

Global Commitment Register

January 23, 2023

GCR 23-019 FINAL

COVID-19 Emergency Response

Please see the Department of Vermont Health Access COVID-19 site for important information

Medicaid Continuous Coverage Requirement is Ending

Policy Summary:

The Vermont Medicaid program has provided continuous coverage to individuals enrolled in Medicaid since March 2020, and to individuals who became eligible and enrolled in Medicaid since that date, in accordance with the requirements in Section 6008 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and subsequent guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Medicaid continuous coverage is ending March 31, 2023. Vermont Medicaid will begin to resume normal eligibility and enrollment operations. In April, Vermont Medicaid beneficiaries will begin to receive renewal notices again. Closures for those noticed in April who are no longer eligible will generally be effective May 31, 2023. This process will continue on a monthly basis. Beneficiaries should pay close attention to deadlines in any notices received. This resumption of renewals is known as the Medicaid unwind process.

The Medicaid unwind process for all Vermonters will take over a year to complete. It includes Medicaid for Children and Adults (MCA), Medicaid for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (MABD), Dr. Dynasaur, VPharm, Medicare Savings Programs, and Long-Term Care Medicaid. More information about Vermont's Medicaid unwind process can be found under "Additional Information" below.

This notice is specific to the Medicaid continuous coverage requirement ONLY. Other policies related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency are not impacted by this change.

Effective Date:

March 31, 2023

Authority/Legal Basis:

Medicaid State Plan

Global Commitment to Health Waiver



Section 5131 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023

Population Affected:

All Medicaid

Fiscal Impact:

The Medicaid continuous coverage requirement has resulted in increased caseload. Caseload is a significant factor in the Medicaid budget. For more information, see the <u>Budgets and Financial</u> page on the <u>Department of Vermont Health Access website</u>.

The Medicaid continuous coverage requirement has been coupled with enhanced FMAP to offset this budget pressure. With the end of Medicaid continuous coverage, the temporary enhanced FMAP will be phased down over the following schedule:

Calendar Quarter 2023	Temporary FMAP Increase
January 1 – March 31	6.2%
April 1 – June 30	5%
July 1 – September 30	2.5%
October 1 – December 31	1.5%

Additional Information:

Vermonters enrolled in Medicaid are encouraged to <u>update their address</u> and pay attention to their mail for important information.

Check the <u>Department of Vermont Health Access's Medicaid Unwinding page</u> for important information including the unwind plan, what to know, and regular updates.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

