



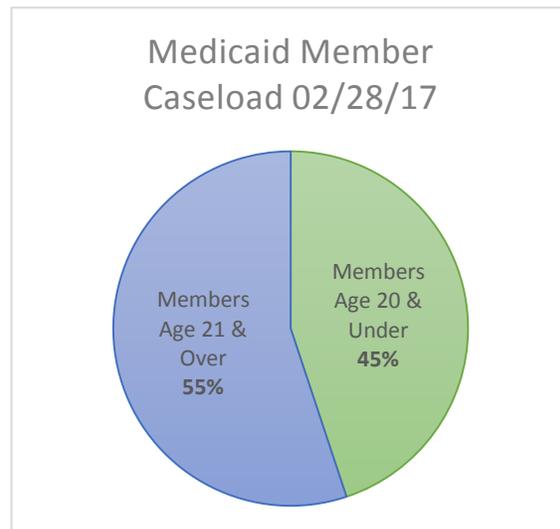
Policy Advisory Committee Update

April 6, 2017

Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) and Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) Enrollment

Through February 28, 2017, Health First Colorado enrollment decreased to **1,340,089** individuals and CHP+ enrollment increased to **64,099** individuals. To the right is a visual depiction of youth and adult Health First Colorado member caseload.

Additional information and county-by-county data can be found [on our website](#).



Eligibility NOA Survey

Last spring, individuals throughout the state, including many of you, took a survey to share your feedback about how to **improve the language, look, and feel of eligibility-related client correspondence** generated through the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS).

Using that feedback, earlier this month, we implemented changes to the Income Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) letter and the Medical Assistance Redetermination (RRR) Packets.

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Now, the Departments of Health Care Policy & Financing and Human Services, Connect for Health Colorado and the Governor's Office of Information Technology are tackling the Notice of Action (NOA), and we need your help once again. Drawing on your feedback from last spring combined with two rounds of client interviews around the state, we have developed an updated draft NOA, but we're not done yet.

We want to hear from you again. Once again we have engaged Joining Vision and Action (JVA) to create and analyze a survey to gather your feedback on this updated draft NOA.

This brief and anonymous survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. We will use the data from the survey responses to improve the language and format of the NOA.

The survey can be accessed by clicking the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RevisedNOAFeedback2017>

The survey closes on Friday, April 7 at 5:00 pm. Please complete the survey and share the link with your colleagues.

2017 Income Guidelines: Agency Letters Now Available

The income limits for the MAGI Health First Colorado, CHP+, Health First Colorado Buy-In for Working Adults with Disabilities, Health First Colorado Buy-In Program for Children with Disabilities, Medical Assistance - Medicare Savings, and Low Income Subsidy programs are based on federal poverty level (FPL) guidelines that are updated annually. The 2017 guidelines were published on January 31, 2017 (*Federal Register, Volume 82, No. 19, page 8831-8832*).

The Department released the following 2017 Income Guidelines-[Agency Letters](#) to advise eligibility sites of these increased income limits:

- [17-003](#): MAGI-Health First Colorado and Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) 2017 Increase to Income Limits
- [17-004](#): Health First Colorado Buy-In Program for Children with Disabilities 2017 Increase to Income Limits Supersedes 16-005
- [17-005](#): Health First Colorado Buy-In Program for Working Adults with Disabilities 2017 Increase to Income Limits Supersedes 16-004
- [17-006](#): Medical Assistance- Medicare Savings Program and Low Income Subsidy 2017 Increase to Income Limits

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Please share these agency letters with all affected Medical Assistance eligibility staff, supervisors, and outside agencies, as appropriate.

Asset Verification System (AVS) Stakeholder Meeting

The Department is convening a stakeholder meeting to gather feedback on the upcoming AVS scheduled to be implemented in December 2017.

The system will be able to verify liquid assets held in financial institutions, such as bank accounts. This system will help streamline the eligibility determinations when an asset test is required for programs and waivers for individuals who are 65 and older, blind, or who have a disability.

