

# Claims

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Archive Date:12/02/2013

## Claims:Responses

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Topic #13437

### ForwardHealth-Initiated Claim Adjustments

There are times when ForwardHealth must initiate a claim adjustment to address claim issues that do not require provider action and do not affect reimbursement.

Claims that are subject to this type of ForwardHealth-initiated claim adjustment will have EOB (Explanation of Benefits) code 8234 noted on the RA (Remittance Advice).

The adjusted claim will be assigned a new claim number, known as an ICN (internal control number). The new ICN will begin with "58." If the provider adjusts this claim in the future, the new ICN will be required when resubmitting the claim.

## Submission

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Topic #11897

### **All Claims Must Be Submitted to MTM Inc.**

All claims for NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services provided to covered members must be submitted to MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) and not to ForwardHealth.

# Covered and Noncovered Services

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Archive Date:12/02/2013

## Covered and Noncovered Services: Covered Services and Requirements

Topic #11898

### Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support Procedure Codes Covered by ForwardHealth and Not Reimbursed by MTM Inc.

Providers should submit claims with the following BLS (basic life support) and ALS (advanced life support) procedure codes to ForwardHealth, *not* to MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.)

Procedure Code	Description
A0225	Ambulance service, neonatal transport, base rate, emergency transport, one way
A0384	BLS specialized service disposable supplies; defibrillation (used by ALS ambulances and BLS ambulances in jurisdictions where defibrillation is permitted in BLS ambulances)
A0392	ALS specialized service disposable supplies; defibrillation (to be used only in jurisdictions where defibrillation cannot be performed in BLS ambulances)
A0394	ALS specialized service disposable supplies; IV drug therapy
A0396	ALS specialized service disposable supplies, esophageal intubation
A0422	Ambulance (ALS or BLS) oxygen and oxygen supplies, life sustaining situation
A0424	Extra ambulance attendant, ground (ALS or BLS) or air (fixed or rotary winged); (requires medical review)
A0427	Ambulance service, advanced life support, emergency transport, Level 1 (ALS1-Emergency)
A0429	Ambulance service, basic life support, emergency transport (BLS-Emergency)
A0430	Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way (fixed wing)
A0431	Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way (rotary wing)
A0432	Paramedic intercept (PI), rural area, transport furnished by a volunteer ambulance company, which is prohibited by state law from billing third party payers
A0433	Advanced life support, Level 2 (ALS2)
A0434	Specialty care transport (SCT)
A0435	Fixed wing air mileage, per statute mile
A0436	Rotary wing air mileage, per statute mile
A0998	Ambulance response and treatment, no transport
A0999	Unlisted ambulance service

Topic #16017

### Appealing a Denied Transportation Service

Members have the right to appeal a transportation service that was denied by MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) Denials may include a denied ride or denied payment for meals or overnight stays.

To appeal a denied transportation service, members can either appeal to the MTM Inc. ombudsman or request a fair hearing directly from the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals).

## Appeal to the MTM Inc. Ombudsman

To appeal to the MTM Inc. ombudsman, members can do either of the following:

- Call the "We Care" number at (866) 436-0457 and ask to file an appeal.
- Write to the following address:

MTM Inc.  
Appeals Dept  
5117 W Terrace Dr  
Ste 400  
Madison WI 53718

MTM Inc. will respond to all appeals within 10 business days, even if the appeal is not resolved.

If the appeal was not resolved within 10 business days, MTM Inc. will send a final letter after a decision has been made. The appeal process will not take more than 45 days.

If the member is not satisfied with the decision of the MTM Inc. ombudsman, the member can follow the continued appeal process described in the letter.

If the member is still not satisfied, a fair hearing with the DHA may be requested.

## Request a Fair Hearing with the Division of Hearings and Appeals

To request a fair hearing with the DHA, the member is required to complete the Request for Fair Hearing form and submit it to the following address:

Department of Administration  
Division of Hearings and Appeals  
PO Box 7875  
Madison WI 53707-7875

Members can get the Request for Fair Hearing form [online](#) or by calling (608) 266-3096.

If the member chooses to write a letter in place of the form, the following must be included:

- Member's name.
- Member's mailing address.
- A brief description of the problem.
- The name of the agency that took the action or denied the service.
- Member's Social Security number.
- Member's signature.

Members who need help with asking for a fair hearing, may call (800) 362-3002.

For more information about fair hearings, members may refer to their ForwardHealth Enrollment and Benefits handbook [online](#) or call (800) 362-3002.

Topic #11899

## Drop-Off Details and Requirements

For return rides from covered appointments, providers or members can call the MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) "Where's My Ride" number at (866) 907-1494 if the provider or member:

- Scheduled a return ride in advance and the vehicle has not arrived within 15 minutes after the scheduled pick-up time.
- Has not scheduled a return ride in advance and thus needs to schedule a ride after the appointment. If, after calling, the return ride has not arrived within one hour, providers and members should call the "Where's My Ride" number again to inquire about the ride.

Members will be asked by the driver to sign a driver log for the ride home after their appointment.

Topic #11900

## General Non-emergency Medical Transportation Information

Members are eligible for NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) if they have no other way to receive a ride to a covered appointment. If members are financially able to drive themselves to the covered appointment or if neighbors, friends, relatives, or voluntary organizations are able to provide transportation at no cost, the member is not eligible for transportation through MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) Providers should note that a "ride" can also mean public transportation.

For members eligible to receive a ride through MTM Inc. to their covered appointments, MTM Inc. is required to schedule the least costly type of ride that meets the member's medical and transportation needs per 42 CFR 447.200. MTM Inc. will require members to ride a bus to their covered appointment when appropriate. MTM Inc. may be able to offer mileage reimbursement to members who have a car and are able to drive themselves to their covered appointment but are unable to pay for gas.

For members unable to ride a bus and unable to use their own car, MTM Inc. will coordinate a ride with the most appropriate type of vehicle based on the member's medical and transportation needs. Rides may include an SMV (specialized medical vehicle) or other type of vehicle. Members may be required to share a ride with another rider during their trip to their covered appointment.

Three modes of NEMT are covered for members who do not have any other means of transportation going to and from services that are covered by the program in which they are enrolled. Modes of NEMT include:

- Common carrier transportation.
- SMV transportation.
- Non-emergency ambulance transportation.

### Common Carrier Transportation

Common carrier transportation is transportation by any mode other than ambulance or SMV. Common carrier vehicles or providers are not required to be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid but must be under contract with MTM Inc. These vehicles are not required to have permanently installed ramps or lifts and are not enrolled for cot or stretcher transportation. This may include vehicles such as public transportation, volunteer vehicles, and HSVs (human service vehicles). HSVs must maintain a current State

Patrol HSV inspection.

## Specialized Medical Vehicle Transportation

SMVs are vehicles that are equipped with permanently installed ramps or lifts and are required to be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid. SMVs that are also used for cot or stretcher transportation must meet the additional requirements of [DHS 107.23\(3\)\(b\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

To be eligible for SMV transportation, a member must have a documented physical or mental disability that prevents him or her from traveling safely in a common carrier or private motor vehicle to a covered service. To be eligible for transport on a cot or stretcher, a member must require transport in a supine position.

MTM Inc. provides coordination and reimbursement for Medicaid-enrolled SMV providers for NEMT. SMV providers must be contracted with MTM Inc. and submit claims directly to MTM Inc. in order to receive reimbursement. The referring hospital, clinic, or other originating facility coordinates the transportation through MTM Inc.

### Certificate of Need

Members receiving NEMT through MTM Inc. are not required to have a [Certificate of Need \(Certificate of Need for Specialized Medical Vehicle Transportation form, F-1197 \(06/09\)\)](#) signed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant on file prior to receiving SMV services. However, MTM Inc. may verify in other ways whether or not an SMV is the appropriate mode of travel for a member.

The Certificate of Need form is required for SMV services provided to ForwardHealth members not affected by the NEMT management system.

## Non-emergency Ambulance Transportation

To be eligible for non-emergency ambulance transportation, a member must require [life support services](#) (either ALS (advanced life support) or BLS (basic life support)), require transportation in a supine position, or suffer from an illness or injury that prevents him or her from traveling safely by any other means.

MTM Inc. provides coordination and reimbursement for Medicaid-enrolled ambulance providers for NEMT. Ambulance providers who provide NEMT to covered members must be contracted with MTM Inc. and must submit claims directly to MTM Inc. in order to receive reimbursement for these transportation services.

MTM Inc. also reimburses claims for limited medical services provided during a non-emergency ambulance trip. Providers should continue to submit claims to ForwardHealth for most medical services provided during a non-emergency ambulance trip. Refer to [a complete list](#) of ALS and BLS procedure codes that should be submitted to ForwardHealth in all circumstances (whether transporting under emergency or non-emergency cases).

Topic #11901

## MTM Inc., the Non-emergency Medical Transportation Manager

The DHS (Department of Health Services) has contracted with MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) to provide NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) management services for Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus members. NEMT includes transportation provided by ambulance, SMV (specialized medical vehicle), or common carrier to a covered service.



As the DHS's transportation manager, MTM Inc. arranges and pays for rides to covered Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus services for members who have no other way to receive a ride. Rides can include public transportation such as a city bus, rides in SMVs, or rides in other types of vehicles depending on a member's medical and transportation needs.

MTM Inc. is under contract with the DHS and has a HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) business associate agreement in place. For more information on MTM Inc., refer to the [MTM Inc. Web site](#).

This does not affect emergency transportation services under Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus. Claim submission and reimbursement for emergency transportation by ambulance is not affected by the NEMT manager.

Topic #13637

## Meals and Lodging Member Reimbursement Policy

When a trip is coordinated by the NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) manager, there are certain circumstances when meals and lodging may be reimbursable for members. In the following situations, members may request reimbursement for meals and lodging when traveling to an allowable covered service:

- A member may be paid for one meal if he or she is traveling at least 100 miles one way to an appointment and is away for at least four hours.
- A member may be paid for two meals if he or she is traveling at least 100 miles one way to an appointment and is away for at least eight hours.
- A member may be paid for two meals and get one overnight stay if he or she is traveling at least 200 miles one way to an appointment and is away for at least eight hours.
- Any eligible members who are required by medical necessity to have multiple overnight stays may be allowed meals and lodging based on the above criteria. For members with transportation coordinated by MTM Inc., (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) members may have up to three meals reimbursed per day on the second and ensuing days of medical care.

An approved medically required escort may get paid for the same meals and receive the same overnight-stays that the member is allowed.

If the member qualifies for meal payment, MTM Inc. will pay the amount the member spent on the meal or up to \$10.00 per meal, whichever is less. The member needs to keep receipts for all meals and send them with a trip log to MTM Inc. as instructed by MTM Inc. MTM Inc. will send payment to the member on a ComData Card that can be used like a debit card. If the member is unable to pay for the meals at the time of his or her appointment, he or she should inform MTM Inc.

MTM Inc. will not pay for any alcohol or recreational activities.

### Process for Requesting Reimbursement from MTM Inc. for Meals and Lodging

Members must request meals and lodging from MTM Inc. when calling to schedule NEMT transportation. Members who meet the rules will then speak with a Care Management Coordinator at MTM Inc. The Care Management Coordinator will explain how to be paid for meals or get an overnight stay.

Members should schedule their ride for trips that will need meals and overnight stays as soon as possible, but at least two business days in advance. Members can ask MTM Inc. to schedule rides for any trips in the current month and the following month.

Members who are able to pay for meals up front will be required to do so. MTM Inc. will reimburse members once it is verified that they attended their appointment. Members must keep receipts for all meals and send them to MTM Inc. with a trip log as

instructed by the Care Management Coordinator. MTM Inc. will send payment to members on a ComData Card that can be used like a debit card. If members are unable to pay for their meals at the time of their appointment, they should let MTM Inc. know when they call to schedule the ride.

MTM Inc. will arrange and pay for overnight stays.

If NEMT is denied for a member, then meals and lodging are not reimbursable.

Topic #11902

## Members Not Affected by the Non-emergency Medical Transportation Management System

The NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) management system does not affect the following members:

- Members who are residing in a nursing home. Members residing in a nursing home have their NEMT services coordinated by the nursing home.
- Members who are enrolled in Family Care. Members enrolled in Family Care will continue to receive NEMT services from the Family Care care management organization.

Topic #11903

## Members Not Eligible for Non-emergency Medical Transportation

NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services are not covered for members enrolled in the following programs:

- The BadgerCare Plus Core Plan or the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan. Core Plan and Basic Plan members may also be enrolled in Family Planning Only Services and may receive transportation to covered family planning services.
- The WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).
- WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
- QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only).
- QI-1 (Qualifying Individual 1).
- QDWI (Qualified Disabled Working Individuals).
- SeniorCare.
- Alien emergency services.
- SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary).

Topic #15657

## Members Required to Ride a Bus

MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) will pay for a member to ride a bus to his or her covered appointment if the member:

- Lives within one-half mile of a bus stop,
- Attends an appointment within one-half mile of a bus stop, and
- Does not meet any of the exceptions listed below.

The following individuals will not be required to ride a bus to their covered appointment:

- A member who does not live within one-half mile of a bus stop or have an appointment within one-half mile of a bus stop.
- A member who is unable to ride a bus or get to a bus stop due to a physical or mental health condition (for example, if the member is going to a dialysis appointment). MTM Inc. will verify with the health care provider that the member is medically unable to ride a bus.
- A parent or caregiver who is traveling with a member age four or younger to his or her appointment.
- A member age 15 or younger who is traveling alone.
- A member age 70 or older who uses a walker, crutches, and/or a cane.

MTM Inc. will mail a bus pass or ticket to members who are required to ride a bus prior to their scheduled covered appointment.

Topic #11904

## Members Who Receive Non-emergency Medical Transportation Services Through MTM Inc.

Members enrolled in the following programs receive NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services through MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.):

- Wisconsin Medicaid (including IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct)).
- Family Planning Only Services.
- The BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan.
- The BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan.
- TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only) Benefit.
- BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment for Pregnant Women.

Topic #11905

## Pickup Details and Requirements

MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) has resources available to help a member who is required to ride a bus to his or her appointment. MTM Inc. can help the member find the right bus to get to an appointment and learn the general rules about riding the bus if he or she is not familiar with taking the bus.

For a member getting picked up by a vehicle, the transportation provider will call the day before the appointment to confirm the ride, including the time the member is scheduled to be picked up for his or her appointment. A member who has not heard from the transportation provider the day before the scheduled pickup time, may call MTM Inc.'s reservation line at (866) 907-1493 (or TTY [800] 855-2880).

On the day of the appointment, the member must be ready and watching for his or her ride at least 15 minutes before the scheduled pickup time. Generally, the driver will not come to the door. A member who is more than 10 minutes late for his or her scheduled pickup time, may miss the ride. Any member waiting for more than 15 minutes after the scheduled pickup time should call MTM Inc.'s "Where's My Ride" number at (866) 907-1494 to inquire about the status of the ride.

The member will need to bring his or her own travel equipment for the ride, such as a car seat or a wheelchair.

The member will be asked by the driver to sign a driver log for the ride to his or her appointment. Members will sign the form again when leaving the appointment.

Topic #13657

## Policy for Additional Passengers and Car Seats

### Individuals Who May Ride with a Member to an Appointment

Per federal statute 42 CFR 440.170, MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) can only arrange and pay for the following individuals to ride with a member to a covered appointment:

- A medically required escort, such as a family member or friend (MTM Inc. will verify medical necessity with the member's health care provider).
- A parent/caregiver if the member is a minor.

If a member is getting a ride to his or her own appointment, MTM Inc. will not pay for the member's children to ride along unless they also have an appointment.

If members drive their own car, they may take additional passengers. If members are taking a bus, additional passengers are required to purchase their own bus fare.

### Car Seat Requirements

Parents or caretakers **must** provide car seats or booster seats for the ride. Car seats are required for children until they are at least age 4 and 40 pounds. Booster seats are required for children up until the child reaches one of the following:

- 8 years old.
- 80 pounds.
- 4 feet, 9 inches tall.

If the parent or caretaker does not have a car seat or booster seat for any children who need them at the time of the ride, the member will not be able to take his or her ride.

Topic #15717

## Policy for Requesting Extra Stops

Additional stops will only be allowed for covered health care services, like an extra stop at the pharmacy to pick up a prescription on the way home from an appointment.

For a member who is getting a ride in a vehicle, all extra stops must be approved by MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) ahead of time. The member must call MTM Inc. to request an extra stop before the stop is needed. The driver will not make any stops that are not approved.

Topic #11906

## Requesting Non-emergency Medical Transportation Services

Members or providers should have the following information available when calling MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation

Management Inc.) to request NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services:

- Member's full name, home address, and telephone number.
- ForwardHealth identification number.
- The pick-up address with ZIP code and the telephone number at which the member may be reached.
- Name, telephone number, address, and ZIP code of the Medicaid-enrolled provider.
- Appointment time and date.
- The end time of the appointment, if available.
- Any special transportation needs (e.g., if the member needs someone else to ride with him or her, if the member requires life support services, or if the member requires transport in a supine position).
- General reason for the appointment (doctor's visit, checkup, eye appointment, etc.).

A member or provider who calls to schedule a ride and does not have all of this information may not be able to schedule a ride and may have to call MTM Inc. back.

For NEMT requiring life support services, the medical provider arranging the transportation must fax a copy of the prescription from the physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner to MTM Inc.

For members eligible to receive a ride through MTM Inc. to their covered appointments, MTM Inc. is required to schedule the least costly type of ride that meets the member's medical and transportation needs per 42 CFR 447.200.

At the end of the call, MTM Inc. will give the caller information about the ride. If the member is taking the bus, MTM Inc. will explain how they will mail the bus ticket or pass. For members getting picked up, MTM Inc. will notify the caller of the name of the transportation provider who will be picking the member up and when the member should be ready for his or her ride. The transportation provider will call the member the day before the appointment to confirm the ride, including the time the member is scheduled to be picked up for his or her appointment.

Note: MTM Inc. may contact a member's health care provider to verify:

- The most appropriate mode of transportation for members who have special transportation needs. This verification process is referred to as LON (Level of Need) certification. For members who request special transportation arrangements, MTM Inc. will fax an LON form to the member's health care provider to determine the most appropriate mode of transportation.
- The urgency of rides scheduled less than two business days before a covered appointment.
- Regularly scheduled appointments for members requesting standing order rides.
- The medical necessity of escorts requested to accompany members to their covered appointments.

Members and medical providers are encouraged to contact MTM Inc. with 24-hour notice, if possible, if the member's appointment has been changed or canceled. Members and medical providers may cancel a ride by calling the MTM Inc. reservation line at (866) 907-1493 or by accessing the [MTM Inc. Web site](#). If rides are not canceled, MTM Inc. may require the member to call the reservation line to confirm all future rides the day before an appointment.

Topic #16037

## Requesting a Ride Online

Providers can schedule routine, standing order, and urgent requests [online](#). In order to schedule urgent requests online, providers must first contact the transportation provider to confirm availability if the trip is scheduled with less than two business days' notice.

Members can schedule routine and standing order requests [online](#). Members will need to have already scheduled at least one ride with MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) by calling the reservation phone number before they can schedule rides online.

