

ForwardHealth **ALERT**

Wisconsin serving you



TO

Hospital Providers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

REGARDING

ForwardHealth Will Expand Presumptive Eligibility for Express Enrollment (Hospitals)

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ForwardHealth is temporarily altering certain policy requirements in order to prevent further spread of the disease and effectively treat existing cases. These altered policy requirements will only be in effect during the public health emergency ~~declared by Governor Tony Evers for the State of Wisconsin under Executive Order 72.~~

ForwardHealth Will Expand Presumptive Eligibility for Express Enrollment

~~Per [Alert 012](#), titled “ForwardHealth Will Expand Presumptive Eligibility for Express Enrollment,” effective April 11, 2020, until the end of the public health emergency under Executive Order 72, ForwardHealth expanded presumptive eligibility (PE) for BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment (EE) to include children through age 18 in households with an income of up to 306 percent of the federal poverty level.~~

Effective April 18, 2020, until the end of the public health emergency ~~under Executive Order 72~~, ForwardHealth will expand **presumptive eligibility (PE)** for BadgerCare Plus **Express Enrollment (EE)** to **also** include the following:

- Adults age 65 and older with an income of up to 100 percent of the federal poverty level
- Adults who are blind or disabled and who are enrolled in Medicare with an income of up to 100 percent of the federal poverty level

Qualified hospitals may make expanded PE determinations for the above groups through the online EE application in ACCESS for Partners and Providers but **not** through paper applications. As a reminder, qualified hospitals may also make PE determinations for children, pregnant women, and certain adults for BadgerCare Plus; they may also make PE determinations for individuals applying for Family Planning Only Services. Chapter 12 of the [ACCESS Handbook](#) provides detailed information about using ACCESS to make PE determinations.

Note: The online EE application in ACCESS for Partners and Providers and the process for submitting an application have not changed. As a reminder, a PE determination made through the online EE application in ACCESS for Partners and Providers is based on both the applicant's self-reported information and information on file with ForwardHealth. All other policy regarding PE and EE continues to apply. The [Express Enrollment in Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus](#) service area of the ForwardHealth Online Handbook contains information about EE. The [Express Enrollment](#) page of the ForwardHealth Portal contains information about becoming a qualified hospital for making PE determinations.

Because enrollment through the EE process is temporary, it is important for members to apply for ongoing BadgerCare Plus, Family Planning Only Services, or Wisconsin Medicaid coverage. Additionally, ongoing coverage is necessary for long-term care. Providers are encouraged to assist members with this process. If the member does not want or need assistance with the application for ongoing coverage, the provider should refer the member to the [ACCESS website](#) or to their income maintenance agency to apply for ongoing coverage.