The stakeholder meeting will be held:

Tuesday, April 18

1:00 – 2:00 pm

Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
303 E. 17th Avenue
Conference Room 11AB
Denver, CO 80203

A webinar and conference line will be available for those who cannot not attend in person. [RSVP for the stakeholder meeting now online.](#)

Testing Experience Functional Tools (TEFT) Stakeholder Focus Groups

The Department is hosting regional stakeholder focus groups regarding the Testing Experience Functional Tools (TEFT) program. This grant-funded pilot program has four components aimed at: testing quality (Experience of Care/EoC) and assessment tools (Functional Assessment Standard Items/FASI), the creation of an electronic personal health record (PHR), and an electronic Long Term Services and Supports (eLTSS) record and service plan standard.

The Department and the Colorado Regional Health Information Organization (CORHIO) are conducting these meetings to provide an overview of the progress of all these components but in particular will be focusing on the personal health record component. The sessions, will include presentations on current and upcoming activities and a Question & Answer period. The meeting information is as follows (lunch will be provided):

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Tuesday, April 4, 2017

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Denver Metro TEFT Focus Group Meeting
COPIC Building
7351 E. Lowry Boulevard
Richard L. Robinson Board Room
Denver, CO 80203

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Northern Colorado TEFT Focus Group Meeting
Poudre Valley Hospital, 1024 S. Lemay Ave.
5th Floor Medical Conference Room 30
Ft. Collins, CO 80525

Thursday, April 6, 2017

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Southern Colorado TEFT Focus Group Meeting
North Point Atrium, Community Health Partnership
6005 Delmonico Drive, Suite 200
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Monday, April 10, 2017

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Eastern Colorado TEFT Focus Group Meeting
Hugo Community Building, Town Hall
522 2nd Avenue
Hugo, CO 80821

SB 16-038: Community Centered Board Transparency & PASA Audit Requirements – Request for Public Comment

The purpose of this communication is to inform stakeholders and request public comment about proposed changes to 10 CCR 2505-10, 8.601.1 and 8.603.7, concerning Community Centered Board (CCB) Transparency and Audits.

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Pursuant to SB16-038 amending C.R.S. 25.5-10-209, these changes are necessary for the Department rules to remain consistent with statute. These proposed changes will align the rules with the statute and allow the Department to track compliance.

To view the full Communications Brief and further instructions on how to provide a Public Comment [click here](#).

The text of the Draft CCB Transparency Rules can be [found here](#). Public Comment Period open until April 15, 2017 at 11:59pm

Medicaid Expansion & Opioid Use

New resources covering the Medicaid Expansion and Colorado's efforts to curb opioid abuse are now available [on our website](#). Please feel free to share these materials, which provide a more in-depth look at these important topics covered in our [Department Annual Report](#)

Long Term Services & Supports (LTSS) Stakeholder Regional Forum Meetings

Through the passage of Senate Bill 16-192, the Colorado General Assembly directed the Department to develop or select a needs assessment tool for all persons receiving LTSS, including persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). In addition, the legislation requires the Department to make the selection of a needs assessment tool in collaboration with persons with I/DD who receive services, legal guardians, case managers, and any other stakeholders as determined by the Department.

Since March 2014, the Department has worked in collaboration with stakeholders to review Colorado's current LTSS eligibility determination and assessment tools and processes. In addition to the review, the Department and stakeholders have selected and customized new tools for eligibility determination and needs assessment for all individuals in need of or receiving LTSS.

In order to comply with legislation, the Department established seven Regional Forum Meetings and a statewide webinar to present the work completed to date and obtain feedback from all stakeholders regarding the eligibility determination and needs assessment tools selected. Additional information on work to date can be found at [Colorado Assessment](#).

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Statewide Regional Forum Meeting Schedule

Meetings for all stakeholders to provide input on eligibility determination and needs assessment tools.

Please note: There will be two separate sessions each day, except for the statewide webinar.