Both providers and members will need to have a valid e-mail address to register with MTM Inc. and will need to create an account with a user name and password. Members or providers can call the reservation line at (866) 907-1493 to register and for assistance scheduling a ride online.

After scheduling a ride online, members or providers will be sent an e-mail confirmation. All confirmations of rides scheduled online will be sent only by e-mail to the e-mail address that was given during registration. Members or providers who have scheduled a ride online and do not receive an e-mail confirmation within 24 hours, should call the MTM Inc. reservation line at (866) 907-1493 as soon as possible. For more information about scheduling rides online, refer to the [MTM Inc. Web site](#).

Topic #1808

## School-Based Services Transportation

As stated in [DHS \(Department of Health Services\) 107.36\(1\)\(h\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse SMVs (specialized medical vehicles) for transporting a child to school or another location to receive IEP (Individual Education Program) medical services when that transportation is in the child's IEP.

An IEP is a written statement for a child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance with [s. 115.787](#), Wis. Stats. The IEP guides the delivery of special education supports and services for a child with a disability.

When SMV services are in a child's IEP, the child's school district or CESA (Cooperative Educational Service Agency) is responsible for submitting claims to ForwardHealth for the service under the SBS (school-based services ) benefit. The DHS Transportation Manager may reimburse SMVs for transporting a child from and to school for a medical appointment, such as a doctor's appointment, when the medical care and transportation are not in the child's IEP.

Topic #12237

## Service Complaints

Anyone, including a health care provider or a member's chosen representative, can file a complaint about NEMT services to MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) Complaints may be about issues such as having a hard time getting a ride, long waiting times, or drivers who are late.

*Note:* In order for MTM Inc. to share HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996)-protected information with anyone other than the member, the member must give MTM Inc. permission by completing a form that MTM Inc. can provide.

### Filing a Complaint with MTM Inc.

To file a complaint with MTM Inc., providers and members can do any of the following:

- Call MTM Inc.'s "We Care" number at (866) 436-0457.
- Write to MTM Inc. at the following address:

MTM Inc.  
Quality Management  
5117 W Terrace Dr  
Ste 400  
Madison WI 53718

- Log a complaint [online](#).

When filing a complaint, providers and members are required to have the member's ForwardHealth ID number, name, and DOS (date of service) or the trip number.

After receiving the complaint, MTM Inc. will mail a response to the member within 10 business days. If the complaint is not resolved within 10 business days, MTM Inc. will mail a final response within 30 business days of receiving the complaint. If MTM Inc. needs more time to resolve the complaint, MTM Inc. will mail a letter stating they will resolve the complaint within 14 business days. If the member is not satisfied with the decision, he or she can follow the continued complaint process described in the response letter.

Topic #12217

## Signed Driver Log

Members or their representatives will be required to sign a driver log for each leg of the trip to verify that a ride has been provided. Members or their representatives should not sign for a leg of the trip until that leg has been completed.

Topic #12257

## Specialized Medical Vehicle Requirements

In order to be reimbursed for NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services through MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.), SMVs (specialized medical vehicles) must maintain the following requirements:

- Be currently enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid and meet all enrollment requirements under [DHS 105.39](#), Wis. Admin. Code, and be contracted with MTM Inc.
- Maintain the minimum insurance as noted in DHS 105.39 (1) and (2), Wis. Admin. Code.
- Ensure vehicles and all components comply with or exceed the manufacturers, state and federal, safety and mechanical operating and maintenance standards for the particular vehicle used under the contract.

## Copayments for Specialized Medical Vehicle Trips

SMV providers are required to request a \$1.00 copayment from the member each time a member is transported and a base rate is billed unless the member is exempt from making copayments.

Members are reminded they should not tip the transportation provider.

Topic #15677

## Transportation for Members to a Veterans Medical Facility

MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) can arrange and pay for rides for a Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus-enrolled veteran to a veterans facility if the medical appointment could be covered by Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus.

Topic #15697

## Transportation for Minors Traveling Along to Their

## Appointments

Members age 17 and younger are minors. All reservations for transportation of minors to a covered appointment must be made by an adult. Additionally, transportation of minors usually requires a parent or caretaker who assumes responsibility for the minor, accompanies the minor for the entire trip, and stays with the minor at the destination.

Some exceptions can be made to allow a minor to ride alone if a parent or legal guardian signs a consent form. Consent forms can be requested from MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) by calling the reservation line at (866) 907-1493 or accessed [online](#).

The following members may travel without a parent or caretaker:

- Minors age 16-17 years old when traveling by a bus or vehicle.
- Minors age 12-15 years old with a signed consent form on file with MTM Inc. when traveling by a vehicle only.
- Minors age 4-11 years old with a signed consent form on file with MTM Inc. when traveling by a vehicle only with at least one other child to the same day treatment program.

Topic #15698

## Policy Regarding Transportation for Pickup of Prescriptions and Disposable Medical Supplies

Members needing to fill a prescription or pick up DMS (disposable medical supplies) following a covered appointment should do so en route to their return destination. In this case, providers or members must call MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) to request transportation to the pharmacy or other destination in advance of the actual return portion of the trip. This may be done at any time prior to the trip to the pharmacy, including while the member is at the covered appointment. If the trip to the pharmacy or other destination is not requested through MTM Inc., the additional stop will not be accommodated.

Members needing to refill a prescription when there is no doctor's appointment scheduled are encouraged to use a mail-order service. Wisconsin state law permits Medicaid-enrolled pharmacies to deliver prescriptions to members via the mail. Medicaid-enrolled retail pharmacies may dispense and mail prescriptions or over-the-counter medications to a member at no additional cost to the member or to ForwardHealth. When filling prescriptions for members, providers are encouraged to use the mail delivery option, if requested by the member; however, providers cannot charge a member mailing expenses. Certain medications, such as pre-filled syringes, medication that must be refrigerated, or medication that must be stabilized, are not recommended to be mailed to the member. Information for the conveyance of these medications to the member's home is [available](#).

As a reminder, ForwardHealth allows certain drugs to be dispensed in a [three-month supply](#). Pharmacy providers should work with the member and the prescriber to determine whether or not it is clinically appropriate to dispense a three-month supply.

If prescriptions for drugs or DMS items cannot be filled during a scheduled trip and mail order is not an option, MTM Inc. can schedule a ride for the member to fill his or her prescription or pick up his or her DMS. MTM Inc. may pay for the member to ride a bus. For a member unable to ride a bus, MTM Inc. will schedule the most appropriate type of ride based on the member's medical and transportation needs.

*Note:* Transportation to pick up, repair, or fit DME (durable medical equipment) and hearing aids is also covered and can be scheduled by calling the reservation line or scheduling online.

Topic #12277



# Types of Non-emergency Medical Transportation Rides

Three types of transportation rides are covered for members who have no other means of transportation going to and from covered services provided by a Medicaid-enrolled provider:

- Standing order rides.
- Urgent rides.
- Routine rides.

MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) schedules and pays for these rides.

## Standing Order Rides

A standing order ride is defined as regularly recurring transportation for members who have no other way to get a ride to a covered service. A standing order ride has the same pick-up point, pick-up time, destination, and return. To eliminate the need to call the reservation line to schedule every ride, the standing order process allows members or providers to arrange regularly recurring rides for three months at a time. Standing order rides to dialysis appointments can be scheduled for six months at a time.

Providers may refer to the [MTM Inc. Web site](#) for information on scheduling standing order rides.

## Routine Rides

A routine ride is a ride to an appointment that does not require a member to be seen right away, such as a yearly check-up or a vision exam. Most rides are considered routine.

Routine rides must be scheduled at least two business days before an appointment and can be scheduled for the current month and the following month. Routine rides can be scheduled by calling (866) 907-1493 (or TTY [800] 855-2880) Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. or by going online. (See below for how to schedule a ride online).

The member or health care provider can contact MTM Inc. to schedule regularly recurring rides for up to three months at a time. The member or health care provider can schedule regularly recurring rides for dialysis appointments for six months at a time.

## Urgent Rides

An urgent ride can be one of the following:

- A health care situation in which the member does not need to call 911 for immediate help but cannot wait two business days before seeing a health care provider.
- A hospital discharge.
- A ride to a follow-up appointment if the follow-up appointment is for the same health care issue and is scheduled within two days of the previous appointment.

A ride to an urgent appointment will be provided in three hours or less.

Providers and members can schedule an urgent ride by calling the reservation number at (866) 907-1493 (or TTY [800] 855-2880) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

*Note:* If an urgent ride is requested by a member, MTM Inc. may contact the member's health care provider to confirm the urgency of the appointment.

# Managed Care

# 3

Archive Date:12/02/2013

## Managed Care:Claims

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Topic #385

### Appeals to BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid

The provider has 60 calendar days to file an appeal with BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid after the HMO (health maintenance organization) or SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO either does not respond in writing within 45 calendar days or if the provider is dissatisfied with the HMO's or SSI HMO's response.

BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid will not review appeals that were not first made to the HMO or SSI HMO. If a provider sends an appeal directly to BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid without first filing it with the HMO or SSI HMO, the appeal will be returned to the provider.

Appeals will only be reviewed for enrollees who were eligible for and who were enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus HMO or Medicaid SSI HMO on the date of service in question.

Appeals must be made in writing and must include:

- A letter, clearly marked "APPEAL," explaining why the claim should be paid or a completed [Managed Care Program Provider Appeal \(F-12022 \(03/09\)\)](#) form.
- A copy of the claim, clearly marked "APPEAL."
- A copy of the provider's letter to the HMO or SSI HMO.
- A copy of the HMO's or SSI HMO's response to the provider.
- Any documentation that supports the case.

The appeal will be reviewed and any additional information needed will be requested from the provider or the HMO or SSI HMO. Once all pertinent information is received, BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid has 45 calendar days to make a final decision.

The provider and the HMO or SSI HMO will be notified in writing of the final decision. If the decision is in favor of the provider, the HMO or SSI HMO is required to pay the provider within 45 calendar days of the final decision. The decision is final, and all parties must abide by the decision.

Topic #384

### Appeals to HMOs and SSI HMOs

Providers are required to first file an appeal directly with the BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO within 60 calendar days of receipt of the initial denial. Providers are required to include a letter explaining why the HMO or SSI HMO should pay the claim. The appeal should be sent to the address indicated on the HMO's or SSI HMO's denial notice.

The HMO or SSI HMO then has 45 calendar days to respond in writing to the appeal. The HMO or SSI HMO decides whether to pay the claim and sends the provider a letter stating the decision.

If the HMO or SSI HMO does not respond in writing within 45 calendar days, or if the provider is dissatisfied with the HMO's or SSI HMO's response, the provider may send a written appeal to ForwardHealth within 60 calendar days.

Topic #386

## Claims Submission

BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs have requirements for timely filing of claims, and providers are required to follow HMO and SSI HMO claims submission guidelines. Contact the enrollee's HMO or SSI HMO for organization-specific submission deadlines.

Topic #387

## Extraordinary Claims

Extraordinary claims are BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid claims for a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollee that have been denied by an HMO or SSI HMO but may be paid as fee-for-service claims.

The following are some examples of extraordinary claims situations:

- The enrollee was not enrolled in an HMO or SSI HMO at the time he or she was admitted to an inpatient hospital, but then enrolled in an HMO or SSI HMO during the hospital stay. In this case, all claims related to the stay (including physician claims) should be submitted to fee-for-service. For the physician claims associated with the inpatient hospital stay, the provider is required to include the date of admittance and date of discharge in Element 18 of the paper 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.
- The claims are for orthodontia/prostodontia services that began before HMO or SSI HMO coverage. Include a record with the claim of when the bands were placed.

## Submitting Extraordinary Claims

When submitting an extraordinary claim, include the following:

- A legible copy of the completed claim form, in accordance with billing guidelines.
- A letter detailing the problem, any claim denials, and any steps taken to correct the situation.

Submit extraordinary claims to:

ForwardHealth  
 Managed Care Extraordinary Claims  
 PO Box 6470  
 Madison WI 53716-0470

Topic #389

## Provider Appeals

When a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO denies a provider's claim, the HMO or SSI HMO is required to send the provider a notice informing him or her of the right to file an appeal.

An HMO or SSI HMO network or non-network provider may file an appeal to the HMO or SSI HMO when:

- A claim submitted to the HMO or SSI HMO is denied payment.
- The full amount of a submitted claim is not paid.

Providers are required to file an appeal with the HMO or SSI HMO *before* filing an appeal with ForwardHealth.

## Covered and Noncovered Services

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Topic #390

### Covered Services

#### HMOs

HMOs (health maintenance organizations) are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements. Although ForwardHealth requires contracted HMOs and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs to provide all medically necessary covered services, the following services may be provided by BadgerCare Plus HMOs at their discretion:

- Dental.
- Chiropractic.

If the HMO does not include these services in their benefit package, the enrollee receives the services on a fee-for-service basis.

Topic #391

### Noncovered Services

The following are not covered by BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs but are provided to enrollees on a fee-for-service basis provided the member's fee-for-service plan covers the service:

- CRS (Community Recovery Services).
- CSP (Community Support Program) benefits.
- Crisis intervention services.
- Environmental lead inspections.
- CCC (child care coordination) services.
- Pharmacy services and diabetic supplies.
- PNCC (prenatal care coordination) services.
- Provider-administered drugs, including all "J" codes, drug-related "Q" codes, and a limited number of related [administration codes](#).
- SBS (school-based services).
- Targeted case management services.
- NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services.
- DOT (directly observed therapy) and monitoring for TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Only Related Services ).

Topic #13877

## Striving to Quit Initiative — First Breath

### Background Information

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), almost one million individuals in Wisconsin smoke every

day. While the smoking rate for adults overall in the state is about 20 percent, the rate is higher — about 33 percent — for BadgerCare Plus members. Wisconsin Medicaid has received a five-year \$9.2 million grant from the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) to help BadgerCare Plus members enrolled in participating HMOs (health maintenance organizations) to quit smoking through the Striving to Quit initiative. Striving to Quit includes the following separate, evidence-based programs:

- Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line (i.e., Quit Line), which offers telephone counseling to eligible members who smoke.
- First Breath, which targets eligible pregnant women who smoke by connecting them to trained tobacco cessation counselors for face-to-face tobacco cessation counseling.

## First Breath

The First Breath program offers eligible pregnant women who smoke (or who have quit smoking in the last six months) face-to-face tobacco cessation counseling during their prenatal care visits and up to five face-to-face counseling visits plus additional telephone calls for support during the postpartum phase. To participate in the First Breath program, members may be referred to First Breath by their prenatal care provider or may independently call First Breath without a referral at (800) 448-5148. Members who participate in First Breath via Striving to Quit may be eligible to receive financial incentives of up to \$160.00 for participation in treatment and for quitting smoking.

### Enrollment Criteria

To be eligible to receive enhanced services from the First Breath program via Striving to Quit, BadgerCare Plus members must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan or the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan.
- Be a pregnant smoker.
- Express an interest in quitting smoking.
- Be enrolled in one of the following HMOs:
  - Children's Community Health Plan.
  - CommunityConnect HealthPlan.
  - Managed Health Services.
  - MercyCare Health Plans.
  - Molina Health Care.
  - Network Health Plan.
  - Physicians Plus Insurance Corporation.
  - Unity Health Plans Insurance Corporation.
- Reside in one of the following counties:
  - Dane.
  - Kenosha.
  - Milwaukee.
  - Racine.
  - Rock.

## Covered Services

The following services are covered by Striving to Quit via First Breath:

- Up to 10 one-on-one counseling sessions during regular prenatal care appointments by First Breath providers.
- Five one-on-one counseling sessions with a trained First Breath Health Educator following delivery.
- Up to six telephone calls with the First Breath Health Educator following delivery.

## Provider Responsibilities

Providers are responsible for screening pregnant BadgerCare Plus HMO members for smoking and enrolling them in the First Breath program or referring members to the First Breath program.

Clinics that currently provide First Breath services are responsible for the following:

- Screening for smoking and enrolling members in First Breath.
- Encouraging members to enroll in Striving to Quit.
- Providing regular First Breath counseling during prenatal care visits.
- Completing First Breath data forms and submitting the forms via fax to (608) 251-4136 or mail to the following address:

Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation  
2503 Todd Dr  
Madison WI 53713

Clinics that do not currently provide First Breath smoking cessation services should refer members to First Breath.

## Screening and Making Referrals

For clinics that currently provide First Breath services, there are no changes to current procedures.

The following language is suggested for providers to use to encourage members to enroll in First Breath:

One of the benefits of enrolling in First Breath now is that you may be eligible to participate in a stop smoking study that provides free counseling services to help you quit and will pay you for taking part in certain activities. You can learn more about the program when someone from the First Breath office calls you or when you call them.

Clinics that do not currently provide First Breath services should encourage pregnant BadgerCare Plus members to seek help to quit by using the above language. Clinic staff or the member may call the First Breath program at (800) 448-5148, extension 112, for help in finding a First Breath provider in the member's area. Members may also visit the [First Breath Web site](#) to locate a First Breath provider.

## Becoming a First Breath Site

Clinics not currently providing First Breath services may become First Breath sites by calling the First Breath Coordinator at (800) 448-5148, extension 112, or by visiting the First Breath Web site. Providers will need to complete four hours of training to provide First Breath services. Training is free and provided by First Breath coordinators on site. Becoming a First Breath site allows all pregnant BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members to be served during their regular prenatal care visits.

After becoming a First Breath site, clinics will need to do the following:

- Provide evidence-based cessation counseling during regular prenatal care.
- Complete enrollment and other data forms.
- Distribute small, non-cash gifts supplied by the First Breath program.

## For More Information

For more information about Striving to Quit, providers should contact their HMO representative, visit the ForwardHealth Portal, or e-mail Striving to Quit at [dhsstqinfo@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dhsstqinfo@wisconsin.gov).

For more information or for technical assistance questions regarding the Quit Line, providers may visit the [UW-CTRI \(University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention\) Web site](#).



For more information or for technical assistance questions regarding First Breath, providers may call First Breath at (800) 448-5148, extension 112, or visit the First Breath Web site.

Topic #13857

# Striving to Quit Initiative — Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line

## Background Information

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), almost one million individuals in Wisconsin smoke every day. While the smoking rate for adults overall in the state is about 20 percent, the rate is higher — about 33 percent — for BadgerCare Plus members. Wisconsin Medicaid has received a five-year \$9.2 million grant from the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) to help BadgerCare Plus members enrolled in participating HMOs (health maintenance organizations) to quit smoking through the Striving to Quit initiative. Striving to Quit includes the following separate, evidence-based programs:

- Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line (i.e., Quit Line), which offers telephone counseling to eligible members who smoke.
- First Breath, which targets eligible pregnant women who smoke by connecting them to trained tobacco cessation counselors for face-to-face tobacco cessation counseling.

## Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line

Striving to Quit offers eligible members who smoke enhanced tobacco cessation treatment from the Quit Line. Members who participate in Striving to Quit qualify for at least five smoking cessation counseling calls from the Quit Line and appropriate tobacco cessation medications covered by Wisconsin Medicaid. To participate in Striving to Quit, members may be referred to the Quit Line by their provider or may independently call the Quit Line without a referral at (800) QUIT-NOW (784-8669).

