

ForwardHealth UPDATE

Wisconsin serving you

Providing the Latest Health Care Benefit Information to ForwardHealth Members



Katie Beckett Medicaid Members Will Keep Benefits During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Making sure the people of Wisconsin can get health care when they need it is always important. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever. In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and federal rules, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services has temporarily changed program rules to help protect the health and safety of members of Katie Beckett Medicaid.

One of these changes is that if a member was eligible for Katie Beckett Medicaid on or after March 18, 2020, they will keep their health care benefits until at least the end of the month in which the federal public health emergency for COVID-19 ends.

This means that even if a member had changes that would normally have made them lose health care benefits on or after March 18, 2020, they will keep their benefits during the federal public health emergency. Until the end of the federal public health emergency, a member will only

The Key Message

Members will keep their health care benefits during the COVID-19 federal public health emergency.

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with 2019 Wisconsin Act 185 § 105(1)(d).

lose their health care benefits if they move out of Wisconsin or they or their parent or caregiver asks to end health care benefits.

How does this affect members?

A Katie Beckett Medicaid member, parent, or caregiver may have reported changes that would have normally reduced or ended the member's health care benefits, such as a new source of income that put the member over the program's income limit. While we recorded these changes, they will not affect members' benefits for the rest of the federal public health emergency.

After the federal public health emergency ends, we will send families a letter if there are going to be any changes to a member's health care benefits. We will send a letter before any changes happen.

What do I need to do?

Families still need to report any change of address by calling the Katie Beckett Program at 888-786-3246. Families may also call with questions about eligibility or ending benefits.

How long will the public health emergency last?

The United States Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning January 27, 2020. While the federal public health emergency period is currently set to expire on July 20, 2021, it can be extended. Based on what the federal government has said, we expect that the public health emergency will last at least until December 31, 2021. We expect to keep all members enrolled until at least the end of 2021.

What will happen when the public health emergency ends?

A Katie Beckett member's benefits might change or end when the federal public health emergency is over. We will send a letter to the family to let them know before those changes happen.

Where can I get more information about COVID-19?

For the latest information about the COVID-19 outbreak in Wisconsin, visit the COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease) page on the Department of Health Services website at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm.

RESOURCES

These websites have helpful information about these topics:

- Wisconsin COVID-19 outbreak:
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm
- Program updates related to COVID-19:
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/forwardhealth.htm

REMINDER

Please continue to report any change of address to the Katie Beckett Program.

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For more information about program updates related to COVID-19, visit the COVID-19: ForwardHealth Program Updates for You and Your Family page on the Department of Health Services website at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/forwardhealth.htm.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Katie Beckett Program,
888-786-3246

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English: For help to translate or understand this, please call **800-362-3002** (TTY).

Spanish: Si necesita ayuda para traducir o entender este texto, por favor llame al teléfono **800-362-3002** (TTY).

Russian: Если вам не всё понятно в этом документе, позвоните по телефону **800-362-3002** (TTY).

Hmong: Yog xav tau kev pab txhais cov ntaub ntauv no kom koj totaub, hu rau **800-362-3002** (TTY).

Laotian: ພ້ອມຊ່ວຍໃນການແປ ຫລື ເຂົ້າໃຈເນື້ອຫາໃນນີ້, ກະລຸນາໂທອະສັບຫາ **800-362-3002** (TTY).