

Table of Contents

Part One General Provisions and Definitions	1
1.00 Administration of health benefits	1
2.00 General description of health benefits in Vermont (subject to specific criteria in subsequent sections)	1
2.01 Types of health benefits	1
2.02 Medicaid	1
2.03 Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	2
2.04 The Health Benefits Exchange.....	3
2.05 Administration of eligibility for health benefits	4
3.00 Definitions.....	4
4.00 General program rules	19
4.01 Receiving health benefits from another state.....	19
4.02 Rights of individuals with respect to application for and receipt of health benefits through AHS	19
4.03 Responsibilities of individuals with respect to application for and receipt of health benefits through AHS	20
4.04 Case records	21
4.05 Quality-control review.....	21
4.06 Fraud	22
4.07 [Reserved].....	23
4.08 Privacy and security of personally identifiable information	23
4.09 Use of standards and protocols for electronic transactions	25
5.00 Eligibility and enrollment assistance	25
5.01 Assistance offered through AHS	25
5.02 Authorized representatives	28
5.03 Navigator program.....	31
5.04 Brokers	35
5.05 Certified application counselors	36

Table of Contents

Part Two Eligibility Standards	40
6.00 Medicaid – in general	40
7.00 Medicaid for children and adults (MCA).....	40
7.01 In general	40
7.02 Nonfinancial criteria.....	41
7.03 Categorical and financial criteria	41
8.00 Medicaid for the aged, blind, and disabled (MABD).....	46
8.01 In general	46
8.02 Nonfinancial criteria.....	46
8.03 Categorical relationship to SSI.....	46
8.04 Determination of blindness or disability.....	47
8.05 The categorically-needy coverage groups	48
8.06 Medically-needy coverage group	56
8.07 Medicare Cost-Sharing	56
9.00 Special Medicaid groups	59
9.01 In general	60
9.02 Nonfinancial criteria.....	60
9.03 Categorical and financial criteria	60
10.00 Pharmacy benefits.....	64
10.01 VPharm program.....	64
10.02 Healthy Vermonter Program (HVP).....	64
11.00 Enrollment in a QHP.....	64
11.01 In general	64
11.02 Nonfinancial criteria.....	65
11.03 Eligibility for QHP enrollment periods.....	65
12.00 Advance payments of the premium tax credit (APTC).....	65

12.01	In general	65
12.02	Nonfinancial criteria	65
12.03	Applicable tax filer	66
12.04	Enrollment required	67
12.05	Compliance with filing requirement	68
12.06	Vermont Premium Reduction eligibility criteria	68
13.00	Cost-sharing reductions (CSR)	68
13.01	Eligibility criteria.....	68
13.02	Eligibility categories.....	68
13.03	Special rule for family policies.....	69
14.00	Eligibility for enrollment in a catastrophic plan	70

Table of Contents

Part Three Nonfinancial eligibility requirements	71
15.00 Nonfinancial eligibility requirements, in general.....	71
16.00 Social Security number	71
16.01 Medicaid.....	71
16.02 QHP.....	72
17.00 Citizenship and immigration status	73
17.01 Definitions.....	73
17.02 General Rules	77
17.03 Medicaid five-year bar for qualified non-citizens.....	78
18.00 Assignment of rights and cooperation requirements for Medicaid.....	80
18.01 In general	80
18.02 Assignment of rights to payments.....	80
18.03 Cooperation in Obtaining Payments	80
18.04 Good cause for noncooperation.....	81
18.05 Enrollment in a health insurance plan.....	81
19.00 Incarceration and QHP eligibility.....	82
19.01 In general	82
19.02 Exception.....	82
20.00 Living arrangements for Medicaid eligibility purposes	82
20.01 In general	82
20.02 Correctional facility.....	83
20.03 Determination of residence in an institution.....	83
20.04 Homeless individuals	83
20.05 Financial responsibility and living arrangement	84

21.00	Residency.....	84
21.01	In general	84
21.02	Incapability of indicating intent	84
21.03	Who is a state resident.....	84
21.04	Placement by a state in an out-of-state institution	84
21.05	An individual receiving Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (AABD)	85
21.06	An individual age 21 and over.....	85
21.07	An individual receiving Title IV-E payments.....	86
21.08	An individual under age 21.....	86
21.09	Specific prohibitions	87
21.10	Interstate agreements	87
21.11	Cases of disputed residency	88
21.12	Special rule for tax households with members in multiple Exchange service areas	88
21.13	Temporary absences from the state	88
21.14	Vermont residence as Medicaid payment requirement	89
22.00	Pursuit of potential unearned income for Medicaid eligibility.....	89
23.00	Minimum essential coverage.....	89
23.01	Minimum essential coverage.....	89
23.02	Affordable coverage for employer-sponsored MEC.....	95
23.03	Minimum value for employer-sponsored MEC.....	97
23.04	Enrollment in eligible employer-sponsored plan	97
23.05	Special eligibility rules	98
23.06	Eligibility determinations for MEC exemptions.....	99

