



Dear Providers,

This special newsletter summarizes the emails and communications concerning COVID-19 from the past week. The Department knows providers will have many questions about COVID-19 and will post updates on policies, codes and other important information on the new [COVID-19 Information for Health First Colorado and CHP+ Provider and Case Managers web page](#). The new web page will be frequently updated with resources and guidance on COVID-19 as information becomes available.

COVID-19 Topics & Resources

COVID-19 Tests Billable by Pharmacists

Effective 5/1/20, licensed pharmacists enrolled with Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program), pursuant to the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act, may order and administer COVID-19 tests which the Food and Drug Administration has authorized in compliance with the applicable Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment (CLIA) certification requirements and regulations.

For further details, refer to the [email communication](#) sent out to pharmacy providers on 6/3/20, available on the [Provider News web page](#) under the Pharmacy drop-down section.

Reminder: New Secondary Provider Specialties for COVID-19 Long-Term and Temporary Enrollment

Effective 4/10/20, providers can temporarily enroll in Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) to provide services during the public health emergency. Temporary enrollment will end once the public health emergency ends. Prior to any temporary enrollments being terminated, providers will be notified and given the opportunity to convert from temporary enrollment to long term enrollment by updating the application and completing the requirements.

New applicants will be required to indicate temporary enrollment due to the public health emergency or long term enrollment.

In addition to selecting a provider type and primary specialty, each applying provider will need to add one of the following **secondary** specialties to their application:

- COVID-19 Long Term Enrollment - Add this secondary specialty to the application if the provider intends to continue providing services beyond the public health emergency.
- COVID-19 Temporary Enrollment - Add this secondary specialty to the application if the provider is only enrolling to provider services during the public health emergency.

This applies only to provider types for which application fees, fingerprinting and/or site visits are required, including:

- Ambulatory Surgery Center
- Community Mental Health Center
- Dialysis Center
- Federally Qualified Health Center
- Home & Community - Based Services (certain specialties only)
- Home Health
- Hospice
- Hospital
- Independent Laboratory
- Indian Health Services

- Nursing Facility
- Personal Care Agency
- Pharmacy with Durable Medical Equipment
- Physical Therapist
- Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility
- Rehabilitation Agency Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility
- Rural Health Clinic
- Supply
- Transportation
- X-Ray Facility

For providers choosing to enroll temporarily:

- By adding the COVID-19 Temporary Enrollment **secondary** specialty to the application, providers are acknowledging that application fees, fingerprinting and site visits, which are usually required for enrollment, will be waived.
- Once the public health emergency designation is lifted, no new temporary enrollment applications will be approved.
- Temporary providers will be able to submit claims, maintain access to program tools and finalize billing for up to 6 months following the public health emergency end date for dates of services within the emergency designation date spans.
- Temporary providers must be licensed and legally authorized to practice or deliver the services for which they will file claims in the state where the services are performed and cannot be listed on the Office of Inspector General's exclusion list for Medicare/Medicaid services.

COVID-19 Guidance for Home & Community Based Service (HCBS) Providers and Long-Term Services and Supports

System, billing and policy COVID-19 guidance for HCBS providers are available on the [Long-Term Services and Supports COVID-19 Response web page](#)

Please do not reply to this email; this address is not monitored.