



Colorado Covering Kids and Families

October 2016 Coalition Update

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CKF News

Denver Outreach Partners

November 10, 2016, from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Denver Human Services (1200 Federal Blvd., Room
1154, Denver)
[August 2016 Meeting Notes](#)

- [CKF Fact Sheet](#)
- [CKF Meeting and Event Calendar](#)
- Contact [Liz Tansey](#) with questions

CKF Coalition

November 17, 2016, from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
CCHN (600 Grant St., Ste. 800, Denver)
[September 2016 Meeting Notes](#)
[October 2016 Meeting Recording](#)

Health Policy

Children of Parents and Caretaker Relatives Need to Have MEC

Effective October 1, 2016, the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) began implementing a federal requirement that certain parents and caretaker relatives living with a dependent child under the age of 19 must attest that the child has minimum essential coverage (MEC) or enroll the child in MEC in order to qualify for the Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Adult category. The parents and caretaker relatives impacted by this policy change are those who will qualify for the MAGI Adult category, i.e. those between 69 and 133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. If the parent/caretaker and child are both applying for Medical Assistance (Health First Colorado and/or CHP+), or if the child on the case is already enrolled in Medical Assistance, the parent/caretaker will be eligible. However, if a child on the case is not applying

for or enrolled in Medical Assistance or enrolled in other coverage, the parent/caretaker must state that the child has MEC in order to qualify. For more information on this policy change, please see HCPF's [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) and [webinar](#).

Several errors were reported for the systems change that was added on September 22, 2016, to implement the policy change. Some parents/caretakers were incorrectly receiving a verification check list to prove their child had MEC, even though the child was applying on the same application. According to the Governor's Office of Information Technology, this error was fixed on September 30, 2016. However, if you or your clients continue to experience issues with this policy change, please report them to CBMS.Help@state.co.us. Please also notify CKF's Policy Analyst, Stephanie Brooks (sbrooks@cchn.org).

FAQs Available for Annualized Income Policy Change

HCPF issued a [FAQs document](#) on the policy change that was implemented July 1, 2016, which allows income for self-employment, commission-based employment, and/or seasonal employment to be annualized under certain circumstances.

New Appeals Extension for Connect for Health Colorado

Connect for Health Colorado extended the time limit for a customer to file an appeal from 30 days to 60 days. This was implemented to align with changes that HCPF put in place for Health First Colorado members, effective September 1, 2016 (see HCPF's [Agency Letter](#) for more information). The Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) time limit to file an appeal will remain at 30 days.

It is important to note the following points:

- While the change to the appeals time period for Connect for Health Colorado is effective as of October 1, 2016, not all materials that reference the appeals time period have been updated.
- Notices generated from the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) will be updated in 2017.
- The Connect for Health Colorado website has been updated to reflect this change.
- If a customer files an appeal within 60 days, even if their notice has the 30-day time limit listed, the Connect for Health Colorado appeals team will still process the appeal correctly.

DOI Approves 2017 Health Insurance Plans

The Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI) approved the individual and small group health insurance plans for 2017 for the state on September 20, 2016. The DOI approved 277 plans for the individual market, and 667 for the small group market. Of the 277 individual market plans available in 2017, 132 will be available on Connect for Health Colorado, and 145 will be offered off-exchange. Although, on average, premiums for individual plans are increasing by 20.4 percent, Coloradans who receive a tax credit may see their premium decrease between 11 and 29 percent on average. Find the news release with additional information [here](#), as well as a [FAQs](#) document.

Outreach and Enrollment

New Address for Dropping off Enrollment Fees and Medicaid Buy-In Premium Payments

Starting October 24, 2016, there is a new address where members can pay their CHP+ annual enrollment fee or Health First Colorado Medicaid Buy-In monthly premium in-person. Beginning October 24, 2016, members may drop off their check or money order at 655 Bannock Street,

Denver, Colorado 80204. For the fastest processing, members can still pay online at Colorado.gov/PEAK or mail their check or money order to P.O. Box 17548, Denver, CO 80217. Notices are scheduled to be updated to include the new in-person address for dropping off payments in spring 2017.

IRS Sending Letters to Consumers Reminding them to File 2015 Taxes

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is sending letters to consumers who received advanced premium tax credits (APTCs) in 2015 but who have not yet filed their tax return. The letters are labeled 5858 or 5862, and remind the individual to file their 2015 tax returns. Consumers must file a tax return to reconcile their APTCs and to maintain eligibility for APTCs in 2017.

