



# At a Glance

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Updates

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## **Breaking News**

### **2007-2009 Accomplishments**

The end of the calendar year is a time for reflection. The [2007-2009 Department Accomplishments](#) document summarizes the strides we have made in providing Coloradans with quality, accessible and cost-effective health care. Thanks to all of you, our partners, for being a part of the journey.

For more information, please contact [Joanne Lindsay](#).

### **Colorado Health Care Affordability Act Program Implementations**

We are pleased to announce that the first two programs made possible through the [Colorado Health Care Affordability Act](#) will be implemented on May 1, 2010.

It is important to remember that all program implementations are dependent upon the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#), or CMS, approval of the provider fee. We expect approval by April 1, 2010. If the approval is delayed, we will need to delay implementations.

The first expansion will increase coverage for low-income adults by increasing Medicaid to 100% of the FPL for the parents of Medicaid eligible children through the Medicaid Parent Expansion. Currently, Medicaid covers parents with dependent children living in the household up to 60% of the FPL.

The second expansion will increase coverage for children and pregnant women under CHP+ to 250% of the FPL.

The Department expects to bring rules authorizing these program expansions to the Medicaid Services Board in March 2010. We will begin training the beginning of April that will include policy guidance.

There are a total of five program expansions as part of the Colorado Health Care Affordability Act:

- [Medicaid Parent Expansion](#)
- [CHP+ to 250% FPL](#)
- [Benefits for Adults without Dependent Children](#)
- [Buy-In Programs for People with Disabilities](#)
- [Medicaid Continuous Eligibility](#)

For more information on the Medicaid Parent Expansion, please contact [Corinne Lamberson](#).

For more information on the CHP+ expansion, please contact [Annie Lee](#).

### **Rocky Mountain Health Plan Expansion for CHP+ Kids**

The [Rocky Mountain Health Plan](#) is expanding their CHP+ coverage into the following counties effective February 1, 2010 for CHP+ kids: Archuleta, Dolores, Eagle, Grand, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Jackson, Lake, Moffat, Ouray, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt, San Juan, San Miguel, and Summit.

RMHP will be the only HMO available in these counties for CHP+ children. The State's Managed Care Network remains as the HMO for pregnant women regardless of their county of residence.

For more information please contact [Kristy Wilson](#). For more information about CHP+ providers, please click [here](#).



## **Improving Health Outcomes**

### **Accountable Care Collaborative**

Two Requests for Proposals (RFP) will be posted in the first quarter of 2010. One RFP is to procure the services of a contractor to perform the statewide data and analytics for the ACC; the second is for the scope of work for the Regional Care Coordination Organizations (RCCOs).

While the RFPs are in development, the Department is unable to provide information on the contents of the RFP. The RFPs will be published on the Colorado Bid Information and Distribution System (BIDS) and will be available to all stakeholders with BIDS access.

The solicitation process for both RFPs will take up to nine months to complete to allow time for vendors to prepare their proposed solutions, to thoroughly evaluate the proposals, and to make the selections and finalize the contracts.

For more information and ongoing updates, please visit the [Accountable Care Collaborative](#) web page.

## **Increasing the Number of Insured Coloradans**

### **Add-A-Baby Process**

We received 1,106 Add-A-Baby Requests in December 2009. January requests will surpass December's totals. Requests are being processed within five to eight business days meaning that newborns are in the system and will be seen as eligible for their early visits to their provider.

For more information, please contact [Shawna Moreno](#).

### **PEAK Helping Clients**

Colorado continues to improve the eligibility determination process. The PEAK Web site, [Colorado.gov/benefits](http://Colorado.gov/benefits), allows individuals to determine if they are potentially eligible for food stamps, cash

assistance, Medicaid or CHP+ through the “Am I Eligible” function. The [PEAK](#) Web site walks a potential client through a process and then provides useful information about their eligibility and how to apply. The PEAK “Check My Benefits” function allows existing CBMS clients the ability to check on benefits. For more information about the PEAK system, visit [Colorado.gov/benefits](http://Colorado.gov/benefits).

## Containing Costs

### Nurse Advice Line

The Nurse Advice Line is available for Medicaid clients in the fee-for-service program 24 hours each day, seven days per week at 1-800-283-3221. The line is staffed by registered nurses who assist clients with their health care questions. Calling the Nurse Advice line may help reduce avoidable emergency room visits for families and can save time and money.

#### Nurse Advice Line 1-800-283-3221

Clients enrolled in Medicaid managed care programs can call the following numbers for after-hour care:



Kaiser Advice Line – 303-338-4545 metro or 1-800-218-1059  
Denver Health Advice Line – 303-739-1211  
Rocky Mountain Health Plan (RMHP) – Call your RMHP primary care doctor.  
Colorado Access – Call your primary care doctor.

*For more information, please contact Medicaid Customer Services at 303-866-3513 in Metro Denver or toll-free at 1-800-221-3943.*

## Partner Support

### Statewide Outreach Conferences 2010

Statewide outreach conferences will be held in 2010 for individuals interested in better assisting Coloradans in applying for public health insurance.

#### Dates and Locations:

February 1 and 2 – Durango

February 3 and 4 – Alamosa

February 18 and 19 – Denver

February 24 and 25 – Grand Junction

*Exact locations to be determined*

March 3 and 4 – Lamar

March 17 and 18 – Greeley

March 30 and 31 – Colorado Springs

#### Conference topics include:

Department updates, introduction to Family Medicaid and CHP+, Certified Application Assistance Site and PE site application process, the public health insurance application process, the enrollment and redetermination process, the Add-a-Baby process, an introduction to the Single Purpose Application (SPA) assistance, overview of [PEAK](#), the Breast, Cervical Cancer Prevention (BCCP) program overview and public forums about two of the programs in the Colorado Health Care Affordability Act; the Medicaid Buy-In Program for People with Disabilities and the Adults without Dependent Children expansion populations.

**CBMS technical training will not be offered at these conferences; CBMS user training will be in spring 2010.**

*For more information, please email [outreach@hcpf.state.co.us](mailto:outreach@hcpf.state.co.us).*

### Furlough Days and Appeal Procedures

The Department will be closed on the following mandated furlough days:

February 12, 2010, April 2, 2010, and May 28, 2010

The Department's Office of Appeals will treat the furlough days as holidays, and calculate due dates for document filings accordingly. For example, if the deadline for filing a document with the Office of Appeals falls on Friday, February 12th (a furlough day), the deadline is extended until Tuesday, February 16th (the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or state-mandated furlough day).

Please note that furloughs do not change the effective date of Final Agency Decisions issued by the Office of Appeals. The Final Agency Decision becomes effective the third day after the date the Final Agency Decision is mailed to the parties, even if the third day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or the legal holiday.

The Office of Administrative Courts (OAC) will also be closed on the mandated furlough days. The OAC will treat furlough days as legal holidays, to the extent that holidays would ordinarily be excluded in calculating deadlines. As a result, when calculating deadlines for filing documents at OAC, if the due date falls on a mandated furlough day, the filing will be due the following business day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

*For more information, please contact [Jean Hohn](#) or [Susan Latchford](#).*

*If you have any questions concerning filings at the OAC, please contact Office of Administrative Courts at 303-866-5626.*

***Improving access to cost-effective, quality health care services for Coloradans***