County	Date	Meeting Time	Location	Address
Weld	Monday, April 3	9:00am-12:00pm & 1:30pm-4:30pm	Island Grove Regional Park Event Center	501 North 14th Avenue Greeley, CO 80631
Denver	Wednesday, April 19	9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:00pm	Mile High United Way	711 Park Avenue West, Denver, CO 80205
Pueblo	Monday, April 24	10:00am-1:00pm & 3:30pm-6:30pm	Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library	100 E Abriendo Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004
Otero	Tuesday, April 25	9:00am-12:00pm & 3:30-6:30	Otero Junior College	1802 Colorado Ave La Junta, CO 81050
Garfield	Monday, May 15	9:00am-12:00pm & 3:30pm-6:30pm	Hotel Colorado	526 Pine Street Glenwood, CO 81601
Mesa	Tuesday, May 16	10:00am-1:00pm & 2:30pm-5:30pm	Central Public Library	443 N. 6th Street Grand Junction, CO 81501
Statewide Webinar	Monday, May 22	5:30pm-8:30pm	Participant call in number: 1-877-820-7831 Participant Code: 303146#	Webinar Link
La Plata	Thursday, June 1	TBD	TBD	TBD

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Modernizing the Colorado Indigent Care Program

Department is proposing to modernize the Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP) effective July 1, 2017. The proposed rule, #MSB 16-11-22-A:

- Simplifies administrative requirements for CICP providers and applicants;
- Offers flexibility in the financial determination process;
- Preserves a safety net of access to health care for qualified Coloradans up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level;
- Creates a formal CICP advisory council that will be appointed by the Executive Director of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing; and
- Incorporates quality performance metrics into the payment methodology for CICP stand-alone clinics.

The Medical Services Board will hold its initial hearing of this proposed rule on April 14, 2017. The rule will be heard in Conference Room 11 ABC at 303 E. 17th Ave., Denver, CO beginning at 9:00 a.m. Public testimony will be accepted.

[See the proposed rule on our website.](#)

Legislative Update

The Department has [five bills on its legislative agenda](#) this session:

- Compliance with the home health federal rule
- Implementation of conflict-free case management
- Medicaid Provider Compliance Billing Safety Rules
- Reducing opioid overdoses by gaining access to the PDMP
- Contingency planning for changes to the CHIP funding

To date, only SB 17-091 and HB 17-1139 have been introduced; the status of these bills are described below:

[SB 17-091](#): Compliance with the Home Health Federal Rule

Under current law, for some clients, home health services under the Medicaid program may only be provided in the client's residence. The bill removes the location restriction for home health services to comply with changes to federal Medicaid rules that allow for services to be delivered in the community as well as the residence.

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Status: 02/01/17 Health & Human Services Committee referred to the Committee on Appropriations; scheduled to be heard on April 6.

HB 17-1139: Medicaid Provider Compliance Billing Safety Rules

The bill subjects a provider of Medicaid services to a civil monetary penalty if the provider improperly bills or seeks collection from a Medicaid recipient or the estate of a Medicaid recipient. In addition, the bill allows the Department to require a corrective action plan from any provider who fails to comply with rules, manuals, or bulletins issued by the Department, the Medical Services Board, or the Department's fiscal agent or from a provider whose activities endanger the health, safety, or welfare of a Medicaid recipient. Based on good cause, the Department may suspend the enrollment of a Medicaid provider for a period of time set forth in the bill. The provider has the right to appeal the suspension administratively.

Status: 02/01/17 Introduced in House - Assigned to Public Health Care & Human Services; scheduled to be heard April 4.

Shared Risk and Protective Factor Conference - Save the Date

Please join the Center for Public Health Practice for their first Annual Shared Risk and Protective Factor Conference June 6-8, 2017 in Breckenridge.

As prevention professionals, you have likely seen issues that are common among the youth, families and communities you work with - issues like poverty, families dealing with substance abuse, and youth who are not connected to or do not feel safe at school. We often refer to these issues as "shared risk and protective factors".

- Implementing strategies that take a shared risk and protective factor approach creates opportunities to prevent multiple forms of violence, injury and substance abuse, helping multiple programs and agencies achieve their desired outcomes.
- This conference aims to create shared learning opportunities for partners in Colorado and neighboring states to connect their work using a shared risk and protective factor approach, network with community partners and share best practices.