Warning About Fake IRS Bills

The IRS is warning taxpayers and tax professionals of fake IRS bills related to the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Scammers are emailing or mailing fraudulent versions of the CP2000 notice to clients. The authentic notice is used when income reported from a third-party source does not match the income reported on a tax return. The fraudulent form says the notice is from Austin, Texas; the letter says the issue is related to the ACA and requests information regarding 2014 health coverage; the payment voucher lists the letter number as 105C; and the letter requests the checks be made out to "I.R.S." and sent to the "Austin Processing Center" at a post office box. A real notice would request checks be made out to "United States Treasury." Learn more about IRS impersonation scams [here](#). Other helpful resources include [Taxes. Security. Together](#) and [Protect Your Clients; Protect Yourself](#).

CMS Initiatives to Reach Young Adults During OE4

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced several new initiatives to reach young adults during the fourth open enrollment period (OE4). These initiatives include using the social video platform Twitch, a targeted and coordinated social media outreach campaign using the hashtag #HealthyAdulting, collaboration with the Department of Defense, an effort to increase marketplace awareness for young adults turning 19 who are enrolled in Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Programs, and outreach with the IRS to people who paid the individual responsibility penalty or claimed an exemption. Read the CMS announcement [here](#).

Resources

October PEAK/CBMS Build

Enhancements to the Colorado Program Eligibility and Application Kit (PEAK) and CBMS were implemented on October 16, 2016. Please reference the [PEAK Enhancements and Fixes](#) document, and the CBMS/PEAK October 2016 Enhancements for [Community Partners](#) and [County Users](#) resources for more information.

Updated 2017 Income Guidelines for APTCs and CSRs

Connect for Health Colorado has updated income guidelines for APTCs and Cost Sharing Reductions (CSRs). The guidelines can be found [here](#).

Service Center Email Encryption Changes: Effective September 23

Connect for Health Colorado replaced their email encryption tool on September 23, 2016. This means that any emails sent to the Connect for Health Colorado Service Center or headquarters with Protected Health Information (PHI) and/or Personally Identifiable Information (PII) may be rejected by their secured email system. All email messages with sensitive information must be encrypted or contain a password protected file. As a reminder, when reporting or helping

resolve any enrollment issue, always protect your customer's information. PHI or PII should never be included in the subject line or body of an email message.

November's Health Insurance Literacy Messaging – Shopping for Health Plans

Open enrollment is the yearly opportunity for consumers to change their plan without a qualified life change event. Learn more about communicating with [consumers](#) about shopping for health plans, messaging for [stakeholders](#), and get sample [newsletter](#) and [social media](#) messages.

Resources to Help with MAGI

Connect for Health Colorado's Assistance Network gathered a number of resources to help assisters understand MAGI:

- In the Loop's [MAGI Fact Sheet](#)
- In the Loop's [When to Count Dependents' Social Security Income](#)
- National Health Law Programs' (NHeLP) [Advocate's Guide to MAGI](#)
- NHeLP's [MAGI Household Composition Quick Reference Guide](#)
- University of California's Berkeley Labor Center's [one-page summary of MAGI](#)
- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities' [Health Reform: Beyond the Basics Determining Eligibility for Premium Tax Credits](#) webinar

Pre-BBH Webinars Available

If you missed any of the three pre-Building Better Health (BBH) Conference webinars view them using the links below.

- [ACA 101: Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask!](#)
- [Where Eligibility Starts: Modified Adjusted Gross Income \(MAGI\)](#)
- [Communications 101: Building Communications into Your Outreach](#)

Upcoming Calls, Trainings, and Events

Upcoming Stakeholder Meeting to Provide Feedback on Health First Colorado Dispute Resolution Process

As part of the implementation of House Bill 16-1277, HCPF is convening a stakeholder meeting led by the Department's LEAN experts to solicit feedback from county and community partners on proposed guidelines for the dispute resolution process for Health First Colorado eligibility determinations. The meeting is **November 9, 2016**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. In-person and webinar options for attendance are available, and the webinar will be recorded. Register [here](#).

DHS Offers Navigator Training

Denver Human Services (DHS) offers a navigator training for community partners. The navigator training includes an overview of the programs DHS offers, including food assistance, basic eligibility for Health First Colorado and cash programs, energy assistance, child support, childcare assistance program, PEAK, and a brief overview of the ACA. For more information and to register, please contact Kathy Crusan-Ford, Agency Trainer for SNAP Into Health, at Kathleen.Crusan-Ford@denvergov.org. The upcoming trainings will be held:

- **November 18, 2016**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1200 Federal Blvd., Room 1019, Denver
- **December 16, 2016**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1200 Federal Blvd., Room 1019, Denver

New to PEAK or Need a Refresher? PEAK Training Available on Demand

The Intro to PEAK and PEAK Application Walk-Through webinars on [Medical Assistance Applications](#), [Food and Medical Assistance Applications](#), and [Manage My Account](#) have been recorded and are now offered as an [On-Demand Application Walk-Through](#). Visit the PEAK Outreach Initiative [training webpage](#) to see training resources and [request PEAK training](#).