Table of Contents

Part Four Special Rules for Medicaid Coverage of Long-Term Care Services and Supports - Eligibility and Post-Eligibility
..... 100

24.00 Patient share payment for Medicaid coverage of long-term care services and supports 100

 24.01 In general 100

 24.02 Long-term care residence period 101

 24.03 Determining maximum patient share 103

 24.04 Allowable deductions from patient-share 103

 24.05 Transfer between settings 106

25.00 Income or resource transfers and eligibility for Medicaid coverage of long-term care services and supports ... 108

 25.01 In general 108

 25.02 Definitions 109

 25.03 Allowable transfers 109

 25.04 Penalty period for disallowed transfers 115

 25.05 Undue Hardship 117

26.00 [Reserved] 120

27.00 [Reserved] 120

Table of Contents

Part Five Financial Methodologies	122
28.00 Financial eligibility standards – application of modified adjusted gross income (MAGI)	122
28.01 Basis, scope, and implementation	122
28.02 Definitions.....	122
28.03 MAGI-Based Medicaid	123
28.04 Medically-needy MCA – income eligibility	128
28.05 APTC and CSR	129
29.00 Financial eligibility standards – Medicaid for the aged, blind, and disabled (MABD)	130
29.01 Introduction.....	130
29.02 Definitions.....	130
29.03 Formation of the financial responsibility group.....	131
29.04 Formation of the Medicaid group	133
29.05 Deeming	134
29.06 Temporary absences and deeming rules.....	135
29.07 Resources	135
29.08 Excluded resources.....	141
29.09 Value of resources counted toward the Medicaid resource limit	156
29.10 Determination of countable resources	161
29.11 Overview of income requirements.....	163
29.12 Types of income	164
29.13 Income exclusions.....	166
29.14 Determination of countable income.....	169
29.15 Income deductions	174
30.00 Spenddowns.....	176
30.01 Definitions.....	176
30.02 Accounting periods.....	177
30.03 Spend down of excess resources and income – in general	178

30.04 Resource spenddowns..... 178

30.05 Income spenddowns 179

30.06 Allowable medical expenses 181

Table of Contents

Part Six	Small Employer Health-Benefits Program Rules	188
31.00	Definitions (08/01/2016, 16-02)	188
32.00	Employer eligibility (08/01/2016, 16-02)	191
33.00	Employee eligibility (07/15/2015, 15-02)	193
34.00	Employer choice (08/01/2016, 16-02)	194
35.00	Employee enrollment waiting periods (07/15/2015, 15-02)	195
36.00	Rolling enrollment and short plan years (07/15/2015, 15-02)	195
37.00	Employer election period (07/15/2015, 15-02)	196
38.00	Employee enrollment periods (07/15/2015, 15-02)	196
39.00	Employee special enrollment periods (08/01/2016, 16-02)	197
40.00	Enrollment (07/15/2015, 15-02)	197
41.00	Coverage effective dates (07/15/2015, 15-02)	198
42.00	Renewal of employee coverage (07/30/2014, 14-04)	199
43.00	Terminations (07/15/2015, 15-02)	199
43.01	Employer withdrawal from VHC (08/01/2016, 16-02)	199
43.02	Termination of employer group for non-payment of premiums (07/15/2015, 15-02)	200
43.03	Termination of employee or dependent coverage(07/15/2015, 15-02)	201
43.04	Termination effective dates(07/15/2015, 15-02)	201
43.05	Termination of coverage tracking and approval (07/15/2015, 15-02)	201
43.06	Notice of Termination (07/15/2015, 15-02)	201
44.00	Employer and employee eligibility appeals(08/01/2016, 16-02)	202
45.00	Employer appeals of employee eligibility for APTC/CSR (08/01/2016, 16-02)	205
46.00	Premium processing (07/30/2014, 14-04)	206
47.00	[Reserved] (07/30/2014, 14-04)	206
48.00	[Reserved] (07/30/2014, 14-04)	206
49.00	[Reserved] (07/30/2014, 14-04)	206

Table of Contents

Part Seven Eligibility-and-Enrollment Procedures	207
51.00 Automatic entitlement to Medicaid following a determination of eligibility under other programs.....	207
52.00 Application.....	207
52.01 In general	207
52.02 Application filing	207
53.00 Attestation and verification – in general	209
54.00 Attestation and verification of citizenship and immigration status.....	211
54.01 Definitions.....	211
54.02 Declaration of citizenship or immigration status.....	211
54.03 Verification frequency.....	211
54.04 Electronic verification	211
54.05 Inconsistencies and inability to verify information	212
54.06 Individuals not required to document citizenship or national status for Medicaid.....	213
54.07 Documentary evidence of citizenship and identity	214
54.08 Documentation of immigration status for qualified non-citizens.....	218
54.09 Documentation of entry date for determining the Medicaid five-year bar for qualified non-citizens.....	220
54.10 Ineligible non-citizens and non-immigrants	220
54.11 Visitors, tourists, and some workers and diplomats ineligible for Medicaid	220
55.00 Attestation and verification of other nonfinancial information	221
55.01 Attestation only.....	221
55.02 Verification of attestation.....	221
56.00 Attestation and verification of financial information.....	223
56.01 Data	223
56.02 Verification process for Medicaid	225
56.03 Verification process for APTC and CSR – general procedures	225
56.04 Eligibility for alternate APTC and CSR verification procedures	227
56.05 Alternate APTC and CSR verification procedure: small decrease in projected household income	228