Striving to Quit members using the Quit Line may be eligible to receive financial incentives of up to \$120.00 for participation in treatment and for quitting smoking. Striving to Quit requires members who participate in Quit Line treatment services to take a biochemical test to confirm smoking status at initial enrollment, six months post-enrollment, and 12 months after enrollment in the initiative.

## Enrollment Criteria

To be eligible to receive enhanced services from the Quit Line via Striving to Quit, members must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled in BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan or BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan.
- Be 18 years of age and older.
- Be a smoker and express an interest in quitting smoking.
- Be enrolled in one of the following HMOs:
  - Children's Community Health Plan.
  - CompCare.
  - Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire.
  - Managed Health Services.
  - MercyCare Health Plans.
  - Molina Health Care.
  - Network Health Plan.
  - Physicians Plus Insurance Corporation.
  - UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.
  - Unity Health Plans Insurance Corporation.

- Reside in one of the following counties:
  - Brown.
  - Calumet.
  - Columbia.
  - Dane.
  - Dodge.
  - Door.
  - Florence.
  - Fond du Lac.
  - Grant.
  - Green.
  - Iowa.
  - Jefferson.
  - Kewaunee.
  - Lafayette.
  - Manitowoc.
  - Marinette.
  - Menominee.
  - Oconto.
  - Outagamie.
  - Rock.
  - Sauk.
  - Sheboygan.
  - Walworth.
  - Waupaca.
  - Winnebago.

## Covered Drugs and Services

The following drugs and services are covered by Striving to Quit or Medicaid:

- Up to five cessation counseling calls to the Quit Line plus additional calls initiated by the member are covered by Striving to Quit.
- Tobacco cessation medications and biochemical testing to confirm smoking status are covered by Medicaid.

## Provider Responsibilities

For members seeking Striving to Quit services from the Quit Line, providers are responsible for the following:

- Screening for smoking and referring potentially eligible members who smoke to the Quit Line.
- Conducting biochemical tests (i.e., urine cotinine tests).
- Writing prescriptions for tobacco cessation drugs for members, as appropriate.
- Working with the Quit Line, completing Striving to Quit referral forms for member referrals, writing tobacco cessation prescriptions, and faxing biochemical test results and forms to the Quit Line.
- Identifying one or two key staff members in a clinic or practice who will serve as points of contact for Striving to Quit and assist with coordinating the biochemical tests and other tasks as needed.

## Screening and Making Referrals

The following language is suggested for providers to use to encourage members who smoke to agree to a referral or to call the Quit Line themselves:

One of the benefits of calling the Quit Line now is that you may be eligible to participate in a stop smoking study that provides free counseling services to help you quit and will pay you for taking part in certain activities. I would be happy to make a referral for you. If you are interested, all we need to do is a simple urine test to confirm that you smoke. After I send the paperwork, someone from the Quit Line will call you to tell you more about the study or you can call them directly at the number on the card. If you do not want to be in the study, you may still get some services from the Quit Line.

Providers should ask HMO members living in targeted counties if they may refer the member to the Quit Line. If a member is referred to the Quit Line, providers should submit a Striving to Quit Referral form signed by the member to the Quit Line via fax at (877) 554-6643. Striving to Quit Referral forms are available on the [UW-CTRI's \(University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention\) Striving to Quit Web site](#) or on the ForwardHealth Portal. A representative from the Quit Line will call the member within three business days to begin the enrollment process.

Outreach Specialists for the UW-CTRI will provide technical assistance to clinics and providers about how to make Striving to Quit referrals. A short training video about Striving to Quit procedures is available on UW-CTRI's Web site. A link to the training video is also on the Portal.

## Biochemical Testing

As part of Striving to Quit, HMO members are required to have a urine cotinine test to confirm smoking status. This test should be conducted by providers in the member's HMO network using NicCheck<sup>®</sup> I testing strips. NicCheck<sup>®</sup> I testing strips (item MA-500-001) may be [ordered online](#) or by calling (888) 882-7739.

Urine cotinine test results should be faxed to the Quit Line at (877) 554-6643. Claims for urine cotinine testing should be submitted to the member's HMO.

BadgerCare Plus members may be tested on a walk-in basis at any participating clinic in the member's HMO network. Members who need assistance finding a participating clinic should contact their HMO.

## Prescriptions

For HMO members identified as smokers who express an interest in quitting and agree to a referral to the Quit Line, providers should discuss the use of tobacco cessation medications. Research indicates that the use of tobacco cessation medications in combination with evidence-based counseling almost doubles the likelihood of a successful quit attempt. The following types of tobacco cessation medications are covered by Wisconsin Medicaid for BadgerCare Plus members:

- OTC (over-the-counter) nicotine gum and patches.
- Legend products (i.e., bupropion SR, Chantix, Nicotrol spray).

Providers may use the [Drug Search Tool](#) to determine the most current covered drugs. Providers may also refer to the [benefit plan-specific product lists](#) for the most current list of covered drugs.

An [allowable diagnosis code](#) must be indicated on claims for covered tobacco cessation medications. Tobacco cessation medications are not covered for uses outside the allowable diagnosis code.

If tobacco cessation medications are appropriate for members, prescriptions for tobacco cessation medications should be sent to the member's pharmacy. On the Striving to Quit Referral form sent to the Quit Line, the tobacco cessation medication prescription box should be checked either yes or no.

For HMO members who independently call the Quit Line and are enrolled in Striving to Quit, staff at the Quit Line will provide a suggested prescription to a provider within the member's HMO network. The provider will determine the adequacy of the prescription and approve as appropriate. The provider is required to send the following:

- The prescription to the pharmacy where it will be filled (e-prescribing is preferred).
- The approval or disapproval of the prescription to the Quit Line on the Striving to Quit Referral form via fax at (877) 554-6643.

## **For More Information**

For more information about Striving to Quit, providers should contact their HMO representative, visit the Portal, or e-mail Striving to Quit at [dhsstqinfo@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dhsstqinfo@wisconsin.gov).

For more information or for technical assistance questions regarding the Quit Line, providers may visit the [UW-CTRI \(University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention\) Web site](#).

## Enrollment

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Topic #392

### Disenrollment and Exemptions

In some situations, a member may be exempt from enrolling in a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO. Exempted members receive health care under fee-for-service. Exemptions allow members to complete a course of treatment with a provider who is not contracted with the member's HMO or SSI HMO. For example, in certain circumstances, women in high-risk pregnancies or women who are in the third trimester of pregnancy when they are enrolled in an HMO or SSI HMO *may* qualify for an exemption.

The [contracts](#) between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the HMO or SSI HMO provide more detail on the exemption and disenrollment requirements.

Topic #393

### Enrollee Grievances

Enrollees have the right to file grievances about services or benefits provided by a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO. Enrollees also have the right to file a grievance when the HMO or SSI HMO refuses to provide a service. All HMOs and SSI HMOs are required to have written policies and procedures in place to handle enrollee grievances. Enrollees should be encouraged to work with their HMO's or SSI HMO's customer service department to resolve problems first.

If enrollees are unable to resolve problems by talking to their HMO or SSI HMO, or if they would prefer to speak with someone outside their HMO or SSI HMO, they should contact the [Enrollment Specialist](#) or the [Ombudsman Program](#).

The [contracts](#) between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the HMO or SSI HMO describes the responsibilities of the HMO or SSI HMO and the DHS regarding enrollee grievances.

Topic #397

### Enrollment Eligibility

#### BadgerCare Plus HMOs

Members enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, and the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan are eligible for enrollment in a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization).

An individual who receives the TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only) benefit, SeniorCare, or Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid cannot be enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus HMO.

Information about a member's HMO enrollment status and commercial health insurance coverage may be verified by using Wisconsin's [EVS \(Enrollment Verification System\)](#) or the ForwardHealth Portal.

#### SSI HMOs

Members of the following subprograms are eligible for enrollment in a Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO:

- Individuals ages 19 and older, who meet the SSI and SSI-related disability criteria.
- Dual eligibles for Medicare and Medicaid.

Individuals who are living in an institution, nursing home, or participating in a Home and Community-Based Waiver program are not eligible to enroll in an SSI MCO (managed care organization).

Topic #394

## Enrollment Periods

### HMOs

Members are sent enrollment packets that explain the BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and the enrollment process and provide contact information. Once enrolled, enrollees may change their HMO assignment within the first 90 days of enrollment in an HMO (whether they chose the HMO or were auto-assigned). If an enrollee no longer meets the criteria, he or she will be disenrolled from the HMO.

### SSI HMOs

Members are sent enrollment packets that explain the Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO's enrollment process and provide contact information. Once enrolled, enrollees may disenroll after a 60-day trial period and up to 120 days after enrollment and return to Medicaid fee-for-service if they choose.

Topic #395

## Enrollment Specialist

The [Enrollment Specialist](#) provides objective enrollment, education, outreach, and advocacy services to BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollees. The Enrollment Specialist is a knowledgeable single point of contact for enrollees, solely dedicated to managed care issues. The Enrollment Specialist is not affiliated with any health care agency.

The Enrollment Specialist provides the following services to HMO and SSI HMO enrollees:

- Education regarding the correct use of HMO and SSI HMO benefits.
- Telephone and face-to-face support.
- Assistance with enrollment, disenrollment, and exemption procedures.

Topic #398

## Member Enrollment

### HMOs

BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) enrollment is either mandatory or voluntary based on ZIP code-defined enrollment areas as follows:

- Mandatory enrollment — Enrollment is mandatory for eligible members who reside in ZIP code areas served by two or more BadgerCare Plus HMOs. Some members may meet criteria for exemption from BadgerCare Plus HMO enrollment.
- Voluntary enrollment — Enrollment is voluntary for members who reside in ZIP code areas served by only one BadgerCare Plus HMO.

Members living in areas where enrollment is mandatory are encouraged to choose their BadgerCare Plus HMO. Automatic assignment to a BadgerCare Plus HMO occurs if the member does not choose a BadgerCare Plus HMO. In general, all members of a member's immediate family eligible for enrollment must choose the same HMO.

Members in voluntary enrollment areas can choose whether or not to enroll in a BadgerCare Plus HMO. There is no automatic assignment for members who live within ZIP codes where enrollment is voluntary.

## SSI HMOs

Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollment is either mandatory or voluntary as follows:

- Mandatory enrollment — Most SSI and SSI-related members are required to enroll in an SSI HMO. A member may choose the SSI HMO in which he or she wishes to enroll.
- Voluntary enrollment — Some SSI and SSI-related members may choose to enroll in an SSI HMO on a voluntary basis.

Topic #399

## Release of Billing or Medical Information

ForwardHealth supports BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollee rights regarding the confidentiality of health care records. ForwardHealth has [specific standards](#) regarding the release of an HMO or SSI HMO enrollee's billing information or medical claim records.

## Managed Care Information

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Topic #401

### BadgerCare Plus HMO Program

An HMO (health maintenance organization) is a system of health care providers that provides a comprehensive range of medical services to a group of enrollees. HMOs receive a fixed, prepaid amount per enrollee from ForwardHealth (called a capitation payment) to provide medically necessary services.

BadgerCare Plus HMOs are responsible for providing or arranging all contracted covered medically necessary services to enrollees. BadgerCare Plus members enrolled in state-contracted HMOs are entitled to at least the same benefits as fee-for-service members; however, HMOs may establish their own requirements regarding PA (prior authorization), claims submission, adjudication procedures, etc., which may differ from fee-for-service policies and procedures. BadgerCare Plus HMO network providers should contact their HMO for more information about its policies and procedures.

Topic #405

### Managed Care

Managed Care refers to the BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) program, the Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO program, and the several special managed care programs available.

The primary goals of the managed care programs are:

- To improve the quality of member care by providing continuity of care and improved access.
- To reduce the cost of health care through better care management.

Topic #402

### Managed Care Contracts

The contract between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO takes precedence over other ForwardHealth provider publications. Information contained in ForwardHealth publications is used by the DHS to resolve disputes regarding covered benefits that cannot be handled internally by HMOs and SSI HMOs. If there is a conflict, the HMO or SSI HMO contract prevails. If the contract does not specifically address a situation, Wisconsin Administrative Code ultimately prevails. HMO and SSI HMO contracts can be found on the Managed Care Organization area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Topic #404

### SSI HMO Program

Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs (health maintenance organizations) provide the same benefits as Medicaid fee-for-service (e.g. medical, dental, mental health/substance abuse, vision, and prescription drug coverage) at no cost to their enrollees through a care management model. Medicaid members and SSI-related Medicaid members in certain counties may be



eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO.

SSI-related Medicaid members receive coverage from Wisconsin Medicaid because of a disability determined by the Disability Determination Bureau.

## Member Enrollment

Members who meet the following criteria are eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO:

- Medicaid-eligible individuals living in a service area that has implemented an SSI managed care program.
- Individuals ages 19 and older.
- Individuals who are enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid and SSI or receive SSI-related Medicaid.

Individuals who are living in an institution or nursing home or are participating in a home and community-based waiver program or FamilyCare are not eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO.

## Ozaukee and Washington Counties

Most SSI and SSI-related Medicaid members who reside in Ozaukee and Washington counties are required to choose the HMO in which they wish to enroll. Dual eligibles (members receiving Medicare and Wisconsin Medicaid) are not required to enroll. After a 60-day trial period and up to 120 days after enrollment, enrollees may disenroll and return to Medicaid fee-for-service if they choose.

## Southwestern Wisconsin Counties

SSI members and SSI-related Medicaid members who reside in Buffalo, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon counties may choose to receive coverage from the HMO or remain in Wisconsin Medicaid fee-for-service.

## Continuity of Care

Special provisions are included in the contract for SSI HMOs for continuity of care for SSI members and SSI-related Medicaid members. These provisions include the following:

- Coverage of services provided by the member's current provider for the first 60 days of enrollment in the SSI program or until the first of the month following completion of an assessment and care plan, whichever comes later. The contracted provider should get a referral from the member's HMO after this.
- Honoring a PA (prior authorization) that is currently approved by Wisconsin Medicaid. The PA must be honored for 60 days or until the month following the HMO's completion of the assessment and care plan, whichever comes later.
- Coverage of drugs that an SSI member is currently taking until a prescriber orders different drugs.

Topic #403

## Special Managed Care Programs

Wisconsin Medicaid has several special managed care programs that provide services to individuals who are elderly and/or who have disabilities. These members may be eligible to enroll in voluntary regional managed care programs such as Family Care, the PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), and the Family Care Partnership Program. Additional information about these special managed care programs may be obtained from the Managed Care Organization area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

# Member Information

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Archive Date:12/02/2013

## Member Information:Birth to 3 Program

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Topic #792

### Administration and Regulations

In Wisconsin, Birth to 3 services are administered at the local level by county departments of community programs, human service departments, public health agencies, or any other public agency designated or contracted by the county board of supervisors. The DHS (Department of Health Services) monitors, provides technical assistance, and offers other services to county Birth to 3 agencies.

The enabling federal legislation for the Birth to 3 Program is 34 CFR Part 303. The enabling state legislation is [s. 51.44](#), Wis. Stats., and the regulations are found in [DHS 90](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Providers may contact the appropriate county Birth to 3 agency for more information.

Topic #790

### Enrollment Criteria

A child from birth up to (but not including) age 3 is eligible for Birth to 3 services if the child meets one of the following criteria:

- The child has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay.
- The child has at least a 25 percent delay in one or more of the following areas of development:
  - Cognitive development.
  - Physical development, including vision and hearing.
  - Communication skills.
  - Social or emotional development.
  - Adaptive development, which includes self-help skills.
- The child has atypical development affecting his or her overall development, as determined by a qualified team using professionally acceptable procedures and informed clinical opinion.

BadgerCare Plus provides Birth to 3 information because many children enrolled in the Birth to 3 Program are also BadgerCare Plus members.

Topic #791

### Individualized Family Service Plan

A Birth to 3 member receives an IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan) developed by an interdisciplinary team that includes the child's family. The IFSP provides a description of the outcomes, strategies, supports, services appropriate to meet the needs of the child and family, and the natural environment settings where services will be provided. All Birth to 3 services must be identified in the child's IFSP.

Topic #788

### Requirements for Providers

Title 34 CFR Part 303 for Birth to 3 services requires all health, social service, education, and tribal programs receiving federal funds, including Medicaid providers, to do the following:

- Identify children who may be eligible for Birth to 3 services. These children must be referred to the appropriate county Birth to 3 program within *two working days* of identification. This includes children with developmental delays, atypical development, disabilities, and children who are substantiated as abused or neglected. For example, if a provider's health exam or developmental screen indicates that a child may have a qualifying disability or developmental delay, the child must be referred to the county Birth to 3 program for evaluation. (Providers are encouraged to explain the need for the Birth to 3 referral to the child's parents or guardians.)
- Cooperate and participate with Birth to 3 service coordination as indicated in the child's IFSP (Individualized Family Services Plan). Birth to 3 services must be provided by providers who are employed by, or under agreement with, a Birth to 3 agency to provide Birth to 3 services.
- Deliver Birth to 3 services in the child's natural environment, unless otherwise specified in the IFSP. The child's natural environment includes the child's home and other community settings where children without disabilities participate. (Hospitals contracting with a county to provide therapy services in the child's natural environment must receive separate enrollment as a therapy group to be reimbursed for these therapy services.)
- Assist parents or guardians of children receiving Birth to 3 services to maximize their child's development and participate fully in implementation of their child's IFSP. For example, an occupational therapist is required to work closely with the child's parents and caretakers to show them how to perform daily tasks in ways that maximize the child's potential for development.

Topic #789

## Services

The Birth to 3 Program covers the following types of services when they are included in the child's IFSP (Individualized Family Services Plan):

- Evaluation and assessment.
- Special instruction.
- OT (occupational therapy).
- PT (physical therapy).
- SLP (speech and language pathology).
- Audiology.
- Psychology.
- Social work.
- Assistive technology.
- Transportation.
- Service coordination.
- Certain medical services for diagnosis and evaluation purposes.
- Certain health services to enable the child to benefit from early intervention services.
- Family training, counseling, and home visits.

## Enrollment Categories

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Topic #785

### BadgerCare Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women

As a result of 2005 Wisconsin Act 25, the 2005-07 biennial budget, BadgerCare has expanded coverage to the following individuals:

- Pregnant non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens but meet other eligibility criteria for BadgerCare.
- Pregnant individuals detained by legal process who meet other eligibility criteria for BadgerCare.

The BadgerCare Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women is designed to provide better birth outcomes.

Women are eligible for all covered services from the first of the month in which their pregnancy is verified or the first of the month in which the application for BadgerCare Plus is filed, whichever is later. Members are enrolled through the last day of the month in which they deliver or the pregnancy ends. Postpartum care is reimbursable *only* if provided as part of global obstetric care. Even though enrollment is based on pregnancy, these women are eligible for *all* covered services. (They are not limited to pregnancy-related services.)

These women are not presumptively eligible. Providers should refer them to the appropriate county/tribal social or human services agency where they can apply for this coverage.

### Fee-for-Service

Pregnant non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens and pregnant individuals detained by legal process receive care only on a fee-for-service basis. Providers are required to follow all program requirements (e.g., claims submission procedures, PA (prior authorization) requirements) when providing services to these women.

