First Friday Forum

March 1, 2024

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Washington State Health Care Authority

Agenda

- Health Care Authority updates
- Medicare Savings Programs
- Apple Health for Kids
- Volunteer assister annual security training
- PER and Retro updates
- Resources

HCA updates

Washington State Health Care Authority

Apple Health webinars

- Pre-recorded quarterly webinars includes time afterwards to ask questions on topic
- Sign up to register or if not able to attend, sessions will be posted on our stakeholder and training webpage
- Subscribe to HCA's GovDelivery to know:
  - Topics that will be covered
  - Date and time of webinar
- Great use to train newly hired assistors or as a refresher

Apple Health webinars

- If you have an Apple Health topic you would like for us to present on, contact us at:
  - Contact us at: AHEligibilityPolicy@HCA.WA.GOV
- We have the following dates scheduled:
  - March 7, 2024
  - June 6, 2024
  - September 5, 2024
  - December 5, 2024

Medicare Savings Program

Washington State Health Care Authority

Medicare Saving Programs (MSP)

- MSPs help pay some of the costs that Medicare does not cover such as:
  - Part A Premiums
  - Part B Premiums
  - Deductibles
  - Co-insurance

MSP eligibility criteria

- Individuals who are entitled to receive Medicare Part A and;
- Meets general eligibility rules in WAC 182-503-0505
- Meets MSP income limits
- MSPs do not have a resource test
- **Annual income limit increases** April 1

MSP income limit increase

Currently 04/01/2024 (2023 FPL)	QMB 0-100% FPL 1 person: $0-$1215	SLMB 101-120% FPL 1 person: $1216-$1458	QI-1 121-135% FPL 1 person: $1459-$1640
Coming 04/01/2024 (2024 FPL)	QMB 0-110% FPL 1 person: **$1,381**	SLMB 111-120% FPL 1 person: **$1,506**	QI-1 121-138% FPL 1 person: **$1,732**

Apply for Classic Medicaid

- Individuals age 65 or older, who have blindness or a disability, and receive Medicare, apply for Apple Health Classic coverage:
  - **Online:** Go to washingtonconnection.org/home/ - select "Apply Now."
  - **Paper:** Submit an *Application for Aged Blind Disabled or Long-Term Services and Support (HCA 18-005)
  - **Phone:** Request an application by calling 1-877-501-2233.
  - **In-person:** local community services office.
  - Free interpreter services are available.

***Source:** hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/18-005.pdf

Apple Health for Kids

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Continuous eligibility for kids

- Children who are enrolled in free Apple Health program are eligible for continuous coverage up to the age of 6 years old.
- HCA began work to assure kids have continuous coverage since last June.
- This has been a manual process staff have been maintaining.
- Systems will be updated in March to make this an automated process.
  - Visit: hca.wa.gov/apple-health-children to learn more.

Volunteer Assister Annual Training

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Volunteer assister access

- Community partners with access to Washington Healthplanfinder have the ability to assist individuals and families with Apple Health coverage.
- To apply for access, community partners must be affiliated with an organization.
- Complete all 7 modules of the Community-based training, including a final test.

Volunteer assister training

- To maintain your access, as an HCA community-based volunteer assister, you must complete the **annual** security training for Washington Healthplanfinder.
- The training provides guidance on security and privacy practices for Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) compliance.
- This establishes a baseline of security and privacy awareness when using Washington Healthplanfinder.

Volunteer Assister training

- This mandatory training must be completed **annually** to maintain access to Washington Healthplanfinder.
- Emails were sent providing several training dates and times to choose from.
- You must attend **one** of these training dates.
- For more information, questions, or if you did not receive the training email, contact: hcavolunteerassister@hca.wa.gov

Post-Eligibility Reviews

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Post-eligibility review (PER)

- PER is the verification process completed by HCA staff when the attestation of income is not compatible with information obtained through cross-matches and the crossmatch shows the individual may not be eligible.
- PERs were suspended during the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and resumed May 2023.
- **Reminder:** If more information is needed, letters are sent to individuals, and they must respond to avoid termination in coverage.

Retro coverage

MAGI retro

Oldest received date	Cases to be worked
01/05/24	959

Apple Health resources

Community event requests

- Want HCA to join your event in-person or virtually?
- Contact Apple Health Communications: ahcommunications@hca.wa.gov

Consumer Notices Workgroup

- The Consumer Notices Workgroup is currently looking for Apple Health consumers to attend and complete email reviews of the letters developed by the workgroup and provide feedback.
  - Participants receive a quarterly $50 gift card
- To participate in the Apple Health Consumer Notices Workgroup as a consumer, contact jasmine.sannicolas@hca.wa.gov.

Cross agency desk aid

- The cross-agency desk aid* has been updated.
- Includes contact information for DSHS, HBE, HCA, OIC, and additional supports.

***Source:** hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/customer_support_center_referrals.pdf

Washington State Health Care Authority

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- Visit: public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAHCA/subscriber/new

Resources

- HCA Area Representatives
  - hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/area_representatives.pdf
- HCA Community-Based Specialists
  - hca.wa.gov/hcacommunitystaff
- HCA Stakeholder & Training page
  - hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/i-help-others-apply-and-access-apple-health/webinars-video-and-presentations
- HCA reference guides
  - hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/reference-guides

Questions

- **MEDS email:**
  - AskMAGI@hca.wa.gov
- **Managed Care questions:**
  - HCAMCPrograms@hca.wa.gov
- **Email verification:**
  - Apple@hca.wa.gov
- **Data requests:**
  - HCAData@hca.wa.gov
- **Apple Health Eligibility Policy:**
  - HCAAHEligibilityPolicy@hca.wa.gov

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