Medicaid and CHP+ Policy Changes

Effective January 1, 2013

Based upon Medical Services Board approval:

Aligning Medicaid Eligibility for Children at 133% FPL

- The Medicaid income threshold for children ages 6 through 18 will be increased from 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 133% FPL.
- This change aligns the income threshold for children from birth to 5 years of age.
- Applicants with family incomes up to 133% FPL will be enrolled into Medicaid.
- Children already enrolled and whose families have income between 100% to 133% FPL will be moved from CHP+ to Medicaid at their redetermination date. This change means that children in the same family may be enrolled in the same program, reducing prior situations in which children in the same family were in different programs.
- This change implements Senate Bill (SB) 11-008, and may eliminate what is often referred to as the "stair step" in Medicaid eligibility for children.

Increasing Medicaid Income Eligibility for Pregnant Women

- The Medicaid income level for pregnant women will increase from 133% FPL to 185% FPL.
- Women enrolled in the CHP+ Prenatal Care Program within this income bracket will move from CHP+ to Medicaid effective January 1, 2013.
- This policy change requires that *all* pregnant women in the CHP+ Prenatal Care Program be transferred to Medicaid at once within the income brackets.
- This change implements SB 11-250, which was passed as a condition of renewing the CHP+ Prenatal Care Program waiver and to comply with federal law.

CHP+ HMO Enrollment

- Children on CHP+ will be passively enrolled into a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) if there is more than one HMO option in their county.
- Choosing an HMO will no longer occur when the family fills out the application; the HMO selection question will be removed from both the online and the paper applications.
- After a child has been determined eligible for CHP+, the parent or guardian will have 90 days to choose the HMO by calling MAXIMUS, Inc. if they were not placed in the one they wanted.
- To view the proposed rule, please click here.

Elimination of CHP+ at Work Program

- The CHP+ at Work Program will be eliminated.
- CHP+ at Work was a pilot program available to employees of Denver Health and Hospital Authority to help qualified families pay a portion of the premium their health plan offered at work.

State Employees to be Eligible for CHP+

- This will allow children and pregnant women of State employees (or pregnant State employees) to be eligible for CHP+ provided they meet income requirements and all other eligibility criteria. The effective date for this change is January 1, 2013.

CONTACT: Teresa Craig, 303-866-3586