### Emergency Services for Non-U.S. Citizens

When BadgerCare Plus enrollment ends for pregnant non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens, they receive coverage for emergency services. These women receive emergency coverage for 60 days after the pregnancy ends; this coverage continues through the end of the month in which the 60th day falls (e.g., a woman who delivers on June 20, 2006, would be enrolled through the end of August 2006).

Topic #9297

### BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan

The BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan is a self-funded plan that focuses on providing BadgerCare Plus Core Plan waitlist members with access to vital, cost-effective primary and preventive care. This option will allow members to have some minimal form of coverage until space becomes available in the Core Plan and will help prevent bankruptcy due to excessive medical debt.

Member participation or non-participation in the Basic Plan does not affect an individual's status on the Core Plan waitlist.

Services for the Basic Plan are covered under fee-for-service. Basic Plan members will not be enrolled in state-contracted HMOs (health maintenance organizations).

As of March 19, 2011, new enrollment into the Basic Plan ended. The Basic Plan will continue for members already enrolled in the Basic Plan.

## Conditions That End Member Enrollment in the Basic Plan

A member's enrollment in the Basic Plan will end if the member:

- Becomes eligible for Medicare, Medicaid, the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, or the Core Plan.
- Becomes incarcerated or becomes institutionalized in an IMD (institution for mental disease).
- Becomes pregnant. (*Note:* A Basic Plan member who becomes pregnant should be referred to [Member Services](#) for more information about enrollment in the Standard Plan or the Benchmark Plan.)
- No longer resides in the state of Wisconsin.
- Obtains health insurance coverage.
- Turns 65 years of age.
- Fails to pay the monthly premium.

*Note:* Enrollment in the Basic Plan does not end if the member's income increases.

Providers are reminded that the Basic Plan does not cover obstetrical services or delivery services.

Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth if they have reason to believe that a person is misusing or abusing BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid benefits or the ForwardHealth identification card.

## Basic Plan Member Fact Sheets

[Fact sheets](#) providing additional member information about the Basic Plan are available.

## Enrollment Certification Period for Basic Plan Members

A member's enrollment will begin on the first of the month and will continue through the end of the 12th month. For example, if the individual's enrollment in the Basic Plan begins on July 1, 2010, the enrollment certification period will continue through June 30, 2011, unless conditions occur that end enrollment.

Premium payments are due on the fifth of each month, prior to the month of coverage. Members who fail to pay the monthly premium will have their benefits terminated and will also be subject to a 12-month restrictive re-enrollment period.

## Basic Plan Members Enrolled in Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program

For Basic Plan members who are also enrolled in WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), providers should submit claims for all covered services to the Basic Plan first and then to WCDP. For pharmacy services, if both programs deny the pharmacy claim, providers should submit the claim to BadgerRx Gold.

## Basic Plan Members and HIRSP Coverage

Basic Plan members may also be enrolled in the HIRSP (Health Insurance Risk-Sharing Plan) as long as the member meets the eligibility requirements for both the Basic Plan and HIRSP. For Basic Plan members who are also enrolled in HIRSP, providers should submit claims for all Basic Plan covered services to HIRSP first and then to the Basic Plan.

Basic Plan members may not be enrolled in the Basic Plan and the Federal Temporary High Risk Insurance Pool. Information that

is being distributed to Core Plan members on the waitlist regarding HIRSP and the Federal Temporary High Risk Insurance Pool is [available](#).

## Alternatives to the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan

Before enrolling in the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan, you should consider two other insurance options available to some Wisconsin residents. Enrolling in BadgerCare Plus Basic will make you ineligible for coverage under the Federal Pool option described below.

### Option 1: Health Insurance Risk-Sharing Plan (HIRSP)

You may qualify for HIRSP if:

1. You recently lost your employer-sponsored insurance coverage; or
2. You have been rejected for coverage in the private insurance market; or
3. You have HIV/AIDS; or
4. You have Medicare because of a disability.

HIRSP offers comprehensive medical and pharmacy benefits including coverage of brand name drugs and \$150 of first dollar coverage on routine/preventive services. HIRSP will not cover medical services for a preexisting condition for the first six months of coverage. The preexisting condition waiting period does not apply to drug coverage. The medical services preexisting condition waiting period does not apply if you qualify for HIRSP because you have recently lost your employer-sponsored coverage.

If your annual household income is below \$33,000, you may be entitled to a premium and deductible subsidy. For example, a 25 year old man with an annual income of less than \$10,000 would pay \$89 per month for a \$2,500 deductible insurance plan.

HIRSP members can also be enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Basic or Core Plan.

### Option 2: Federal Temporary High Risk Insurance Pool

You may qualify for the new Federal Pool if:

1. You are a citizen or national of the United States, or are lawfully present;
2. You have a preexisting medical condition; and
3. You have been uninsured for at least 6 months before applying for coverage.

The Federal Pool will offer the same medical and drug benefits as HIRSP. There is no preexisting condition waiting period under the Federal Pool.

In most cases, the Federal Pool premium will be lower than the HIRSP premium.

Enrollment is expected to begin in July 2010, for coverage beginning August 1, 2010.

If you enroll in BadgerCare Plus Basic or HIRSP now, you will not be eligible for the Federal Pool. You should determine which program best serves your needs. For more information about HIRSP or the Federal Pool and your insurance options, please contact HIRSP Customer Service at 1.800.828.4777 or visit [www.hirsp.org](http://www.hirsp.org)

Topic #5557



# BadgerCare Plus Core Plan

The BadgerCare Plus Core Plan covers basic health care services including primary care, preventive care, certain generic and OTC (over-the-counter) drugs, and a limited number of brand name drugs.

## Applicant Enrollment Requirements

An applicant must meet the following enrollment requirements in order to qualify for the Core Plan:

- Is a Wisconsin resident.
- Is a United States citizen or legal immigrant.
- Is between the ages of 19 and 64.
- Does not have any children under age 19 under his or her care.
- Is not pregnant.
- Is not eligible for or enrolled in Medicaid, the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, or the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan. This would not include benefits provided under Family Planning Only Services or those benefits provided to individuals who qualify for the TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services Only) Benefit.
- Is not eligible for or enrolled in Medicare.
- Has a monthly gross income that does not exceed 200 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Is not covered by health insurance currently or in the previous 12 months.
- Has not had access to employer-sponsored insurance in the previous 12 months and does not have access to employer-subsidized insurance during the month of application or any of the three months following application.

## Application Process for New Members

Individuals who wish to enroll may apply for the Core Plan [using the ACCESS tool online](#) or via the [ESC \(Enrollment Services Center\)](#). A pre-screening tool will help determine which individuals may be eligible to enroll in the Core Plan. Applications for Core Plan members will be processed centrally by the ESC, not by county agencies.

To complete the application process, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Complete a Health Survey.
- Pay a non-refundable, annual processing fee of \$60.00 per individual or per couple for married couples. The fee will be waived for homeless individuals. There are no monthly premiums.

Medicaid-enrolled providers cannot pay the \$60.00 application processing fee on behalf of Core Plan applicants. An offer by a Medicaid-enrolled provider to pay a fee on behalf of a prospective Medicaid member may violate federal laws against kickbacks. These laws are federal criminal statutes that are interpreted and enforced by federal agencies such as the United States DOJ (Department of Justice) and the Department of HHS (Health and Human Services') OIG (Office of the Inspector General).

## Conditions That End Member Enrollment in the Core Plan

A member's enrollment will end if the member:

- Becomes eligible for Medicare, Medicaid, the Standard Plan, or the Benchmark Plan.
- Becomes incarcerated or institutionalized in an IMD (institution for mental disease).
- Becomes pregnant.
- No longer resides in the state of Wisconsin.
- Obtains health insurance coverage.
- Turns 65 years of age.

Providers are reminded that the Core Plan does not cover obstetrical services, including the delivery of a child or children. A Core Plan member who becomes pregnant should be referred to the ESC for more information about enrollment in the Standard Plan or the Benchmark Plan.

## **Enrollment Certification Period for Core Plan Members**

Once determined eligible for enrollment in the Core Plan, a member's enrollment will begin either on the first or 15th of the month, whichever is first, and will continue through the end of the 12th month. For example, if the individual submits all of his or her application materials, including the application fee, by September 17, 2009, and the DHS (Department of Health Services) reviews the application and approves it on October 6, 2009, the individual is eligible for enrollment beginning on October 15, 2009, the next possible date of enrollment. The enrollment certification period will continue through October 31, 2010.

The enrollment certification period for individuals who qualify for the Core Plan is 12 months, regardless of income changes.

## **Core Plan Members Enrolled in Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program**

For Core Plan members who are also enrolled in WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), providers should submit claims for all covered services to the Core Plan first and then to WCDP. For pharmacy services, if both programs deny the pharmacy claim, providers should submit claims to BadgerRx Gold.

## **Core Plan Members with HIRSP Coverage**

Core Plan members may also be enrolled in HIRSP (Health Insurance Risk Sharing Plan) as long as the member meets the eligibility requirements for both the Core Plan and HIRSP. For Core Plan members who are also enrolled in HIRSP, providers should submit claims for all Core Plan covered services to the Core Plan. For services not covered by the Core Plan, providers should submit claims to HIRSP. For members enrolled in the Core Plan, HIRSP is always the payer of last resort.

*Note:* HIRSP will only cover noncovered Core Plan services if the services are covered under the HIRSP benefit.

Topic #225

## **BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan and Benchmark Plan**

BadgerCare Plus is a state-sponsored health care program that expands coverage of Wisconsin residents and ensures that all children in Wisconsin have access to affordable health care.

The key initiatives of BadgerCare Plus are:

- To ensure that all Wisconsin children have access to affordable health care.
- To ensure that 98 percent of Wisconsin residents have access to affordable health care.
- To streamline program administration and enrollment rules.
- To expand coverage and provide enhanced benefits for pregnant women.
- To promote prevention and healthy behaviors.

BadgerCare Plus expands enrollment in state-sponsored health care to the following:

- All uninsured children.
- More pregnant women.
- More parents and caretaker relatives.
- Parents with children in foster care who are working to reunify their families.
- Young adults exiting out-of-home care, such as foster care, because they have turned 18 years of age.

- Certain farmers and other self-employed parents and caretaker relatives.

Where available, BadgerCare Plus members are enrolled in BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations). In those areas of Wisconsin where HMOs are not available, services will be reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis.

Topic #6917

## **Benefit Plans Under BadgerCare Plus**

BadgerCare Plus is comprised of four benefit plans, the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan, and the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan.

### **BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan**

The Standard Plan covers children, parents and caretaker relatives, young adults aging out of foster care, and pregnant women with incomes at or below 200 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level). The services covered under the Standard Plan are the same as the Wisconsin Medicaid program.

### **BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan**

The Benchmark Plan was adapted from Wisconsin's largest commercial, low-cost health care plan. The Benchmark Plan is for children and pregnant women with incomes above 200 percent of the FPL and certain self-employed parents, such as farmers with incomes above 200 percent of the FPL. The services covered under the Benchmark Plan are more limited than those covered under the Wisconsin Medicaid program.

### **BadgerCare Plus Core Plan**

The Core Plan provides adults who were previously not eligible to enroll in state and federal health care programs with access to basic health care services including primary care, preventive care, certain generic and OTC (over-the-counter) drugs, and a limited number of brand name drugs.

### **BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan**

The Basic Plan provides Core Plan waitlist members with access to vital, cost-effective primary and preventive care. This option allows members to have some form of minimal coverage until space becomes available in the Core Plan.

Topic #230

## **Express Enrollment for Children and Pregnant Women**

The EE (Express Enrollment) for Pregnant Women Benefit is a limited benefit category that allows a pregnant woman to receive immediate pregnancy-related outpatient services while her application for full-benefit BadgerCare Plus is processed. Enrollment is not restricted based on the member's other health insurance coverage. Therefore, a pregnant woman who has other health insurance may be enrolled in the benefit.

The EE for Children Benefit allows certain members through 18 years of age to receive BadgerCare Plus benefits under the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan while an application for BadgerCare Plus is processed.

### **Fee-for-Service**

Women and children who are temporarily enrolled in BadgerCare Plus through the EE process are not eligible for enrollment in an HMO until they are determined eligible for full benefit BadgerCare Plus by the county/tribal office.

Topic #226

## Family Planning Only Services

Family Planning Only Services is a limited benefit program that provides routine contraceptive-related services to low-income individuals who are at least 15 years of age who are otherwise not eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus. There is no upper age limit for Family Planning Only Services enrollment as long as the member is of childbearing age. Members receiving Family Planning Only Services must be receiving routine contraceptive-related services.

The goal of Family Planning Only Services is to provide members with information and services to assist them in preventing pregnancy, making BadgerCare Plus enrollment due to pregnancy less likely. Providers should explain the purpose of Family Planning Only Services to members and encourage them to contact their certifying agency to determine their enrollment options if they are not interested in, or do not need, contraceptive services.

Members enrolled in Family Planning Only Services receive routine services to prevent or delay pregnancy and are not eligible for other services (e.g., PT (physical therapy) services, dental services). Even if a medical condition is discovered during a family planning visit, treatment for the condition is not covered under Family Planning Only Services unless the treatment is identified in the list of [allowable procedure codes](#) for Family Planning Only Services.

Members are also not eligible for certain other services that are covered under the Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus family planning benefit (e.g., mammograms and hysterectomies). If a medical condition, other than an STD (sexually transmitted disease), is discovered during contraceptive-related services, treatment for the medical condition is not covered under Family Planning Only Services.

Colposcopies and treatment for STDs are only covered through Family Planning Only Services if they are determined medically necessary during routine contraceptive-related services. A colposcopy is a covered service when an abnormal result is received from a pap test, prior to the colposcopy, while the member is enrolled in Family Planning Only Services and receiving contraceptive-related services.

Family Planning Only Services members diagnosed with cervical cancer, precancerous conditions of the cervix, or breast cancer may be eligible for Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid. Providers should assist eligible members with the enrollment process for Well Woman Medicaid.

Providers should inform members about other service options and provide referrals for care not covered by Family Planning Only Services.

## Temporary Enrollment for Family Planning Only Services

Members whose providers are submitting an initial Family Planning Only Services application on their behalf and who meet the enrollment criteria may receive routine contraceptive-related services immediately through TE (temporary enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services for up to two months. Services covered under the TE for Family Planning Only Services are the same as those covered under Family Planning Only Services and must be related to routine contraceptive management.

To determine enrollment for Family Planning Only Services, providers should use the income limit for 300 percent of the [FPL \(Federal Poverty Level\)](#).

TE for Family Planning Only Services providers may issue white paper TE for Family Planning Only Services identification cards for members to use until they receive a ForwardHealth identification card. Providers should remind members that the benefit is

temporary, despite their receiving a ForwardHealth card.

Topic #4757

## ForwardHealth and ForwardHealth interChange

ForwardHealth brings together many DHS (Department of Health Services) health care programs with the goal to create efficiencies for providers and to improve health outcomes for members. ForwardHealth interChange is the DHS claims processing system that supports multiple state health care programs and Web services, including:

- BadgerCare Plus.
- BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid managed care programs.
- SeniorCare.
- ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program).
- WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
- WIR (Wisconsin Immunization Registry).
- Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid.
- WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

ForwardHealth interChange is supported by the state's fiscal agent, HP (Hewlett-Packard).

Topic #229

## Limited Benefit Categories Overview

Certain members may be enrolled in a limited benefit category. These limited benefit categories include the following:

- BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women.
- EE (Express Enrollment) for Children.
- EE for Pregnant Women.
- Family Planning Only Services, including TE (Temporary Enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services.
- QDWI (Qualified Disabled Working Individuals).
- QI-1 (Qualifying Individuals 1).
- QMB Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Only).
- SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary).
- TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only) Benefit.

Members may be enrolled in full-benefit Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus and also be enrolled in certain limited benefit programs, including QDWI, QI-1, QMB Only, and SLMB. In those cases, a member has full Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus coverage in addition to limited coverage for Medicare expenses.

Members enrolled in BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women, Family Planning Only Services, EE for Children, EE for Pregnant Women, or the TB-Only Benefit cannot be enrolled in full-benefit Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus. These members receive benefits through the limited benefit category.

Providers should note that a member may be enrolled in more than one limited benefit category. For example, a member may be enrolled in Family Planning Only Services and the TB-Only Benefit.

Providers are strongly encouraged to verify dates of enrollment and other coverage information using the EVS (Wisconsin's Enrollment Verification System) to determine whether a member is in a limited benefit category, receives full-benefit Medicaid or

BadgerCare Plus, or both.

Providers are responsible for knowing which services are covered under a limited benefit category. If a member of a limited benefit category requests a service that is not covered under the limited benefit category, the provider may collect payment from the member if certain [conditions](#) are met.

Topic #228

## Medicaid

Medicaid is a joint federal/state program established in 1965 under Title XIX of the Social Security Act to pay for medical services for selected groups of people who meet the program's financial requirements.

The purpose of Medicaid is to provide reimbursement for and assure the availability of appropriate medical care to persons who meet the criteria for Medicaid. Wisconsin Medicaid is also known as the Medical Assistance Program, WMAP (Wisconsin Medical Assistance Program), MA (Medical Assistance), Title XIX, or T19.

A Medicaid member is any individual entitled to benefits under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and under the Medical Assistance State Plan as defined in ch. [49](#), Wis. Stats.

Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment is determined on the basis of financial need and other factors. A citizen of the United States or a "qualified immigrant" who meets low-income financial requirements may be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid if he or she is in one of the following categories:

- Age 65 and older.
- Blind.
- Disabled.

Some needy and low-income people become eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid by qualifying for programs such as:

- Katie Beckett.
- Medicaid Purchase Plan.
- [Subsidized adoption](#) and foster care programs.
- SSI (Supplemental Security Income).
- WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

Providers may advise these individuals or their representatives to contact their [certifying agency](#) for more information. The following agencies certify people for Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment:

- Local county or tribal agencies.
- Medicaid outstation sites.
- SSA (Social Security Administration) offices.

In limited circumstances, some state agencies also certify individuals for Wisconsin Medicaid.

Medicaid fee-for-service members receive services through the traditional health care payment system under which providers receive a payment for each unit of service provided. Some Medicaid members receive services through state-contracted MCOs (managed care organizations).

Topic #10217

## Members Enrolled in the Wisconsin Well Woman Program and the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan

Women may be enrolled in the WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program) and the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan at the same time. Women who are diagnosed with breast cancer or cervical cancer while enrolled in WWWP are eligible to be enrolled in WWWMA (Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid) through the WWWP. WWWMA covers the same services as Wisconsin Medicaid; therefore, enrollment in WWWMA enables members to receive comprehensive treatment, including services not related to their diagnosis.

Once a woman is enrolled in WWWMA, she is no longer eligible for the Basic Plan.

Topic #232

## Qualified Disabled Working Individual Members

QDWI (Qualified Disabled Working Individual) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of Medicare monthly premiums for Part A.

QDWI members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. To qualify, QDWI members are required to meet the following qualifications:

- Have income under 200 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.
- Have income or assets too high to qualify for QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) and SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries).

Topic #234

## Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only Members

QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of the following:

- Medicare monthly premiums for Part A, Part B, or both.
- Coinsurance, copayment, and deductible for Medicare-allowed services.

QMB-Only members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. QMB-Only members are required to meet the following qualifications:

- Have an income under 100 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.

