the enrollee and “processing agencies” to DHS, county or tribal processing agencies.

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, processing agencies want to ensure your continued coverage to the extent possible on Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP), including Medical Assistance (MA) and MinnesotaCare.

What do MHCP enrollees need to know about reporting changes during the COVID-19 emergency?

- You are still required to report changes, such as address changes, income changes, asset changes, household member changes and changes in marital or pregnancy status.
- Report changes to your county, tribal or state processing agency:
 - Within 10 days of the change for MA enrollees
 - Within 30 days of the change for MinnesotaCare enrollees
- Processing agencies must keep your coverage open during this time to comply with state and federal emergency rules; therefore, they will act only on certain changes during the COVID-19 emergency including:
 - Changes that give you more or better MHCP coverage or lowers your costs such as a decrease in your income.
 - Certain changes that will result in your coverage being closed such as:
 - You are no longer a Minnesota resident.
 - You requested that your coverage be closed.
 - You passed away.
 - You are on MinnesotaCare and become incarcerated.
 - You are on MinnesotaCare and enroll in certain health insurance that provides minimum essential coverage.
- Certain noncitizen children who turn age 21 and noncitizen pregnant women who have reached the end of the 60-day postpartum period may lose MA coverage or be moved to another health care program.
- The state receives enhanced federal funding during the COVID-19 public health emergency for services. To receive this funding, processing agencies cannot process other changes that would result in reduced coverage or end your coverage. However, you must still report these changes and we may act on them after the emergency has ended.
- If you report all required changes timely, you will not be asked to pay back the amounts paid for coverage provided to you during the COVID-19 emergency.
- If you do not want MA or MinnesotaCare, please contact your county or tribal agency and ask for your case to be closed. If everyone in your household receives MinnesotaCare, call DHS Health Care Consumer Support at 800-657-3672 or 651-297-3862.

What do MHCP enrollees need to know about renewals during the COVID-19 emergency?

- You are not required to complete a renewal at this time.

- You may receive a Health Care Renewal Notice indicating that your coverage has been automatically renewed. If you received this notice, please review it and report any changes in the information to your servicing agency.
- Even if you didn't receive this renewal notice, your eligibility and coverage will continue during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Agencies will mail additional information to you at a later date.
- If you see a Health Care Renewal Notice in your online account indicating that you need to renew, please disregard this notice. Agencies will mail additional information to you at a later date.