[Registration will open soon. There will be no registration fee.](#)

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School Health Professional Grant Application

Applications are now available for the [2017-2018 School Health Professional Grant](#) through the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). This matching grant program exists to help secondary schools, grades 7-12:

- 1) Increase the presence of school health professionals (Licensed School Nurses, School Social Workers, School Counselors and School Psychologists) in secondary schools to provide substance abuse and behavioral health care to students who are enrolled in secondary schools and have substance abuse or other behavioral health needs;
- 2) Provide training and resources for the newly hired school health professionals, other behavioral health school team members, and school staff on the implementation of evidence-based programming (defined as programming that evaluation research has proven to be effective) on substance abuse prevention education and behavioral health education for all students who are enrolled in secondary schools; and
- 3) Allow school health professionals to provide care coordination and connect students who are enrolled in secondary schools with services that are provided by community-based organizations for treatment and counseling for students who are at risk for substance abuse.

Eligible Applicants: Education Providers (on behalf of secondary schools that include any of grades 7-12) are eligible to apply for this opportunity in order to enhance the presence of school health professionals (School Nurses, School Social Workers, School Counselors and School Psychologists) in their secondary schools. An eligible Education Provider is:

- A school district
- A Board of Cooperative Services (BOCES)
- A Charter school authorized by a school district
- A Charter school authorized by the Charter School Institute

Applications will not be accepted from individual schools, but must be authorized and submitted through the Education Provider. A charter school's authorizer will be the fiscal agent, if funded.

Approximately \$9.4 million is available for the 2017-2018 school year. Grants will be awarded for a three-year term beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Additional grant funding for subsequent years will be contingent upon annual appropriations by the State Legislature and grantees fulfilling all program and fiscal reporting requirements. Funded

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applicants for the 2017-2018 school year are not guaranteed any additional funding beyond the 2017-2018 year at this time. Applicants must demonstrate a match of 10% of the funds requested. This may include both in-kind and cash matches.

Important Dates:

- Tuesday, April 4: Application Training Webinar, 10-11 am: [Registration is required](#)
- Friday, April 7, 2017: Letter of Intent due by 11:59 pm. Submit [online via SurveyMonkey](#)
- Monday, May 1: Applications including budgets are due to CDE via email at CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us.

2017 Colorado Health Symposium - Save the Date!



The [2017 Colorado Health Symposium](#) is scheduled from August 2-4 at the Keystone Resort & Conference Center.

This year's event, **Let's Talk About... Inequity**, will focus on having a bold and civil conversation about how and why inequity happens -- and the role that institutions and individuals can play in disrupting this pattern and rising above it. Join us in a cutting-edge movement that stands for improving health in Colorado by discontinuing the unmentionable nature of inequity, turning the mic up on the quiet whispers, recognizing those who take action and ultimately, by digging deeper into the drivers of inequity and the possibilities beyond.

Learn more about the [Symposium](#). **Conference registration will open on Monday, May 22.**

Apply Now! 2017 Colorado Health Symposium Scholarships

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For the second year, the Foundation is offering a scholarship program to allow more individuals from Colorado to attend the Symposium. Applicants must meet specific criteria to be considered for a scholarship. [View the application here.](#)

Who Should Apply

The Foundation will provide support for Colorado professionals from rural-based, minority-led and/or community-based organizations to join us in Keystone. We encourage people from industries who may seem outside of traditional health -- such as environmental, housing, education or advocacy organizations -- to apply. Preference will be given to individuals who have not previously attended the event, however, previous Symposium attendees may apply if you fit the criteria.

***2016 scholarship recipients: Please do not apply through this application.** (You will receive a separate email about joining again this year, or contact CHS at cohealthsymposium@coloradohealth.org).

View the application and [complete the online form](#) by **Friday, March 31**. Specific criteria are listed on the application.

All Scholarships Include:

- Fully-waived registration fee
- Travel stipend for anyone located more than two hours away from Keystone
- Lodging in Keystone with free shuttle transportation, if needed

APPLY NOW

Department Contact:

Crestina Martinez
303-866-5362
crestina.martinez@state.co.us

HCPF on Social Media:



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