Topic #235

## Qualifying Individual 1 Members

QI-1 (Qualifying Individual 1) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of Medicare monthly premiums for Part B.

QI-1 members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. To qualify, QI-1 members are required to meet the following qualifications:

- Have income between 120 and 135 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.

Topic #236

## Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries

SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of Medicare monthly premiums for Part B.

SLMB members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. To qualify, SLMB members are required to meet the following qualifications:

- Have an income under 120 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.

Topic #262

## Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only Benefit

The [TB-Only \(Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only\) Benefit](#) is a limited benefit category that allows individuals with TB (tuberculosis) infection or disease to receive covered TB-related outpatient services.

Topic #240

## Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid

Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid provides full Medicaid benefits to underinsured or uninsured women ages 35 to 64 who have been screened and diagnosed by WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program) or Family Planning Only Services, meet all other enrollment requirements, and are in need of treatment for any of the following:

- Breast cancer.
- Cervical cancer.
- Precancerous conditions of the cervix.

Services provided to women who are enrolled in WWWMA (Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid) are reimbursed through Medicaid fee-for-service.

## Members Enrolled into Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid from Benchmark Plan or Core Plan

Women diagnosed with breast cancer or cervical cancer while enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan or BadgerCare Plus Core Plan are eligible to be enrolled in WWWMA. Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid covers the same services as Wisconsin Medicaid and enables members to receive comprehensive treatment, including services not related to their diagnosis.

Women who are diagnosed with breast cancer, cervical cancer, or a precancerous condition of the cervix must have the diagnosis



of their condition confirmed by one of the following Medicaid-enrolled providers:

- Nurse practitioners, for cervical conditions only.
- Osteopaths.
- Physicians.

Women with Medicare or other insurance that covers treatment for her cancer are not allowed to be enrolled into WWWMA.

### **Covered and Noncovered Services**

Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid covers the same services as Wisconsin Medicaid regardless of whether the service is related to her cancer treatment.

### **Reimbursement**

Providers will be reimbursed for services provided to members enrolled in WWWMA at the Wisconsin Medicaid rate of reimbursement for covered services.

### **Copayments**

There are no copayments for any Medicaid-covered service for WWWMA members who have been enrolled into WWWMA from the Benchmark or the Core Plan. Providers are required to reimburse members for any copayments members paid on or after the date of diagnosis while still enrolled in the Benchmark Plan or the Core Plan.

## Enrollment Responsibilities

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Topic #241

### General Information

Members have certain responsibilities per [DHS 104.02](#), Wis. Admin. Code, and the [ForwardHealth Enrollment and Benefits \(P-00079 \(10/11\)\)](#) booklet.

Topic #243

### Loss of Enrollment — Financial Liability

Some covered services consist of a series of sequential treatment steps, meaning more than one office visit is required to complete treatment.

In most cases, if a member loses enrollment midway through treatment, BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid will *not* reimburse services (including prior authorized services) after enrollment has lapsed.

Members are financially responsible for any services received after their enrollment has been terminated. If the member wishes to continue treatment, it is a decision between the provider and the member whether the service should be given and how the services will be paid. The provider may collect payment from the member if the member accepts responsibility for payment of a service and certain [conditions](#) are met.

To avoid misunderstandings, it is recommended that providers remind members that they are financially responsible for any continued care after enrollment ends.

To avoid potential reimbursement problems that can arise when a member loses enrollment midway through treatment, the provider is encouraged to verify the member's enrollment using the [EVS \(Enrollment Verification System\)](#) or the ForwardHealth Portal prior to providing each service, even if an approved PA (prior authorization) request is obtained for the service.

Topic #707

### Member Cooperation

Members are responsible for giving providers full and accurate information necessary for the correct submission of claims. If a member has other health insurance, it is the member's obligation to give full and accurate information to providers regarding the insurance.

Topic #269

### Members Should Present Card

It is important that providers determine a member's enrollment and other insurance coverage *prior to* each DOS (date of service) that services are provided. Pursuant to [DHS 104.02\(2\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, a member should inform providers that he or she is enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid and should present a current ForwardHealth identification card before

receiving services.

*Note:* Due to the nature of their specialty, certain providers — such as anesthesiologists, radiologists, DME (durable medical equipment) suppliers, independent laboratories, and ambulances — are not always able to see a member's ForwardHealth identification card because they might not have direct contact with the member prior to providing the service. In these circumstances, it is still the provider's responsibility to obtain member enrollment information.

Topic #244

## Prior Identification of Enrollment

Except in emergencies that preclude prior identification, members are required to inform providers that they are receiving benefits and must present their ForwardHealth identification card before receiving care. If a [member forgets his or her ForwardHealth card](#), providers may verify enrollment without it.

Topic #245

## Reporting Changes to Caseworkers

Members are required to report certain changes to their caseworker at their certifying agency. These changes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A new address or a move out of state.
- A change in income.
- A change in family size, including pregnancy.
- A change in other health insurance coverage.
- Employment status.
- A change in assets for members who are over 65 years of age, blind, or disabled.

## Enrollment Rights

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Topic #246

### Appealing Enrollment Determinations

Applicants and members have the right to appeal certain decisions relating to BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program) enrollment. An applicant, a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the applicant or member, or former member may file the appeal with the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals).

Pursuant to [HA 3.03](#), Wis. Admin. Code, an applicant, member, or former member may appeal any adverse action or decision by an agency or department that affects their benefits. Examples of decisions that may be appealed include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Individual was denied the right to apply.
- Application for BadgerCare Plus, ADAP, or Wisconsin Medicaid was denied.
- Application for BadgerCare Plus, ADAP, or Wisconsin Medicaid was not acted upon promptly.
- Enrollment was unfairly discontinued, terminated, suspended, or reduced.

In the case when enrollment is cancelled or terminated, the date the member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, files an appeal with the DHA determines what continuing coverage, if any, the member will receive until the hearing decision is made. The following scenarios describe the coverage allowed for a member who files an appeal:

- If a member files an appeal before his or her enrollment ends, coverage will continue pending the hearing decision.
- If a member files an appeal within 45 days after his or her enrollment ends, a hearing is allowed but coverage is not reinstated.

If the member files an appeal more than 45 days after his or her enrollment ends, a hearing is not allowed. Members may file an appeal by submitting a [Request for Fair Hearing \(DHA-28 \(08/09\)\)](#) form.

### Claims for Appeal Reversals

#### Claim Denial Due to Termination of BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid Enrollment

If a claim is denied due to termination of BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment, a hearing decision that reverses that determination will allow the claim to be resubmitted and paid. The provider is required to obtain a copy of the appeal decision from the member, attach the copy to the previously denied claim, and submit both to ForwardHealth at the following address:

ForwardHealth  
Specialized Research  
Ste 50  
313 Blettner Blvd  
Madison WI 53784

If a provider has not yet submitted a claim, the provider is required to submit a copy of the hearing decision along with a paper claim to Specialized Research.

As a reminder, claims [submission deadlines](#) still apply even to those claims with hearing decisions.

## Claim Denial Due to Termination of ADAP Enrollment

If a claim is denied due to termination of ADAP enrollment, a hearing decision that reverses that determination will allow the claim to be resubmitted and paid. The provider is required to obtain a copy of the appeal decision from the member, attach the copy to the previously denied claim, and submit both to ForwardHealth at the following address:

ForwardHealth  
ADAP Claims and Adjustments  
PO Box 8758  
Madison WI 53708

If a provider has not yet submitted a claim, the provider is required to submit a copy of the hearing decision along with a paper claim to ADAP Claims and Adjustments.

As a reminder, claims [submission deadlines](#) still apply even to those claims with hearing decisions.

Topic #247

## Freedom of Choice

Members may receive covered services from *any* willing Medicaid-enrolled provider, unless they are enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization) or assigned to the [Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program](#).

Topic #248

## General Information

Members are entitled to certain rights per [DHS 103](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #250

## Notification of Discontinued Benefits

When the DHS (Department of Health Services) intends to discontinue, suspend, or reduce a member's benefits, or reduce or eliminate coverage of services for a general class of members, the DHS sends a written notice to members. This notice is required to be provided at least 10 days before the effective date of the action.

Topic #252

## Prompt Decisions on Enrollment

Individuals applying for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid have the right to prompt decisions on their applications. Enrollment decisions are made within 60 days of the date the application was signed for those with disabilities and within 30 days for all other applicants.

Topic #254

## Requesting Retroactive Enrollment

An applicant has the right to request [retroactive enrollment](#) when applying for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid. Enrollment may be backdated to the first of the month three months prior to the date of application for eligible members. Retroactive enrollment does not apply to QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members.

## Identification Cards

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Topic #9357

### ForwardHealth Basic Plan Identification Cards

Members enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan will receive a [ForwardHealth Basic Plan card](#). All identification cards include the member's name and 10-digit member identification number. The identification cards may be used to verify a member's enrollment, but possession of an identification card does not guarantee enrollment. It is possible that a member will present a card when he or she is not enrolled; therefore, it is essential that providers verify enrollment before providing services.

Providers should always check enrollment for a member who presents a ForwardHealth card to verify if the member is enrolled in the Basic Plan or in one of the other ForwardHealth programs. (Providers may use the same methods of enrollment verification under the Basic Plan as they do for other ForwardHealth programs such as Medicaid. These methods include the ForwardHealth Portal, WiCall, magnetic stripe readers, and the 270/271 (270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response) transactions.) Members who present a ForwardHealth card or a ForwardHealth Basic Plan card may have been enrolled in a different plan since the card was issued. Providers should be careful to verify the plan in which the member is enrolled and know which services are covered under that plan.

Basic Plan members should call [Member Services](#) with questions about premiums and covered services. The ForwardHealth Basic Plan cards include the Member Services telephone number on the back.

#### Sample ForwardHealth Basic Plan Card



Topic #6977

## ForwardHealth Core Plan Identification Cards

Members enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan will receive a [ForwardHealth Core Plan card](#). All identification cards include the member's name and 10-digit member identification number. The identification cards may be used to verify a member's enrollment, but possession of an identification card does not guarantee enrollment. It is possible that a member will present a card when he or she is not enrolled; therefore, it is essential that providers verify enrollment before providing services.

Core Plan members should call [Member Services](#) with questions about enrollment criteria, HMO (health maintenance organization) enrollment, and covered services.

Providers should always check enrollment for a member who presents a ForwardHealth card to verify if the member is enrolled in the Core Plan or in one of the other ForwardHealth programs. Members who present a ForwardHealth card or a ForwardHealth Core Plan card may have been enrolled in a different plan since the card was issued. Providers should be careful to verify the plan in which the member is enrolled and know which services are covered under that plan.

### Sample ForwardHealth Core Plan Card



Topic #266

## ForwardHealth Identification Cards

Each enrolled member receives an identification card. Possession of a program identification card does not guarantee enrollment. It is possible that a member will present a card during a lapse in enrollment; therefore, it is essential that providers verify enrollment before providing services. Members are told to keep their cards even though they may have lapses in enrollment.

### ForwardHealth Identification Card Features



The [ForwardHealth identification card](#) includes the member's name, 10-digit member ID, magnetic stripe, signature panel, and the Member Services telephone number. The card also has a unique, 16-digit card number on the front for internal program use.

The ForwardHealth card does not need to be signed to be valid; however, adult members are encouraged to sign their cards. Providers may use the signature as another means of identification.

The toll-free number on the back of each of the cards is for member use only. The address on the back of each card is used to return a lost card to ForwardHealth if it is found.

If a provider finds discrepancies with the identification number or name between what is indicated on the ForwardHealth card and the provider's file, the provider should verify enrollment with Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System).

## Identification Number Changes

Some providers may question whether services should be provided if a member's 10-digit identification number on his or her ForwardHealth card does not match the EVS response. If the EVS indicates the member is enrolled, services should be provided.

A member's identification number may change, and the EVS will reflect that change. However, ForwardHealth does not automatically send a replacement ForwardHealth card with the new identification number to the member. ForwardHealth cross-references the old and new identification numbers so a provider may submit claims with either number. The member may request a replacement ForwardHealth card that indicates the new number.

## Member Name Changes

If a member's name on the ForwardHealth card is different than the response given from Wisconsin's EVS, providers should use the name from the EVS response. When a name change is reported and on file, a new card will automatically be sent to the member.

## Deactivated Cards

When any member identification card has been replaced for any reason, the previous identification card is deactivated. If a member presents a deactivated card, providers should encourage the member to discard the deactivated card and use only the new card.

Although a member identification card may be deactivated, the member ID is valid and the member still may be enrolled in a ForwardHealth program.

If a provider swipes a ForwardHealth card using a magnetic stripe card reader and finds that it has been deactivated, the provider may request a second form of identification if he or she does not know the member. After the member's identity has been verified, providers may verify a member's enrollment by using one of the EVS methods such as [AVR \(Automated Voice Response\)](#).

## Defective Cards

If a provider uses a card reader for a ForwardHealth card and the magnetic stripe is defective, the provider should encourage the member to call Member Services at the number listed on the back of the member's card to request a new card.

If a member presents a ForwardHealth card with a defective magnetic stripe, providers may verify the member's enrollment by using an alternate enrollment verification method. Providers may also verify a member's enrollment by entering the member ID or 16-digit card number on a touch pad, if available, or by calling [WiCall](#) or [Provider Services](#).

## Lost Cards

If a member needs a replacement ForwardHealth card, he or she may call Member Services to request a new one.

If a member lost his or her ForwardHealth card or never received one, the member may call [Member Services](#) to request a new one.

## Managed Care Organization Enrollment Changes

Members do not receive a new ForwardHealth card if they are enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization) or change from one MCO to another. Providers should verify enrollment with the EVS every time they see a member to ensure they have the most current managed care enrollment information.

### Sample ForwardHealth Identification Card



Topic #268

## Temporary Enrollment for Family Planning Only Services Identification Cards

Qualified providers may issue white paper TE (Temporary Enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services identification cards for members to use temporarily until they receive a ForwardHealth identification card. The identification card is included with the TE for Family Planning Only Services Application (F-10119).

The TE for Family Planning Only Services identification cards have the following message printed on them: "Temporary Identification Card for Temporary Enrollment for Family Planning Only Services." Providers should accept the white TE for Family Planning Only Services identification cards as proof of enrollment for the dates provided on the cards and are encouraged to keep a photocopy of the card.

Topic #267

## Temporary Express Enrollment Cards

There are two types of temporary EE (Express Enrollment) identification cards. One is issued for pregnant women and the other for children that are enrolled in BadgerCare Plus through EE. The EE cards are valid for 14 days. [Samples of temporary EE cards](#) for children and pregnant women are available.

Providers may assist pregnant women with filling out an application for temporary ambulatory prenatal care benefits through the online EE process. EE identification cards are included on the bottom portion of the enrollment notice that is printed out and provided to the member after the online enrollment process is completed.

The paper application may also be used to apply for temporary ambulatory prenatal benefits for pregnant women. A beige paper identification card is attached to the last page of the application and provided to the woman after she completes the enrollment process.

The online EE process is also available for adults to apply for full BadgerCare Plus benefits for children. EE identification cards are included on the bottom portion of the enrollment notice that is printed out and provided to the member after the online enrollment process is completed. This temporary identification card is different, since providers may see more than one child listed if multiple children in one household are enrolled through EE. However, each child will receive his or her own ForwardHealth card after the application is submitted.


Each member who is enrolled through EE will receive a ForwardHealth card usually within three business days after the EE application is submitted and approved. To ensure children and pregnant women receive needed services in a timely manner, providers should accept the printed paper EE cards for children and either the printed paper EE card or the beige identification cards for pregnant women as proof of enrollment for the dates provided on the cards. Providers may use Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) to verify enrollment for DOS (dates of service) after those printed on the card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of the card.

## Sample Express Enrollment Cards

Which benefit?	Status of your benefits?
 <p>BadgerCare Plus temporary enrollment for pregnant women</p>	<p>You applied for BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment on <b>06/26/2008</b>. You are temporarily enrolled in BadgerCare Plus for outpatient pregnancy-related services. Your enrollment will end on or before <b>07/31/2008</b>. To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities.</p> <p>To get regular BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid, you must apply online, by mail or in person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online at <a href="http://access.wi.gov">http://access.wi.gov</a></li> <li>• By mail or in person at:                             <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Dane County Job Center 1819 Aberg Ave. Madison, WI 53704 (608) 242-7400</p> </li> </ul>
<p><i>To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities.</i></p>	

<p><b>To the Provider</b></p> <p>The individual listed has been temporarily enrolled through BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment in accordance with Wis. Stat. s. 49.471. This card entitles this individual to receive pregnancy related outpatient care including pharmacy services through BadgerCare Plus from any certified BadgerCare Plus provider for the period specified on this card. (See card effective dates.) For additional information, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or see the All Provider Handbook.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>It is important to provide services when this card is presented. Providers who render services based on the enrollment dates on this card will receive payment for those services as long as other reimbursement requirements are met. All policies regarding covered services apply during the temporary enrollment period, including the prohibition against billing recipients. Refer to the All Provider Handbook for further information regarding this temporary ID card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of this card.</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES</p> <p><b>IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR TEMPORARY ENROLLMENT IN BADGERCARE PLUS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN</b></p> </div> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>Name:</b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>ID Number:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jane Smith</td> <td>0454782131</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Effective Dates: 06/26/2008- 07/31/2008</b></p>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>ID Number:</b>	Jane Smith	0454782131
<b>Name:</b>	<b>ID Number:</b>				
Jane Smith	0454782131				

Which benefit?	Status of your benefits?
 <p>BadgerCare Plus temporary enrollment for children</p>	<p>You applied for BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment on <b>06/26/2008</b>. The following individual(s) is/are temporarily enrolled in BadgerCare Plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Joe Smith</b></li> <li>• <b>Sara Smith</b></li> </ul> <p>This temporary enrollment will end on or before <b>07/31/2008</b>. To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities. In order to continue receiving BadgerCare Plus you must apply through one of the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online at <a href="http://access.wi.gov">http://access.wi.gov</a></li> <li>• By mail or in person at:                             <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Dane County Job Center 1819 Aberg Ave. Madison, WI 53704 (608) 242-7400</p> </li> </ul>
<p><i>To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities.</i></p>	

<p><b>To the Provider</b></p> <p>The children listed have been temporarily enrolled through BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment in accordance with Wis. Stat. s. 49.471. This card entitles this individual to receive services through BadgerCare Plus from any certified BadgerCare Plus provider for the period specified on this card. (See card effective dates.) For additional information, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or see the All Provider Handbook.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>It is important to provide services when this card is presented. Providers who render services based on the enrollment dates on this card will receive payment for those services as long as other reimbursement requirements are met. All policies regarding covered services apply during the temporary enrollment period, including the prohibition against billing recipients. Refer to the All Provider Handbook for further information regarding this temporary ID card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of this card.</p>	<p>WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>  <p><b>IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR TEMPORARY ENROLLMENT IN BADGERCARE PLUS FOR CHILDREN</b></p> <table> <tr> <td><b>Name:</b></td> <td><b>ID Number:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joe Smith</td> <td>0321434543</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sara Smith</td> <td>0787451231</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Effective Dates: 06/26/2008- 07/31/2008</b></p>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>ID Number:</b>	Joe Smith	0321434543	Sara Smith	0787451231
<b>Name:</b>	<b>ID Number:</b>						
Joe Smith	0321434543						
Sara Smith	0787451231						

Topic #1435

## Types of Identification Cards

ForwardHealth members receive an identification card upon initial eligibility determination. Identification cards may be in any of the following formats:

- White plastic ForwardHealth cards.
- White plastic ForwardHealth Core Plan cards.
- White plastic ForwardHealth Basic Plan cards.
- White plastic SeniorCare cards.
- Paper printout temporary card for EE (Express Enrollment) for children.
- Paper printout temporary card for EE for pregnant women.
- Beige paper temporary card for EE for pregnant women.
- White paper TE (Temporary Enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services cards.

