

FIA INFORMATION MEMO

Effective Date: May 1, 2023

Control Number: 23-20 Issuance Date: May 26, 2026

TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT, FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION DIVISION SUPERVISORS AND

ELIGIBILITY STAFF

FROM: LA SHERRA AYALA, FIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEBBIE RUPPERT, MDH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN MA COVERAGE GROUPS

POST PHE

PROGRAM AFFECTED: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)

LONG-TERM CARE MEDICAID (LTC)

WAIVER (WV)

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

SUMMARY

As a result of the end of continuous coverage requirement on April 30, 2023 and the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) on May 11, 2023, special rules will apply to active Medical Assistance (MA), Long-Term Care Medicaid (LTC), and Waiver cases (WV).

As a part of the PHE unwinding, a redetermination must be completed on most Medicaid cases before a customer can be disenrolled or moved to a lower coverage group. This will include some coverage groups for which redeterminations are not typically conducted.

Updates have been made to the Eligibility and Enrollment (E&E) system to ensure the appropriate actions are taken on cases.

This Information Memo outlines the system updates that have been made to specific coverage groups.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC COVERAGE GROUPS AND SYSTEM UPDATES:

• S01

The S01 coverage group is a tag-along Medicaid coverage given to customers who are actively receiving benefits through the Public Assistance to Adults (PAA) program. Due to the PHE, customers were able to maintain S01 coverage even when they lost PAA eligibility.

The E&E system will be programmed to close all S01 cases without an associated PAA case on May 31, 2023. Customers will receive a closing notice 10 days before the S01 case closes.

Additionally, on April 1, 2023, a notice was sent to these customers and their authorized representatives alerting them to the upcoming closure. The notice encourages customers to immediately apply for coverage in MHC if they are potentially Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) eligible, rather than waiting until their case closes on May 31, 2023.

The Medicaid No Wrong Door (MNWD) process will assist with transferring customers to MHC if they are potentially MAGI eligible. Additionally, any customers who are potentially non-Modified Adjusted Gross Income (non-MAGI) eligible will be automatically transferred to the correct coverage group within E&E at the time of the S01 closure.

• S99

The S99 coverage group is for those customers who are aged, blind, and disabled and in a spend-down due to exceeding the income limits for the S98 coverage group. Typically, an S99 has a 6-month certification period. Due to the PHE, however, customers were able to maintain their S99 coverage indefinitely once they met their spend-down.

For any S99 customers who have reached or exceeded the six-month certification period as of April 30, 2023, their S99 coverage must be closed as a part of the PHE unwinding. Customers who have met or exceeded the 6-month certification period as of April 30, 2023, will be assigned a redetermination due date based on the month in which they applied. The normal redetermination generation and processing will take place. If these customers fail to submit their redeterminations by the assigned redetermination due dates, their cases will close at the end of the certification period.

NOTE: This process will apply only to those S99 cases that have met or exceeded the six-month certification period as of April 30, 2023.

• S02 and L01

Customers in the S02 and L01 coverage groups are entitled to Medicaid coverage based on their eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Under normal case processing rules, when customers lose SSI eligibility, their S02 or L01 is closed, and they are subsequently placed into a transitional coverage group. During the PHE however, customers who lost SSI eligibility were allowed to maintain their S02 or L01 coverage.

All customers who remain in an S02 or L01 coverage group, but are no longer receiving SSI effective May 1, 2023, will have their S02 or L01 coverage closed on May 31, 2023. Effective June 1, 2023, they will automatically move into the appropriate transitional coverage group for a period of time. The transitional coverage groups are based on the customer's age and whether the customer is also enrolled in a waiver program as noted below:

Current Coverage	Age	Waiver	Transitional Coverage Group	Transitional Coverage Certification Period
S02	21 and over	No	S98	90 days
S02	under 21	No	S21	90 days
S02	NA	Yes	Н98	90 days
L01	21 and over	No	L98	1 year
L01	under 21	No	T02	1 year
L01	NA	Yes	Н98	90 days

A change notice will be sent to all customers at least 10 days before the L01 or S02 closes and will notify them of the move to the transitional coverage. A redetermination notice will be sent to the customers at least 60 days before the transitional coverage closes. Normal redetermination processing will follow. The case will close if the customer fails to submit a redetermination before the transitional period ends. This process will continue beyond the PHE unwinding period.

REQUIRED ACTION:

• No action is required. LDSS/OLTC should submit JIRA tickets as appropriate.

INQUIRIES:

If you have any questions regarding this Information Memo or any other program policies, please submit it using the <u>FIA Policy Information Request Form</u>. If you work in Montgomery County, you may submit your policy questions via email at <u>fia.policy@maryland.gov</u>. For systems questions, please email <u>fia.bsdm@maryland.gov</u>.

For MA policy questions: Direct Non-MAGI and MAGI policy questions to the Maryland Department of Health, Office of Eligibility Services at mdh.oesinquiries@maryland.gov.

cc: DHS Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
MDH Executive Staff
Constituent Services
Office of Administrative Hearings