56.06	Alternate APTC and CSR verification procedure: large decrease in projected household income and situations where tax data are unavailable	228
56.07	Alternate APTC and CSR verification procedure: Increases in household income when tax data are unavailable	229
56.08	Alternate APTC and CSR verification procedure: following 90-day period.....	229
56.09	Verification related to eligibility for enrollment in a catastrophic plan	229
56.10	Education and assistance	230
56.11	Acceptance of attestation.....	230
57.00	Inconsistencies.....	230
58.00	Determination of eligibility for health-benefits programs	234
58.01	In general	234
58.02	Special rules relating to APTC eligibility.....	235
59.00	Special QHP eligibility standards and process for Indians.....	236
59.01	Eligibility for CSR.....	236
59.02	Special cost-sharing rule for Indians regardless of income	236
59.03	Verification related to Indian status	236
60.00	Computing the premium-assistance credit amount.....	237
60.01	In general	237
60.02	Definition	237
60.03	Coverage month.....	237
60.04	Federal premium-assistance amount.....	239
60.05	Monthly premium for ABP	240
60.06	Applicable benchmark plan (ABP)	240
60.07	Applicable percentage.....	241
60.08	Plan covering more than one household	244
60.09	[Reserved]	244
60.10	Additional benefits	245
60.11	Pediatric dental coverage.....	245
60.12	Households that include individuals who are not lawfully present.....	246

61.00	Timely determination of eligibility	247
62.00	Interviews	248
63.00	Individual choice.....	248
64.00	Premiums	248
64.01	In general	248
64.02	Public-notice requirements for Medicaid.....	250
64.03	[Reserved]	251
64.04	Ongoing Medicaid premium billing and payment.....	251
64.05	Partial payment	251
64.06	Late payment/grace period	252
64.07	Dr. Dynasaur disenrollment protection.....	253
64.08	[Reserved]	254
64.09	Medical incapacity for VPharm.....	254
64.10	Medicaid premium payment balances.....	254
64.11	Refund of prospective Medicaid premium payments	254
64.12	[Reserved]	254
64.13	Appeal of Medicaid.....	254
65.00	[Reserved].....	255
66.00	Presumptive Medicaid eligibility determined by hospitals.....	255
66.01	Basis.....	255
66.02	In general	255
66.03	Procedures	256
66.04	Presumptive coverage	258
66.05	Notice and fair hearing rules	259
67.00	General notice standards	259
67.01	Use of electronic notices	259
68.00	Notice of decision and appeal rights	260
68.01	Notice of decision concerning eligibility	260

68.02	Advance notice of Medicaid adverse action decision	262
69.00	Medicaid corrective payment	263
70.00	Medicaid enrollment	263
70.01	Enrollment when no premium obligation	263
70.02	Premium obligation; initial billing and payment	263
71.00	Enrollment of qualified individuals in QHPs	264
71.01	In general	265
71.02	Annual open enrollment periods	266
71.03	Special enrollment periods (SEP)	266
72.00	Duration of QHP eligibility determinations without enrollment	274
73.00	Eligibility redetermination during a benefit year	274
73.01	General requirement	274
73.02	Verification of reported changes	274
73.03	Reestablishment of annual renewal date for Medicaid enrollees	275
73.04	Periodic examination of data sources	275
73.05	Redetermination and notification of eligibility	276
73.06	Effective dates for QHP eligibility redeterminations	277
73.07	Recalculation of APTC/CSR	278
74.00	[Reserved]	278
75.00	Eligibility renewal	278
75.01	In general	278
75.02	Renewal procedures for QHP enrollment	279
75.03	Renewal procedures for Medicaid	279
76.00	Termination of QHP enrollment or coverage	280
77.00	Administration of APTC and CSR	283
78.00	Information reporting by AHS	285
79.00	[Reserved]	287

Table of Contents

Part Eight State fair hearings/expedited eligibility appeals	288
80.00 State fair hearings and expedited eligibility appeals	288
80.01 Definitions	288
80.02 Informing individuals of State fair hearing procedures.....	288
80.03 Right to a State fair hearing	289
80.04 Request for a State fair hearing	290
80.05 AHS Secretary's decision and further appeal	290
80.06 Implementation of State fair hearing decisions.....	292
80.07 Expedited eligibility appeals: expedited internal appeals and expedited State fair hearings	293
81.00 Disability determination appeal.....	298
82.00 Maintaining benefits/eligibility pending State fair hearing.....	299
83.00 [Reserved]	300