## Misuse and Abuse of Benefits

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Topic #271

### Examples of Member Abuse or Misuse

Examples of member abuse or misuse are included in [DHS 104.02\(5\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #274

## Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program

### Overview of the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program

The purpose of the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program is to coordinate the provision of health care services for members who abuse or misuse Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, or SeniorCare benefits by seeking duplicate or medically unnecessary services, particularly for controlled substances. The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program focuses on the abuse or misuse of prescription benefits for controlled substances. Abuse or misuse is defined under Recipient Duties in [DHS 104.02](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Coordination of member health care services is intended to:

- Curb the abuse or misuse of controlled substance medications.
- Improve the quality of care for a member.
- Reduce unnecessary physician utilization.

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program focuses on the abuse or misuse of prescription benefits for controlled substances. Abuse or misuse is defined under Recipient Duties in [DHS 104.02](#), Wis. Admin. Code. The abuse and misuse definition includes:

- Not duplicating or altering prescriptions.
- Not feigning illness, using false pretense, providing incorrect enrollment status, or providing false information to obtain service.
- Not seeking duplicate care from more than one provider for the same or similar condition.
- Not seeking medical care that is excessive or not medically necessary.

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program applies to members in fee-for-service as well as members enrolled in Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and BadgerCare Plus HMOs. Members remain enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program for two years and are continuously monitored for their prescription drug usage. At the end of the two-year enrollment period, an assessment is made to determine if the member should continue enrollment in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program.

Members enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program will be locked into one pharmacy where prescriptions for restricted medications must be filled and one prescriber who will prescribe restricted medications. [Restricted medications](#) are most controlled substances, carisoprodol, and tramadol. Referrals will be required only for restricted medication services.

Fee-for-service members enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program may choose physicians and pharmacy providers from whom to receive prescriptions and medical services not related to restricted medications. Members enrolled in an HMO must comply with the HMO's policies regarding care that is not related to restricted medications.

Referrals of members as candidates for lock-in are received from retrospective DUR (Drug Utilization Review), physicians, pharmacists, other providers, and through automated surveillance methods. Once a referral is received, six months of pharmacy claims and diagnoses data are reviewed. A recommendation for one of the following courses of action is then made:

- No further action.
- Send an intervention letter to the physician.
- Send a warning letter to the member.
- Enroll the member in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program.

Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and SeniorCare members who are candidates for enrollment in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program are sent a letter of intent, which explains the restriction that will be applied, how to designate a primary prescriber and a pharmacy, and how to request a hearing if they wish to contest the decision for enrollment (i.e., due process). If a member fails to designate providers, the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program may assign providers based on claims' history. In the letter of intent, members are also informed that access to emergency care is not restricted.

Letters of notification are sent to the member and to the lock-in primary prescriber and pharmacy. Providers may designate alternate prescribers or pharmacies for restricted medications, as appropriate. Members remain in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program for two years. The primary lock-in prescriber and pharmacy may make referrals for specialist care or for care that they are otherwise unable to provide (e.g., home infusion services). The member's utilization of services is reviewed prior to release from the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program, and lock-in providers are notified of the member's release date.

## Excluded Drugs

The following scheduled drugs will be excluded from monitoring by the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program:

- Anabolic steroids.
- Barbiturates used for seizure control.
- Lyrica<sup>®</sup>.
- Provigil<sup>®</sup> and Nuvigil<sup>®</sup>.
- Weight loss drugs.

## Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program Administrator

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program is administered by HID (Health Information Designs, Inc.). HID may be contacted by telephone at (800) 225-6998, extension 3045, by fax at (800) 881-5573, or by mail at the following address:

Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program  
c/o Health Information Designs  
391 Industry Dr  
Auburn AL 36832

## Pharmacy Services Lock-In Prescribers Are Required to Be Enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid

To prescribe restricted medications for Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members, prescribers are required to be [enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid](#). Enrollment for the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program is not separate from enrollment in Wisconsin Medicaid.

## Role of the Lock-In Prescriber and Pharmacy Provider

The Lock-In prescriber determines what restricted medications are medically necessary for the member, prescribes those

medications using his or her professional discretion, and designates an alternate prescriber if needed. If the member requires an alternate prescriber to prescribe restricted medications, the primary prescriber should complete the [Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program Designation of Alternate Prescriber for Restricted Medication Services \(F-11183 \(12/10\)\)](#) form and return it to the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program and to the member's HMO, if applicable.

To coordinate the provision of medications, the Lock-In prescriber may also contact the Lock-In pharmacy to give the pharmacist(s) guidelines as to which medications should be filled for the member and from whom. The primary Lock-In prescriber should also coordinate the provision of medications with any other prescribers he or she has designated for the member.

The Lock-In pharmacy fills prescriptions for restricted medications that have been written by the member's Lock-In prescriber(s) and works with the Lock-In prescriber(s) to ensure the member's drug regimen is consistent with the overall care plan. The Lock-In pharmacy may fill prescriptions for medications from prescribers other than the Lock-In prescriber only for medications not on the list of restricted medications. If a pharmacy claim for a restricted medication is submitted from a provider who is not a designated Lock-In prescriber, the claim will be denied.

## **Designated Lock-In Pharmacies**

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program pharmacy fills prescriptions for restricted medications that have been written by the member's Lock-In prescriber(s) and works with the Lock-In prescriber(s) to ensure the member's drug regimen is consistent with the overall care plan. The Lock-In pharmacy may fill prescriptions for medications from prescribers other than the Lock-In prescriber only for medications not on the list of restricted medications. If a pharmacy claim for a restricted medication is submitted from a provider who is not a designated Lock-In prescriber, the claim will be denied.

## **Alternate Providers for Members Enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program**

Members enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program do not have to visit their Lock-In prescriber to receive medical services unless an HMO requires a primary care visit. Members may see other providers to receive medical services; however, other providers cannot prescribe restricted medications for Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members unless specifically designated to do so by the primary Lock-In prescriber. For example, if a member sees a cardiologist, the cardiologist may prescribe a statin for the member, but the cardiologist may not prescribe restricted medications unless he or she has been designated by the Lock-In prescriber as an alternate provider.

A referral to an alternate provider for a Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program member is necessary only when the member needs to obtain a prescription for a restricted medication from a provider other than his or her Lock-In prescriber or Lock-In pharmacy.

If the member requires alternate prescribers to prescribe restricted medications, the primary Lock-In prescriber is required to complete the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program Designation of Alternate Prescriber for Restricted Medication Services form. Referrals for fee-for-service members must be on file with the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program. Referrals for HMO members must be on file with the Pharmacy Service Lock-In Program and the member's HMO.

Designated alternate prescribers are required to be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid.

## **Claims from Providers Who Are Not Designated Pharmacy Services Lock-In Providers**

If the member brings a prescription for a restricted medication from a non-Lock-In prescriber to the designated Lock-In pharmacy, the pharmacy provider cannot fill the prescription.

If a pharmacy claim for a restricted medication is submitted from a provider who is not the designated Lock-In prescriber, alternate prescriber, Lock-In pharmacy, or alternate pharmacy, the claim will be denied. If a claim is denied because the



prescription is not from a designated Lock-In prescriber, the Lock-In pharmacy provider cannot dispense the drug or collect a cash payment from the member because the service is a nonreimbursable service. However, the Lock-In pharmacy provider may contact the Lock-In prescriber to request a new prescription for the drug, if appropriate.

To determine if a provider is on file with the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program, the Lock-In pharmacy provider may do one of the following:

- Speak to the member.
- Call HID.
- Call Provider Services.
- Use the ForwardHealth Portal.

Claims are not reimbursable if the designated Lock-In prescriber, alternate Lock-In prescriber, Lock-In pharmacy, or alternate Lock-In pharmacy provider is not on file with the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program.

## For More Information

Providers may call HID with questions about the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program. Pharmacy providers may also refer to the list of restricted medications data table or call Provider Services with questions about the following:

- Drugs that are restricted for Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members.
- A member's enrollment in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In program.
- A member's designated Lock-In prescriber or Lock-In pharmacy.

Topic #273

## Providers May Refuse to Provide Services

Providers may refuse to provide services to a BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid member in situations when there is reason to believe that the person presenting the ForwardHealth identification card is misusing or abusing it.

Members who abuse or misuse BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid benefits or their ForwardHealth card may have their benefits terminated or be subject to limitations under the [Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program](#) or to criminal prosecution.

Topic #275

## Requesting Additional Proof of Identity

Providers may request additional proof of identity from a member if they suspect fraudulent use of a ForwardHealth identification card. If another form of identification is not available, providers can compare a person's signature with the signature on the back of the ForwardHealth identification card if it is signed. (Adult members are encouraged to sign the back of their cards; however, it is not mandatory for members to do so.)

Verifying member identity, as well as enrollment, can help providers detect instances of fraudulent ForwardHealth card use.

## Special Enrollment Circumstances

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Topic #276

### Medicaid Members from Other States

Wisconsin Medicaid does not pay for services provided to members enrolled in other state Medicaid programs. Providers are advised to contact [other state Medicaid programs](#) to determine whether the service sought is a covered service under that state's Medicaid program.

Topic #279

### Members Traveling Out of State

When a member travels out of state but is within the United States (including its territories), Canada, or Mexico, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid cover medical services in any of the following circumstances:

- An emergency illness or accident.
- When the member's health would be endangered if treatment were postponed.
- When the member's health would be endangered if travel to Wisconsin were undertaken.
- When PA (prior authorization) has been granted to the out-of-state provider for provision of a nonemergency service.
- When there are coinsurance, copayment, or deductible amounts remaining after Medicare payment or approval for dual eligibles.

*Note:* Some providers located in a state that borders Wisconsin may be Wisconsin Medicaid enrolled as a [border-status provider](#) if the provider notifies ForwardHealth in writing that it is common practice for members in a particular area of Wisconsin to seek his or her medical services. Border-status providers follow the same policies as Wisconsin providers.

Topic #277

### Non-U.S. Citizens — Emergency Services

Certain non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens are eligible for services only in cases of acute emergency medical conditions. Providers should use the appropriate diagnosis code to document the nature of the emergency.

An emergency medical condition is a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of such severity that one could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in the following:

- Placing the person's health in serious jeopardy.
- Serious impairment to bodily functions.
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

Due to federal regulations, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid do not cover services for non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens related to routine prenatal or postpartum care, major organ transplants (e.g., heart, liver), or ongoing treatment for chronic conditions where there is no evidence of an acute emergent state. For the purposes of this policy, all labor and delivery is considered an emergency service.

*Note:* Babies born to certain non-qualifying immigrants are eligible for Medicaid enrollment under the CEN (continuously eligible newborn) option. However, babies born to women with incomes over 300 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level) are not eligible for CEN status. The baby may still qualify for BadgerCare Plus. These mothers should report the birth to the local agencies within ten calendar days.

A provider who gives emergency care to a non-U.S. citizen should refer him or her to the local county or tribal agency or ForwardHealth outpost site for a determination of BadgerCare Plus enrollment. Providers may complete the [Certification of Emergency for Non-U.S. Citizens \(F-1162 \(02/09\)\)](#) form for clients to take to the local county or tribal agency in their county of residence where the BadgerCare Plus enrollment decision is made.

Providers should be aware that a client's enrollment does not guarantee that the services provided will be reimbursed by BadgerCare Plus.

Topic #278

## Persons Detained by Legal Process

Most individuals detained by legal process are *not* eligible for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid benefits. Only those individuals who qualify for the [BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women](#) may receive benefits.

"Detained by legal process" means a person who is incarcerated (including some Huber Law prisoners) because of law violation or alleged law violation, which includes misdemeanors, felonies, delinquent acts, and day-release prisoners. The justice system oversees health care-related needs for individuals detained by legal process who do not qualify for the BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women.

Topic #280

## Retroactive Enrollment

Retroactive enrollment occurs when an individual has applied for BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid and enrollment is granted with an effective date prior to the date the enrollment determination was made. A member's enrollment may be backdated to allow retroactive coverage for medical bills incurred prior to the date of application.

The retroactive enrollment period may be backdated up to three months prior to the month of application if all enrollment requirements were met during the period. Enrollment may be backdated more than three months if there were delays in determining enrollment or if court orders, fair hearings, or appeals were involved.

## Reimbursing Members in Cases of Retroactive Enrollment

When a member receives retroactive enrollment, he or she has the right to request the return of payments made to a Medicaid-enrolled provider for a covered service during the period of retroactive enrollment, according to [DHS 104.01\(11\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code. A Medicaid-enrolled provider is required to submit claims to Medicaid for covered services provided to a member during periods of retroactive enrollment. Medicaid cannot directly refund the member.

If a service(s) that requires PA (prior authorization) was performed during the member's period of retroactive enrollment, the provider is required to submit a PA request and receive approval from Medicaid *before* submitting a claim.

If a provider receives reimbursement from Medicaid for services provided to a retroactively enrolled member and the member has paid for the service, the provider is required to reimburse the member or authorized person acting on behalf of the member (e.g., local General Relief agency) the full amount that the member paid for the service.

If a claim cannot be filed within 365 days of the DOS (date of service) due to a delay in the determination of a member's retroactive enrollment, the provider is required to submit the claim to Timely Filing within 180 days of the date the retroactive enrollment is entered into Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) (if the services provided during the period of retroactive enrollment were covered).

Topic #281

## Spenddown to Meet Financial Enrollment Requirements

Occasionally, an individual with significant medical bills meets all enrollment requirements except those pertaining to income. These individuals are required to "spenddown" their income to meet financial enrollment requirements.

The certifying agency calculates the individual's spenddown (or deductible) amount, tracks all medical costs the individual incurs, and determines when the medical costs have satisfied the spenddown amount. (A payment for a medical service does not have to be made by the individual to be counted toward satisfying the spenddown amount.)

When the individual meets the spenddown amount, the certifying agency notifies ForwardHealth and the provider of the last service that the individual is eligible beginning on the date that the spenddown amount was satisfied.

If the individual's last medical bill is greater than the amount needed to satisfy the spenddown amount, the certifying agency notifies the affected provider by indicating the following:

- The individual is eligible for benefits as of the DOS (date of service) on the last bill.
- A claim for the service(s) on the last bill should be submitted to ForwardHealth. (The claim should indicate the full cost of the service.)
- The portion of the last bill that the individual must pay to the provider.

The certifying agency also informs ForwardHealth of the individual's enrollment and identifies the following:

- The DOS of the final charges counted toward satisfying the spenddown amount.
- The provider number of the provider of the last service.
- The spenddown amount remaining to be satisfied.

When the provider submits the claim, the spenddown amount will automatically be deducted from the provider's reimbursement for the claim. The spenddown amount is indicated in the Member's Share element on the [Medicaid Remaining Deductible Update \(F-10109 \(07/08\)\)](#) form sent to providers by the member's certifying agency. The provider's reimbursement is then reduced by the amount of the member's obligation.

# Provider Enrollment and Ongoing Responsibilities

# 5

Archive Date:12/02/2013

## **Provider Enrollment and Ongoing Responsibilities:Documentation**

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Topic #1640

### **Availability of Records to Authorized Personnel**

The DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) has the right to inspect, review, audit, and reproduce provider records pursuant to [DHS 106.02\(9\)\(e\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code. The DHCAA periodically requests provider records for compliance audits to match information against ForwardHealth's information on paid claims, PA (prior authorization) requests, and enrollment. These records include, but are not limited to, medical/clinical and financial documents. Providers are obligated to ensure that the records are released to an authorized DHCAA staff member(s).

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses providers \$0.06 per page for the cost of reproducing records requested by the DHCAA to conduct a compliance audit. A letter of request for records from the DHCAA will be sent to a provider when records are required.

Reimbursement is not made for other reproduction costs included in the provider agreement between the DHCAA and a provider, such as reproduction costs for submitting PA requests and claims.

Also, state-contracted MCOs (managed care organizations), including HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs, are not reimbursed for the reproduction costs covered in their contract with the DHS (Department of Health Services).

The reproduction of records requested by the PRO (Peer Review Organization) under contract with the DHCAA is reimbursed at a rate established by the PRO.

Topic #200

### **Confidentiality and Proper Disposal of Records**

ForwardHealth supports member rights regarding the confidentiality of health care and other related records, including an applicant or member's billing information or medical claim records. An applicant or member has a right to have this information safeguarded, and the provider is obligated to protect that right. Use or disclosure of any information concerning an applicant or member (including an applicant or member's billing information or medical claim records) for any purpose not connected with program administration is prohibited unless authorized by the applicant or member (program administration includes contacts with third-party payers that are necessary for pursuing third-party payment and the release of information as ordered by the court).

Federal HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) Privacy and Security regulations establish requirements regarding the confidentiality and proper disposal of health care and related records containing PHI (protected health information). These requirements apply to all providers (who are considered "covered entities") and their business associates who create, retain, and dispose of such records.

For providers and their business partners who are not subject to HIPAA, Wisconsin confidentiality laws have similar requirements pertaining to proper disposal of health care and related records.

### **HIPAA Privacy and Security Regulations**

## Definition of Protected Health Information

As defined in the HIPAA privacy and security regulations, PHI is protected health information (including demographic information) that:

- Is created, received, maintained, or transmitted in any form or media.
- Relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual, the provision of health care to an individual, or the payment for the provision of health care to an individual.
- Identifies the individual or provides a reasonable basis to believe that it can be used to identify the individual.

A member's name combined with his or her member identification number or Social Security number is an example of PHI.

## Requirements Regarding "Unsecured" Protected Health Information

Title XIII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (also known as the HITECH (Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health) Act) included a provision that significantly expanded the scope, penalties, and compliance challenges of HIPAA. This provision imposes new requirements on covered entities and their business associates to notify patients, the federal government, and the media of breaches of "unsecured" PHI (refer to 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164 and s. 13402 of the HITECH Act).

Unsecured PHI is PHI that has not been rendered unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals through the use of physical destruction approved by the HHS (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services). According to the HHS, destruction is the only acceptable method for rendering PHI unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable.

As defined by federal law, unsecured PHI includes information in *any* medium, not just electronic data.

## Actions Required for Proper Disposal of Records

Under the HIPAA privacy and security regulations, health care and related records containing PHI must be disposed of in such a manner that they cannot be reconstructed. This includes ensuring that the PHI is secured (i.e., rendered unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable) prior to disposal of the records.

To secure PHI, providers and their business associates are required to use one of the following destruction methods approved by the HHS:

- Paper, film, labels, or other hard copy media should be shredded or destroyed such that the PHI cannot be read or otherwise reconstructed.
- Electronic media should be cleared, purged, or destroyed such that the PHI cannot be retrieved according to National Institute of Standards and Technology Special Publication 800-88, Guidelines for Media Sanitization, which can be found on the [NIST \(National Institute of Standards and Technology\) Web site](#).

