



**DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES**

Navigator/Certified Application Counselor Statewide Webinar

November 1, 2023

Overview of Minnesota's Mitigation Plan 2.0

REINSTATE

Restore Coverage



Action

DHS will **identify individuals** who should have been auto renewed on an individual basis but were closed for not completing a renewal. Processing agencies will **manually reinstate coverage** and renew eligibility.

Cohort

Applies to the **July, August, and September** cohorts

RENEW

Pause Procedural Terminations



DHS will **pause procedural terminations** and **identify individuals** who should have been auto renewed on an individual basis. Processing agencies will **manually renew** these individuals.

Applies to the **October, November, and December** cohorts

EXTEND

Implement Mitigation Strategy



DHS will **identify households** with one or more enrollees who likely should have been individually auto renewed and suppress generation of renewal forms. Processing agencies will **manually renew** eligibility for 12 months until the next renewal period.

Applies to the **January and future** cohorts until the system changes are made

FIX

Change Systems and Processes



DHS will **change systems and processes** to conduct renewals on an individual level.


Implementation Status Update - Reinstate



Approach	Key Deliverables	Due Date	Status
Reinstate – <i>Restore Coverage</i> Applies to the July, August, and September cohorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify affected individuals and develop reportDevelop reinstatement notices for affected individualsTrain DHS eligibility workers	Must be completed by 11/30/2023	Active – On Track ✓ Affected individuals identified ✓ Report developed ✓ Reinstatement notices developed

- Approximately 12,745 Minnesotans – mostly children – will see their coverage restored by November 30th.
- To help ease the workload on county and tribal eligibility workers, DHS will manually reinstate coverage for these impacted enrollees and mail them reinstatement letters.
- The letters include information about what to do if they were charged for health care services that would otherwise have been covered while they were disenrolled.

Implementation Status Update - Renew

Approach	Key Deliverables	Due Date	Status
 <p>Renew – Pause Procedural Terminations</p> <p>Applies to the October, November, and December cohorts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend coverage for 3 months for each renewal cohort Identify affected individuals and develop report Develop notices for affected individuals Train eligibility workers 	<p>DHS work must be completed by 10/25/2023 for October cohort</p> <p>Workers must complete for October cohort by 12/31/2023</p>	<p>Active – On Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Coverage extended for October cohort ✓ Extension/closure notice sent to October cohort enrollees who didn't return a renewal ✓ Report being validated for October cohort ✓ Eligibility workers trained

- This will ensure an estimated 54,000 Minnesotans keep their health insurance.
- This affords time for additional outreach to encourage them to return their renewal paperwork and gives workers time to process their manual renewals.
- County eligibility workers will do the manual work for our FCA enrollees and DHS for our ABD enrollees.

Implementation Status - Extend



Approach	Key Deliverables	Due Date	Status
<p>Extend – Implement Mitigation Strategy</p> <p>Applies to the January and future cohorts until system changes are made</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify affected households and develop report Suppress renewal forms for affected households Train eligibility workers 	<p>DHS work must be completed by 10/16/2023 for January cohort</p> <p>Workers must complete for January cohort by 1/31/2024</p>	<p>Active – On Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Affected households identified for January cohort ✓ Report for January cohort developed and sent to processing agencies ✓ Renewal forms suppressed for affected households in the January cohort ✓ Eligibility workers trained

- If patterns of enrollment are consistent from January to May, this will help approximately 121,000 Minnesotans avoid a gap in health care coverage.
- County eligibility workers will complete this work for MA FCA only cases, DHS for MinnesotaCare and mixed households. The process has been updated and trained to county and tribal workers.
- Enrollees will receive notices that their MA or MinnesotaCare has been renewed.

Enrollee Outreach

- Despite these changes resulting from the CMS-required mitigation plan, messages to enrollees about renewals remain clear and consistent:
 - Make sure you update your address if you've moved in the last four years.
 - Watch your mail for renewal information.
 - Your notification might say your coverage has been automatically renewed.
 - It may also have instructions for returning paperwork.
 - It may say that coverage has been reinstated.
 - Return paperwork as soon as possible.
 - Learn more about renewals at mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage.

Bulletin #23-21-23

DHS Announces A Simplified Renewal Process for Certain MA-FCA and MinnesotaCare Enrollees

- States must attempt to auto renew an enrollee's eligibility using case file information and reliable electronic sources before sending a paper renewal form and requesting information from the enrollee.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) invited states to implement certain temporary strategies to prevent procedural terminations for eligible enrollees during the unwinding.
- This strategy is included in the ex parte process for MA enrollees who are age 65 or older, blind or who have a disability.
- Now we are putting this in place for MA families with children and adults and MinnesotaCare enrollees beginning with eligibility renewals for January 2024.

Simplified Renewal Process

DHS will identify cases that were not auto renewed by METS, but that qualify to be manually auto renewed based on the federal waiver requirements.

- Cases with gross income verified for SNAP, MFIP or Tribal TANF benefits that is at or below the applicable MA income limit.
- For MinnesotaCare, all cases with SNAP, MFIP or Tribal TANF recipients qualify due to the 200% FPG income limit.
- The temporary federal waiver allows us to disregard differences in household composition and income counting between the programs.
- These cases will be manually auto renewed by county, tribal and DHS eligibility workers.

Enrollee Impacts

- MA and MinnesotaCare cases selected to be manually auto renewed will not receive renewal forms.
- Enrollees will receive notices that their MA or MinnesotaCare has been renewed.
- No enrollee action is needed.

Bulletin #23-21-24

DHS Expands Medical Assistance for Former Foster Care Youth

- Expands MA for former foster care youth who were in Medicaid and foster care in *any state*, not just MN.
- Removes the requirement that the youth be ineligible for other categories of MA to qualify for MA for former foster care youth.
- 2023 MN legislature passed a law to simplify the rules for former foster care youth via a federal waiver.
- The changes to the MA for former foster care youth basis of eligibility help remove barriers that youth aging out of foster care experience in accessing health coverage and obtaining medical services.

MA for Former Foster Care Youth

- Applicants and enrollees are not required to provide proof of foster care or enrollment in Minnesota MA or another Medicaid program when their foster care ended.
- Former foster care youth who continue to meet all eligibility factors, including being under age 26, must have MA eligibility automatically renewed without having to complete a renewal form.
- MA for former foster care youth ends the last day of the month the youth turns 26 years old, with 10-day advance notice. MA eligibility must be redetermined under all other MA bases of eligibility without a new application, before MA is closed.



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Thank you!

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