



**State of Florida
Department of Children and Families**

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Shevaun L. Harris
Secretary

DATE: March 3, 2022 **TRANSMITTAL NO.:** P-22-03-0003

TO: Economic Self-Sufficiency Operations Managers
Economic Self-Sufficiency Program Offices

FROM: Tonyaleah Veltkamp, Chief, Program Policy
(Signature on File)

SUBJECT: Postpartum Coverage Extension to 12 Months

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

The purpose of this transmittal is to inform staff of a new policy change that will extend Medicaid coverage for postpartum women from two months to 12 months.

Background

Senate Bill 2518, passed by the Florida Legislature in 2021, improves postpartum maternal morbidity and mortality by extending access to quality care by ensuring continuity of care, and care coordination during the postpartum period. This bill extended the postpartum eligibility coverage period from 60 days to 12 months following the last day of pregnancy. Covered services and eligibility requirements will remain consistent with existing services and eligibility requirements throughout the 12-month period.

Current Policy

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) provides postpartum Medicaid coverage for 2 months. A pregnant woman who is eligible for regular Medicaid for at least one month, including a retroactive month, is eligible to receive Medicaid through her pregnancy and until the end of the second month after the birth (postpartum period), regardless of any changes. Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women (PEPW) and Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA) for Noncitizen's assistance groups (AG) are not eligible for postpartum coverage.

New Policy

Postpartum coverage provides full Medicaid services for 12 months following the end of a pregnancy, regardless of termination reason (delivery, miscarriage, etc.). Once open the eligibility will remain active for 12 months of postpartum coverage regardless of any change in the family technical factors, income, or assets.

A pregnant woman who is over income for MM P and enrolled in NM P share of cost is eligible for 12 months postpartum coverage if their SOC is met at any time during their pregnancy or the month the pregnancy ends. FLORIDA does not give pregnant women

2415 North Monroe Street, Suite 400, Tallahassee, Florida 32303-4190

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who meet their share of cost under NM P full Medicaid coverage. Use workaround 17 to provide pregnant women who meet their share of cost under NM P full Medicaid coverage through the remainder of their pregnancy and postpartum period.

Postpartum coverage does not apply to pregnant women who receive PEPW and EMA.

Systems

Postpartum coverage will build for 12 months instead of 2 months from the PREGNANCY END DATE entered on AIIM.

Postpartum coverage is protected, and the MM P or MM T assistance groups can only be closed by entering one of the following reason codes on AWAA:

- 169 – You are not a resident of Florida
- 255 – You are not eligible for DCF Medicaid because SSA found you eligible for SSI Medicaid
- 358 – You do not meet the Florida residency requirement for this program
- 383 – We received a written request to close this benefit
- 530 – Your case has been opened in error and has now been closed
- 227 – We reviewed your case; you are still eligible for Medicaid but in a different Medicaid coverage type
- 347 – We received information that a member of your household died and will no longer be covered by this program
- 369 – We received information that all people covered by this program have died
- 385 – We received your verbal request to remove an individual from this program
- 249 – You are receiving the same type of assistance from another program
- 350 – An individual is in the same case but different category
- 386 – We received a written request to remove an individual from this program
- 456 – We did not receive proof of citizenship for you or a household member

The following error message will appear if you attempt to close the MM P or MM T assistance group during the postpartum period: **'INVALID RSN CDE FOR INDIVIDUAL IN POSTPARTUM MEDICAID'**.

The monthly auto action exparte process has been modified to include the MM P and MM T assistance groups and extend coverage from 2 months to 12 months from the PREGNANCY END DATE or extend coverage from 11 months to 21 months from the PREGNANCY BEGIN date on AIIM.

The following changes have been made to the R36 MMP Reviews Summary Report:

- EDC + 30 Days column has been removed
- EDC + 60 Days column has been removed
- The Overdue column includes MMP/MMT assistance groups that postpartum end date has passed

The following change has been made to the R37 MMP Reviews Detail Report:

- The MM P review due date has been updated

A one-time process was completed to extend the AWER renewal date to the last day of the protected postpartum period based on the following criteria:

- Added 21 months to the PREGNANCY BEGIN date on AIIM
- Added 12 months to the PREGNANCY END date on AIIM

The following comment will display on CLRC for assistance groups automatically extended: 'Postpartum process to extend review period and provide protected coverage was successfully completed on *date* for *customer's name Pin number*. The User ID MMPEX1 will display in the UPDATE USERID field on AWER for assistance groups automatically extended.

Regional Program Offices with policy questions related to this transmittal should submit them through the Policy Technical Assistance Request page. Systems related questions should be directed to LaQuetta Anderson at LaQuetta.Anderson@myflfamilies.com.

cc: Assistant Secretary for Economic Self-Sufficiency (Maggie Mickler)
Interim Assistant Secretary for Office of Child Welfare (Jess Tharpe)
Assistant Secretary for Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (Erica Floyd Thomas)
Assistant Deputy Secretary for ESS Programs (Shila Salem)
Assistant Deputy Secretary for Operations (Raeann Bacchus)
Regional ESS Directors
Business Operations (Alisa Roberson)
Customer Experience (Andrew Houghton)
ESS Programs and Policy (Patti Grogan)
FLORIDA Help Desk (Natarsha Peacock)
Information Technology (vacant)
Innovation, Project Management & Data (Chris Presnell)
Office of Appeal Hearings (Karina Sanchez)
Office of Communications (Mallory McManus)
Office of the General Counsel (Rhonda Morris)
Public Benefits Integrity (Sheri Hall)
Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives (Kathryn Whitehurst)
AHCA (Tom Wallace, Ann Dalton, Paula James, Mia Harden, Jennifer Giddens)
Florida Healthy Kids (Austin Noll, Suzetta Furlong)