For more information regarding securing PHI, providers may refer to [Health Information Privacy](#) on the HHS Web site.

## Wisconsin Confidentiality Laws

[Section 134.97](#), Wis. Stats., requires providers and their business partners who are not subject to HIPAA regulations to comply with Wisconsin confidentiality laws pertaining to the disposal of health care and related records containing PHI.

[Section 146.836](#), Wis. Stats., specifies that the requirements apply to "all patient health care records, including those on which written, drawn, printed, spoken, visual, electromagnetic or digital information is recorded or preserved, regardless of physical form or characteristics." Paper *and* electronic records are subject to Wisconsin confidentiality laws.

## "Personally Identifiable Data" Protected

According to [s.134.97\(1\)\(e\)](#), Wis. Stats., the types of records protected are those containing "personally identifiable data."

As defined by the law, personally identifiable data is information about an individual's medical condition that is not considered to be public knowledge. This may include account numbers, customer numbers, and account balances.

## Actions Required for Proper Disposal of Records

Health care and related records containing personally identifiable data must be disposed of in such a manner that no unauthorized person can access the personal information. For the period of time between a record's disposal and its destruction, providers and their business partners are required to take actions that they reasonably believe will ensure that no unauthorized person will have access to the personally identifiable data contained in the record.

## Businesses Affected

Sections [134.97](#) and [134.98](#), Wis. Stats., governing the proper disposal of health care and related records, apply to medical businesses as well as financial institutions and tax preparation businesses. For the purposes of these requirements, a medical business is any for-profit or nonprofit organization or enterprise that possesses information — other than personnel records — relating to a person's physical or mental health, medical history, or medical treatment. Medical businesses include sole proprietorships, partnerships, firms, business trusts, joint ventures, syndicates, corporations, limited liability companies, or associates.

## Continuing Responsibilities for All Providers After Ending Participation

Ending participation in a ForwardHealth program does not end a provider's responsibility to protect the confidentiality of health care and related records containing PHI.

Providers who no longer participate in a ForwardHealth program are responsible for ensuring that they and their business associates/partners continue to comply with all federal and state laws regarding protecting the confidentiality of members' PHI. Once record retention requirements expire, records must be disposed of in such a manner that they cannot be reconstructed — according to federal and state regulations — in order to avoid penalties.

All ForwardHealth providers and their business associates/partners who cease practice or go out of business should ensure that they have policies and procedures in place to protect all health care and related records from any unauthorized disclosure and use.

## Penalties for Violations

Any covered entity provider or provider's business associate who violates federal HIPAA regulations regarding the confidentiality and proper disposal of health care and related records may be subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including any or all of the following:

- Fines up to \$1.5 million per calendar year.
- Jail time.
- Federal HHS Office of Civil Rights enforcement actions.

For entities not subject to HIPAA, [s.134.97\(4\)](#), Wis. Stats., imposes penalties for violations of confidentiality laws. Any provider or provider's business partner who violates Wisconsin confidentiality laws may be subject to fines up to \$1,000 per incident or occurrence.

For more specific information on the penalties for violations related to members' health care records, providers should refer to s. 13410(d) of the HITECH Act, which amends 42 USC s. 1320d-5, and [s. 134.97\(3\)](#), [\(4\)](#) and [146.84](#), Wis. Stats.



Topic #1824

## Maintaining Required Information for Specialized Medical Vehicle Providers

SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers are required to maintain the following information:

- Necessity for SMV transportation.
- Trip information.
- Vehicle information.
- Driver information.

Wisconsin Medicaid may recoup payment if providers fail to maintain adequate records to support each claim.

### Necessity for Specialized Medical Vehicle Transportation

To document the necessity for SMV transportation, providers are required to maintain a copy of the member's [Certification of Need for Specialized Medical Vehicle Transportation \(F-1197 \(06/09\)\)](#) form. The form must be completely filled out and signed by a nurse midwife, nurse practitioner, physician, or physician assistant.

### Trip Information

Providers are required to maintain documentation of every transport, including the following:

- DOS (date of service).
- Driver's name.
- Name and member identification number of each member carried.
- Vehicle identification number.
- A statement from the member's nurse midwife, nurse practitioner, physician, or physician assistant about the appropriateness of the additional attendant or cot or stretcher (if additional attendant or cot or stretcher are needed).
- Names of additional attendants (if additional attendants are used).
- Beginning and ending times for waiting time and total amount of waiting time (if waiting time occurs).
- Full odometer readings (to the tenth of a mile) from the beginning and end of the trip.
- Pick-up and drop-off addresses and times.
- The type of facility to which the member is transported or the reason for the trip.

### Vehicle Information

Providers are required to maintain the following vehicle information:

- Documentation showing that an assigned driver or mechanic has inspected each vehicle at least every seven days to ensure proper functioning of the vehicle ([DHS 105.39\[2\]\[b\]](#), Wis. Admin. Code). The [Weekly Driver's Vehicle Inspection Report \(F-01302 \(07/12\)\)](#) may be used to document this information.
- A current list of certified vehicles used to transport members. The [Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart \(F-01300 \(07/12\)\)](#) may be used to maintain this list.
- Proof of insurance for each vehicle. The [Specialized Medical Vehicle Insurance Documentation Checklist](#) contains information about insurance documentation for SMVs.

### Driver Information

Providers are required to maintain a current list of all drivers. The list must include the following information for each driver:

- Name and address.
- License number, restrictions (if any), and expiration date.
- License type.

In addition, providers are required to maintain documentation showing that each driver has received all of the following:

- Red Cross or equivalent training in first aid CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation).
- Refresher training in first aid at least every three years and maintains current CPR certification.
- Specific instruction in the use of lifts, ramps, and restraint devices.
- Specific instruction on the care of passengers in seizure.

Driver information may be documented on the [Specialized Medical Vehicle Driver Information Chart \(F-01301 \(07/12\)\)](#).

Topic #1827

## Specialized Medical Vehicle Driver Information Chart

The information on the [Specialized Medical Vehicle Driver Information Chart \(F-01301 \(07/12\)\)](#) is mandatory in accordance with [DHS 105.39](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #1826

## Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart

Provision of the information requested on the [Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart \(F-01300 \(07/12\)\)](#) is mandatory in accordance with [DHS 105.39](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #15917

## Specialized Medical Vehicle Provider's Vehicle(s) Insurance Documentation Requirements

### Insurance Documentation Requirements

As part of the enrollment process, new SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers must submit the insurance documentation detailed in the [Specialized Medical Vehicle Insurance Documentation Checklist \(F-00885 \(09/13\)\)](#). Currently enrolled SMV providers are required to submit complete insurance documentation *immediately* when there has been a change in their insurance carrier/agency or when a new replacement insurance policy (excluding a renewal for the same policy) has been issued. SMV providers are required to submit the following information to Wisconsin Medicaid for approval:

- Copy of the current vehicle's/vehicles' commercial insurance policy (certificates of insurance are not acceptable).
- Completed current [Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart \(F-01300 \(07/12\)\)](#).
- Letter of receipt of payment from the insurance company.

It is the responsibility of the provider, not the insurance agency, to ensure that Wisconsin Medicaid receives the complete insurance documentation by the due date. Providers should give their insurance representative a copy of the checklist so that he or

she is familiar with the specific requirements. To avoid delays in approval by Wisconsin Medicaid, providers should review the insurance documentation for accuracy before submitting it.

Submit insurance information to:

Wisconsin Medicaid  
 Provider Enrollment  
 313 Blettner Blvd  
 Madison WI 53784

## Temporary Enrollment Requirements

Wisconsin Medicaid grants temporary enrollment to the SMV providers who submit an insurance binder which documents all the information required in Section I of the checklist. Temporary enrollment is granted to new providers or to currently enrolled providers who change their insurance carrier/agency or obtain a new replacement policy. Temporary enrollment is limited to a maximum of 60 days from the effective date on the binder or the specified binder expiration date, whichever comes first. Wisconsin Medicaid determines the length of a new or reenrolled provider's temporary enrollment by the initial enrollment or reenrollment effective date. For example, the initial enrollment or reenrollment date assigned is May 15, and the insurance binder is valid May 1 to June 30. Wisconsin Medicaid approves the temporary enrollment from May 15 to June 30 or 46 days.

SMV providers are required to send a copy of their final insurance policy which documents all the information in Section I of the checklist. Wisconsin Medicaid must receive the policy before the temporary enrollment ends, or Wisconsin Medicaid will cancel the provider number. The provider number will remain canceled until Wisconsin Medicaid receives the documentation; this causes a lapse in enrollment. The date that Wisconsin Medicaid receives the acceptable insurance documentation is the date of the SMV provider's reenrollment. Wisconsin Medicaid will not pay claims with DOS (dates) during the period of lapsed enrollment. SMV providers are responsible to ensure that Wisconsin Medicaid receives a copy of the actual acceptable policy before their temporary enrollment expires to avoid a lapse in enrollment.

## Changes in Coverage

Wisconsin Medicaid prohibits SMV providers from transporting Medicaid members in any vehicle not covered under the terms of the commercial insurance policy on file with Wisconsin Medicaid. Substitution of vehicles is not allowed. Before using any vehicle that is not on file with Wisconsin Medicaid, the following information must be submitted to Wisconsin Medicaid for approval:

- A copy of the amended insurance policy or changed endorsement with the VIN (vehicle identification number) of each additional vehicle.
- An updated Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart.

When Wisconsin Medicaid receives a cancellation notice from an SMV provider's insurance carrier/agency, Wisconsin Medicaid sends a sanction notice to the provider. The sanction notice states that the provider's number will be canceled in 20 days if Wisconsin Medicaid does not receive notice of reenrollment without a lapse from the same carrier/agency (for the same policy) or complete documentation of insurance from the provider. The provider number remains canceled until Wisconsin Medicaid receives the documentation; this causes a lapse in enrollment. The date on which Wisconsin Medicaid receives the acceptable insurance documentation is the date the SMV provider is reenrolled. This date is now the assigned reenrollment date. Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse claims with DOS during the period of lapsed enrollment.

## Specialized Medical Vehicle Insurance Documentation Checklist

All new and reinstated SMV providers are required to send the completed insurance documentation as detailed in the Specialized Medical Vehicle Insurance Documentation Checklist. Currently enrolled SMV providers who change their insurance carrier/agency or obtain a new replacement policy are required to *send it immediately* to Wisconsin Medicaid. Attach the policy to a current Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart(s), and send it to the Wisconsin Medicaid address listed at the end of

Section I of the Specialized Medical Vehicle Insurance Documentation Checklist. All of the policy items in section I of the Checklist must be contained in the policy and binder if submitted first. All items of the letter of receipt in Section II of the Checklist must be included in the letter of receipt of payment.

## Ongoing Responsibilities

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Topic #215

### Change in Ownership

New provider enrollment materials, including a provider agreement, must be completed whenever a change in ownership occurs. ForwardHealth defines a "change in ownership" as when a different party purchases (buys out) or otherwise obtains ownership or effective control over a practice or facility. Examples of a change in ownership include the following:

- A sole proprietorship transfers title and property to another party.
- Two or more corporate clinics or centers consolidate and a new corporate entity is created.
- There is an addition, removal, or substitution of a partner in a partnership.
- An incorporated entity merges with another incorporated entity.
- An unincorporated entity (sole proprietorship or partnership) becomes incorporated.

The following provider types require Medicare enrollment and/or [DQA \(Division of Quality Assurance\) certification](#) for Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment change in ownerships:

- Ambulatory surgery centers.
- ESRD (end-stage renal disease) services providers.
- FQHCs (federally qualified health centers).
- Home health agencies.
- Hospice providers.
- Hospitals (inpatient and outpatient).
- Nursing homes.
- Outpatient rehabilitation facilities.
- Rehabilitation agencies.
- RHCs (rural health clinics).

All changes in ownership must be reported in writing to ForwardHealth and new provider enrollment materials must be completed *before* the effective date of the change. The affected provider numbers should be noted in the letter. When the change in ownership is complete, the provider(s) will receive written notification of his or her provider number and the new Medicaid enrollment effective date in the mail.

Providers with questions about change in ownership should call [Provider Services](#).

### Repayment Following Change in Ownership

Medicaid-enrolled providers who sell or otherwise transfer their business or business assets are required to repay ForwardHealth for any erroneous payments or overpayments made to them by Wisconsin Medicaid. If necessary, the provider to whom a transfer of ownership is made will also be held liable by ForwardHealth for repayment. Therefore, prior to final transfer of ownership, the provider acquiring the business is responsible for contacting ForwardHealth to ascertain if he or she is liable under this provision.

The provider acquiring the business is responsible for making payments within 30 days after receiving notice from the DHS (Department of Health Services) that the amount shall be repaid in full.

Providers may send inquiries about the determination of any pending liability on the part of the owner to the following address:

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability  
 Bureau of Program Integrity  
 PO Box 309  
 Madison WI 53701-0309

ForwardHealth has the authority to enforce these provisions within four years following the transfer of a business or business assets. Refer to [s. 49.45\(21\)](#), Wis. Stats., for complete information.

Topic #219

## Civil Rights Compliance (Nondiscrimination)

Providers are required to comply with all federal laws relating to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and state laws pertinent to ForwardHealth, including the following:

- Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- The ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) of 1990.

The previously listed laws require that all health care benefits under ForwardHealth be provided on a nondiscriminatory basis. No applicant or member can be denied participation in ForwardHealth or be denied benefits or otherwise subjected to discrimination in any manner under ForwardHealth on the basis of race, color, national origin or ancestry, sex, religion, age, disability, or association with a person with a disability.

Any of the following actions may be considered discriminatory treatment when based on race, color, national origin, disability, or association with a person with a disability:

- Denial of aid, care, services, or other benefits.
- Segregation or separate treatment.
- Restriction in any way of any advantage or privilege received by others. (There are some program restrictions based on eligibility classifications.)
- Treatment different from that given to others in the determination of eligibility.
- Refusing to provide an oral language interpreter to persons who are considered LEP (limited English proficient) at no cost to the LEP individual in order to provide meaningful access.
- Not providing translation of vital documents to the LEP groups who represent five percent or 1,000, whichever is smaller, in the provider's area of service delivery.

*Note:* Limiting practice by age is not age discrimination and specializing in certain conditions is not disability discrimination. For further information, see 45 CFR Part 91.

Providers are required to be in compliance with the previously mentioned laws as they are currently in effect or amended. Providers who employ 25 or more employees and receive \$25,000 or more annually in Medicaid reimbursement are also required to comply with the DHS (Department of Health Services) [Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Compliance Plan](#) requirements. Providers that employ less than 25 employees and receive less than \$25,000 annually in Medicaid reimbursement are required to comply by submitting a Letter of Assurance and other appropriate forms.

Providers without Internet access may obtain copies of the DHS Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Compliance Plan (including the Letter of Assurance and other forms) and instructions by calling the Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Compliance Officer at (608) 266-9372. Providers may also write to the following address:

AA/CRC Office  
 1 W Wilson St Rm 561  
 PO Box 7850  
 Madison WI 53707-7850

For more information on the acts protecting members from discrimination, refer to the civil rights compliance information in the Enrollment and Benefits booklet. The booklet is given to new ForwardHealth members by local county or tribal agencies. Potential ForwardHealth members can request the booklet by calling [Member Services](#).

## **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**

This act requires that all benefits be provided on a nondiscriminatory basis and that decisions regarding the provision of services be made without regard to race, color, or national origin. Under this act, the following actions are prohibited, if made on the basis of race, color, or national origin:

- Denying services, financial aid, or other benefits that are provided as a part of a provider's program.
- Providing services in a manner different from those provided to others under the program.
- Aggregating or separately treating clients.
- Treating individuals differently in eligibility determination or application for services.
- Selecting a site that has the effect of excluding individuals.
- Denying an individual's participation as a member of a planning or advisory board.
- Any other method or criteria of administering a program that has the effect of treating or affecting individuals in a discriminatory manner.

## **Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**

This act prohibits differential treatment, based solely on a person's race, color, sex, national origin, or religion, in the terms and conditions of employment. These conditions or terms of employment are failure or refusal to hire or discharge compensation and benefits, privileges of employment, segregation, classification, and the establishment of artificial or arbitrary barriers to employment.

## **Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504**

This act prohibits discrimination in both employment and service delivery based solely on a person's disability.

This act requires the provision of reasonable accommodations where the employer or service provider cannot show that the accommodation would impose an undue hardship in the delivery of the services. A reasonable accommodation is a device or service modification that will allow the disabled person to receive a provider's benefits. An undue hardship is a burden on the program that is not equal to the benefits of allowing that handicapped person's participation.

A handicapped person means any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.

In addition, Section 504 requires "program accessibility," which may mean building accessibility, outreach, or other measures that allow for full participation of the handicapped individual. In determining program accessibility, the program or activity will be viewed in its entirety. In choosing a method of meeting accessibility requirements, the provider shall give priority to those methods that offer a person who is disabled services that are provided in the most integrated setting appropriate.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990**

Under Title III of the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) of 1990, any provider that operates an existing public accommodation has four specific requirements:

1. Remove barriers to make his or her goods and services available to and usable by people with disabilities to the extent that it is readily achievable to do so (i.e., to the extent that needed changes can be accomplished without much difficulty or expense).
2. Provide auxiliary aids and services so that people with sensory or cognitive disabilities have access to effective means of communication, unless doing so would fundamentally alter the operation or result in undue burdens.
3. Modify any policies, practices, or procedures that may be discriminatory or have a discriminatory effect, unless doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the goods, services, facilities, or accommodations.
4. Ensure that there are no unnecessary eligibility criteria that tend to screen out or segregate individuals with disabilities or limit their full and equal enjoyment of the place of public accommodation.

## Age Discrimination Act of 1975

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. The Act, which applies to all ages, permits the use of certain age distinctions and factors other than age that meet the Act's requirements.

Topic #217

## Keeping Information Current

### Types of Changes

Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth of changes, including the following:

- Address(es) — practice location and related information, mailing, PA (prior authorization), and/or financial.
- Business name.
- Contact name.
- Federal Tax ID number (IRS (Internal Revenue Service) number).
- Group affiliation.
- Licensure.
- NPI (National Provider Identifier).
- Ownership.
- Professional certification.
- Provider specialty.
- Supervisor of nonbilling providers.
- Taxonomy code.
- Telephone number, including area code.

Failure to notify ForwardHealth of changes may result in the following:

- Incorrect reimbursement.
- Misdirected payment.
- Claim denial.
- Suspension of payments in the event that provider mail is returned to ForwardHealth for lack of a current address.

Entering new information on a claim form or PA request is *not* adequate notification of change.

### Address Changes

Healthcare providers who are federally required to have an NPI are cautioned that changes to their practice location address on



file with ForwardHealth may alter their ZIP+4 code information that is required on transactions.

## Submitting Changes in Address or Status

Once enrolled, providers are required to submit changes in address or status as they occur, either through the Portal or on paper.

### ForwardHealth Portal Submission

After establishing a provider account on the ForwardHealth Portal, providers may make changes to their demographic information online. Changes made through the Portal instantly update the provider's information in ForwardHealth interChange. In addition, since the provider is allowed to make changes directly to his or her information, the process does not require re-entry by ForwardHealth.

Providers should note, however, that the demographic update function of the Portal limits certain providers from modifying some types of information. Providers who are not able to modify certain information through the Portal may make these changes using the [Provider Change of Address or Status \(F-01181 \(07/12\)\)](#) form.

### Paper Submission

Providers must use the Provider Change of Address or Status form. Copies of old versions of this form will not be accepted and will be returned to the provider so that he or she may complete the current version of the form or submit changes through the Portal.

### Change Notification Letter

When a change is made to certain provider information, either through the use of the Provider Change of Address or Status form or through the Portal, ForwardHealth will send a letter notifying the provider of the change(s) made. Providers should carefully review the Provider File Information Change Summary included with the letter. If any information on this summary is incorrect, providers may do one of the following:

- If the provider made an error while submitting information on the Portal, he or she should correct the information through the Portal.
- If the provider submitted incorrect information using the Provider Change of Address or Status form, he or she should either submit a corrected form or correct the information through the Portal.
- If the provider submitted correct information on the Provider Change of Address or Status form and believes an error was made in processing, he or she can contact [Provider Services](#) to have the error corrected or submit the correct information via the Portal.

## Notify Division of Quality Assurance of Changes

Providers licensed or certified by the DQA (Division of Quality Assurance) are required to notify the DQA of changes to physical address, changes of ownership, and facility closures by calling (608) 266-8481.

Providers licensed or certified by the DQA are required to notify the DQA of these changes *before* notifying ForwardHealth. The DQA will then forward the information to ForwardHealth.

Topic #577

## Legal Framework

The following laws and regulations provide the legal framework for BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and Wisconsin Well Woman

Medicaid:

- Federal Law and Regulation:
  - Law — United States Social Security Act; Title XIX (42 US Code ss. 1396 and following) and Title XXI.
  - Regulation — Title 42 CFR Parts 430-498 and Parts 1000-1008 (Public Health).
- Wisconsin Law and Regulation:
  - Law — Wisconsin Statutes: [49.43-49.499](#), [49.665](#), and [49.473](#).
  - Regulation — Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapters [DHS 101](#), [102](#), [103](#), [104](#), [105](#), [106](#), [107](#), and [108](#).

Laws and regulations may be amended or added at any time. Program requirements may not be construed to supersede the provisions of these laws and regulations.

The information included in the ForwardHealth Portal applies to BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid. BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid are administered by the DHS (Department of Health Services). Within the DHS, the DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) is directly responsible for managing these programs.

Topic #1821

## New Business Vehicles

Providers with a new business vehicle may transport members *as soon as* the vehicle is insured and inspected by the Wisconsin State Patrol as required under chs. [DHS 105.39](#) and [Trans 301](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

However, ForwardHealth must receive the inspection and insurance verification documentation within 14 calendar days of the first DOS (date of service). If the required documentation is not received within 14 calendar days of the first DOS, providers will have their reimbursement recouped for the trips provided using that new vehicle before ForwardHealth receives the documentation.

Topic #15157

## Recovery Audit Contractor Audits

The ACA (Affordable Care Act) requires states to establish an RAC (Recovery Audit Contractor) program to enable the auditing of Medicaid claim payments to providers. In Wisconsin, the RAC will audit claim payments from Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus. The Wisconsin DHS (Department of Health Services) has awarded the contract to HMS (Health Management Systems, Inc.) as the RAC for the state of Wisconsin.

*Note:* The RAC will not audit claims submitted for Family Planning Only Services, SeniorCare, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), the WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program), and ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program).

The overall goal of the RAC program is to identify and decrease improper payments. The audits will ensure that payments are for services covered under the programs in which the member was enrolled and that the services were actually provided and properly billed and documented. The audits are being conducted under Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards.

Providers will be selected for audits based on data analysis by the RAC and referrals by state agencies. The RAC will ensure that its audits neither duplicate state audits of the same providers nor interfere with potential law enforcement investigations.

Providers who receive a notification regarding an audit should follow the instructions as outlined in the notification within the requested time frames.

## Affected Providers

Any provider may be audited, including, but not limited to, fee-for-service providers, institutional and non-institutional providers, as well as managed care entities.

## Additional Information

Any questions regarding the RAC program should be directed to HMS at (800) 310-0865. Refer to the [RAC Web site](#) for additional information regarding HMS RAC activities.

Topic #1820

## Reporting Changes in the Company

SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers are required to report the following changes to ForwardHealth *before* they take effect:

- Company name and/or address.
- Company ownership.
- Vehicle insurance carrier or coverage.

Send changes to:

ForwardHealth  
 Provider Maintenance  
 313 Blettner Blvd  
 Madison WI 53784

### Company Name and/or Address

To report a change in company name and/or address, providers are required to complete the [Provider Change of Address or Status form \(F-01181 \(07/12\)\)](#).

### Company Ownership

In cases of a change in company ownership, [DHS 105.02\(1\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, requires the prior owner to send notice to ForwardHealth by the time of the effective date of the change. In accordance with [DHS 105.02\(2\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, Wisconsin Medicaid will automatically terminate its agreement with the provider in the event of change of ownership. If the new owner wishes to be eligible for Medicaid reimbursement, he or she must submit a new Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment application.

The new owner must not submit claims under the prior owner's provider number. The new owner should request an application for SMV enrollment 30 days *before* the transfer of ownership occurs to avoid a lapse in payment. This 30-day period allows time for ForwardHealth to assign a new provider number to the new owner.

### Vehicle Insurance Carrier or Coverage

It is the provider's responsibility to report and document changes in vehicle insurance. Providers are also required to ensure that a current [Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart \(F-01300 \(07/12\)\)](#), or equivalent form, is on file with Wisconsin Medicaid. However, providers do *not* need to send copies of insurance policies that have been renewed if there have been no changes in carrier or coverage.

Providers who change insurance carriers are required to submit the following to ForwardHealth:

- All the information in the [SMV Provider's Vehicle\(s\) Insurance Documentation Requirements Checklist](#).
- An updated Specialized Medical Vehicle Information Chart.

If insurance coverage changes on any vehicle, providers are required to submit a copy of the new insurance policy or policy amendment to ForwardHealth.

Topic #13277

## Reporting Suspected Waste, Fraud, and Abuse

The DHS (Department of Health Services) OIG (Office of Inspector General) investigates fraud and abuses including, but not limited to, the following:

- Billing Medicaid for services or equipment that were not provided.
- Submitting false applications for a DHS-funded assistance program such as Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), or FoodShare.
- Trafficking FoodShare benefits.
- Crime, misconduct, and/or mismanagement by a DHS employee, official, or contractor.

Those who suspect fraudulent activity in Medicaid programs are required to notify the OIG if they have reason to believe that a person is misusing or abusing any DHS health care program or the ForwardHealth identification card.

[Section 49.49](#), Wis. Stats., defines actions that represent member misuse or abuse of benefits and the resulting sanctions that may be imposed. Providers are under no obligation to inform the member that they are misusing or abusing their benefits. A provider may not confiscate a ForwardHealth card from a member in question.

## Reporting Suspected Fraud and Abuse

Those who suspect any form of fraud, waste, or abuse of a program by providers, trading partners, billing services, agencies, or recipients of any government assistance program are required to report it. Those reporting allegations of fraud and abuse may remain anonymous. However, not providing contact information may prevent OIG from fully investigating the complaint if questions arise during the review process.

If a provider suspects that someone is committing fraudulent activities or is misusing his or her ForwardHealth card, the provider is required to notify ForwardHealth by one of the following methods:

- Going to the OIG fraud and abuse reporting [Web site](#).
- Calling the DHS fraud and abuse hotline at (877) 865-3432.

The following information is helpful when reporting fraud and abuse:

- A description of the fraud, waste, and/or abuse, including the nature, scope, and timeframe of the activity in question. The description should include sufficient detail for the complaint to be evaluated.
- The names and dates of birth (or approximate ages) of the people involved, as well as the number of occurrences and length of the suspected activity.
- The names and date(s) of other people or agencies to which the activity may have been reported.

After the allegation is received, the DHS OIG will evaluate it and take appropriate action. If the name and contact information of the person reporting the allegation was provided, the OIG may be in contact to verify details or ask for additional information.



# Provider Enrollment

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Topic #3969

## Categories of Enrollment

Wisconsin Medicaid enrolls providers in three billing categories. Each billing category has specific designated uses and restrictions. These categories include the following:

- Billing/rendering provider.
- Rendering-only provider.
- Billing-only provider (including group billing).

Providers should refer to the service-specific information in the Online Handbook or the Information for Specific Provider Types page on the [Provider Enrollment Information home page](#) to identify which category of enrollment is applicable.

### Billing/Rendering Provider

Enrollment as a billing/rendering provider allows providers to identify themselves on claims (and other forms) as either the provider billing for the services or the provider rendering the services.

### Rendering-Only Provider

Enrollment as a rendering-only provider is given to those providers who practice under the professional supervision of another provider (e.g., physician assistants). Providers with a rendering provider enrollment cannot submit claims to Wisconsin Medicaid directly, but they have reimbursement rates established for their provider type. Claims for services provided by a rendering provider must include the supervising provider or group provider as the billing provider.

### Billing-Only Provider (Including Group Billing)

Enrollment as a billing-only provider is given to certain provider types when a separate rendering provider is required on claims.

#### Group Billing

Groups of individual practitioners are enrolled as billing-only providers as an accounting convenience. This allows the group to receive one reimbursement, one RA (Remittance Advice), and the 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transaction for covered services rendered by individual practitioners within the group.

Providers may not have more than one group practice enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid with the same ZIP+4 code address, NPI (National Provider Identifier), and taxonomy code combination. Provider group practices located at the same ZIP+4 code address are required to differentiate their enrollment using an NPI or taxonomy code that uniquely identifies each group practice.

Individual practitioners within group practices are required to be Medicaid-enrolled because these groups are required to identify the provider who rendered the service on claims. Claims indicating these group billing providers that are submitted without a rendering provider are denied.

Topic #14137

# Enrollment Requirements Due to the Affordable Care Act

In 2010, the federal government signed into law the ACA (Affordable Care Act), also known as federal health care reform, which affects several aspects of Wisconsin health care. ForwardHealth has been working toward ACA compliance by implementing some new requirements for providers and provider screening processes. To meet federally mandated requirements, ForwardHealth is implementing changes in phases, the first of which began in 2012. A high-level list of the changes included under ACA is as follows:

- Providers are assigned a risk level of limited, moderate, or high. Most of the risk levels have been established by the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) based on an assessment of potential fraud, waste, and abuse for each provider type.
- Providers are screened according to their assigned risk level. Screenings are conducted during initial enrollment and revalidation.
- Certain provider types are subject to an enrollment application fee of \$523. This fee has been federally mandated and may be adjusted annually. The fee is used to offset the cost of conducting screening activities.
- During the enrollment process, providers are required to provide additional information for persons with an ownership or controlling interest, managing employees, and agents. "Persons" in this instance may mean a person or a corporation.
- Providers are required to undergo revalidation every three to five years.
- Effective July 15, 2013, ordering and referring physicians or other professionals will be required to be enrolled as a participating Medicaid provider.
- Payment suspensions are imposed on providers based on a credible allegation of fraud.

## ForwardHealth Implementation of Affordable Care Act Requirements to Date

### Provider Screenings

Wisconsin Medicaid screens all enrolling providers to accommodate the ACA limited risk level screening requirements. Limited risk level screening activities include:

- Checking federal databases, which include:
  - The SSA (Social Security Administration's) Death Master File.
  - The NPES (National Plan and Provider Enumeration System).
  - OIG (Office of the Inspector General) LEIE (List of Excluded Individuals/Entities).
  - EPLS (The Excluded Parties List System).
  - MED (Medicare Exclusion Database).
- Verifying licenses are appropriate in accordance with state laws and that there are no current limitations on the license.

These screening activities are conducted on applicants, providers, and any person with an ownership or controlling interest or who is an agent or managing employee of the provider at the time of enrollment, on a monthly basis for enrolled providers, and at revalidation.

ForwardHealth will deny enrollment or terminate the enrollment of any provider where any person with a five percent or greater direct or indirect ownership interest in the provider has been convicted of a criminal offense related to that person's involvement with the Medicare, Medicaid, or title XXI program in the last 10 years, or if invalid licensure information is found.

### Additional Information Needed During Provider Enrollment

ForwardHealth collects some personal data information from persons with an ownership or controlling interest, agents, and

managing employees. ForwardHealth will only use the provided information for provider enrollment. All information provided will be protected under the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) privacy rule.

Providers are required to submit the following information at the time of enrollment and revalidation for their individual owners with a controlling interest:

- First and last name.
- Provider's SSNs (Social Security numbers).
- Dates of birth.
- Street address, city, state, and ZIP+4 code.

Providers are required to submit the following information at the time of enrollment and revalidation for their organizational owners with controlling interest:

- Legal business name.
- Tax identification number.
- Business street address, city, state, ZIP+4 code.

Providers are required to submit the following information at the time of enrollment and revalidation for their managing employees and agents:

- First and last name.
- Employees' and agents' SSNs.
- Dates of birth.
- Street address, city, state, and ZIP+4 code.

Topic #194

## In-State Emergency Providers and Out-of-State Providers

ForwardHealth requires all in-state emergency providers and out-of-state providers who render services to BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or SeniorCare members to be [enrolled](#) in Wisconsin Medicaid. Information is available regarding the enrollment options for [in-state emergency providers](#) and [out-of-state providers](#).

Topic #193

## Materials for New Providers

On an ongoing basis, providers should refer to the Online Handbook for the most current BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program) information. Future changes to policies and procedures are published in *ForwardHealth Updates*. *Updates* are available for viewing and downloading on the [ForwardHealth Publications page](#).

Topic #4457

## Provider Addresses

ForwardHealth has the capability to store the following types of addresses and contact information:



- *Practice location address and related information.* This address is where the provider's office is physically located and where records are normally kept. Additional information for the practice location includes the provider's office telephone number and the telephone number for members' use. With limited exceptions, the practice location and telephone number for members' use are published in a provider directory made available to the public.
- *Mailing address.* This address is where ForwardHealth will mail general information and correspondence. Providers should indicate accurate address information to aid in proper mail delivery.
- *PA (prior authorization) address.* This address is where ForwardHealth will mail PA information.
- *Financial addresses.* Two separate financial addresses are stored for ForwardHealth. The checks address is where ForwardHealth will mail paper checks. The 1099 mailing address is where ForwardHealth will mail IRS Form 1099.

Providers may submit additional address information or modify their current information through the ForwardHealth Portal or by using the [Provider Change of Address or Status \(F-01181 \(07/12\)\)](#) form.

*Note:* Providers are cautioned that any changes to their practice location on file with Wisconsin Medicaid may alter their ZIP+4 code information required on transactions. Providers may verify the ZIP+4 code for their address on the [U.S. Postal Service Web site](#).

Topic #14157

## Provider Enrollment Information Home Page

ForwardHealth has consolidated all information providers will need for the enrollment process in one location on the ForwardHealth Portal. For information related to enrollment criteria and to complete online provider enrollment applications, providers should refer to the [Provider Enrollment Information home page](#).

The Provider Enrollment Information home page includes enrollment applications for each provider type and specialty eligible for enrollment with Wisconsin Medicaid. Prior to enrolling, providers may consult a provider enrollment criteria menu, which is a reference for each individual provider type detailing the information the provider may need to gather before beginning the enrollment process, including:

- Links to enrollment criteria for each provider type.
- Provider terms of reimbursement.
- Disclosure information.
- Category of enrollment.
- Additional documents needed (when applicable).

Providers will also have access to a list of links related to the enrollment process, including:

- General enrollment information.
- Regulations and forms.
- Provider type-specific enrollment information.
- In-state and out-of-state emergency enrollment information.
- Contact information.

Information regarding enrollment policy and billing instructions may still be found in the Online Handbook.

Topic #1931

## Provider Type and Specialty Changes

Providers who want to add a provider type or make a change to their provider type should call [Provider Services](#).

Topic #14317

## Terminology to Know for Provider Enrollment

Due to the ACA (Affordable Care Act), ForwardHealth has adopted new terminology. The following table includes new terminology that will be useful to providers during the provider enrollment and revalidation processes. Providers may refer to the Medicaid rule 42 CFR s. 455.101 for more information.

New Terminology	Definition
Agent	Any person who has been delegated the authority to obligate or act on behalf of a provider.
Disclosing entity	A Medicaid provider (other than an individual practitioner or group of practitioners) or a fiscal agent.
Federal health care programs	Federal health care programs include Medicare, Medicaid, Title XX, and Title XXI.
Other disclosing agent	<p>Any other Medicaid disclosing entity and any entity that does not participate in Medicaid but is required to disclose certain ownership and control information because of participation in any of the programs established under Title V, XVII, or XX of the Act. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any hospital, skilled nursing facility, home health agency, independent clinical laboratory, renal disease facility, rural health clinic, or HMO that participates in Medicare (Title XVIII).</li> <li>• Any Medicare intermediary or carrier.</li> <li>• Any entity (other than an individual practitioner or group of practitioners) that furnishes, or arranges for the furnishing of, health-related services for which it claims payment under any plan or program established under Title V or XX of the Act.</li> </ul>
Indirect ownership	An ownership interest in an entity that has an ownership interest in the disclosing entity. This term includes an ownership interest in any entity that has an indirect ownership in the disclosing entity.
Managing employee	A general manager, business manager, administrator, director, or other individual who exercises operational or managerial control over, or who directly or indirectly conducts the day-to-day operation of an institution, organization, or agency.
Ownership interest	The possession of equity in the capital, the stock, or the profits of the disclosing entity.
Person with an ownership or control interest	<p>A person or corporation for which one or more of the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has an ownership interest totaling five percent or more in a disclosing entity.</li> <li>• Has an indirect ownership interest equal to five percent or more in a disclosing entity.</li> <li>• Has a combination of direct and indirect ownership interest equal to five percent or more in a disclosing entity.</li> <li>• Owns an interest of five percent or more in any mortgage, deed of trust, note, or other obligation secured by the disclosing entity if that interest equals at least five percent of the value of the property or asset of the disclosing entity.</li> <li>• Is an officer or director of a disclosing entity that is organized as a corporation.</li> <li>• Is a person in a disclosing entity that is organized as a partnership.</li> </ul>
Subcontractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An individual, agency, or organization to which a disclosing entity has contracted or delegated some of its management functions or responsibilities of providing medical care to its patients; or,</li> <li>• An individual, agency, or organization with which a fiscal agent has entered into a contract, agreement, purchase order, or lease (or leases of real property) to obtain space, supplies, equipment, or services provided under the Medicaid agreement.</li> </ul>

Re-enrollment	Re-enrollment of a provider whose Medicaid enrollment has ended for any reason other than sanctions or failure to revalidate may be re-enrolled as long as all licensure and enrollment requirements are met. If a provider's enrollment with Wisconsin Medicaid lapses for longer than one year, they will have to re-enroll as a "new" provider. Providers should note that when they re-enroll, application fees and screening activities may apply. Re-enrollment was formerly known as re-instate.
Revalidation	All enrolled providers are required to revalidate their enrollment information every three years to continue their participation with Wisconsin Medicaid. Revalidation was formerly known as recertification.

*Note:* Providers should note that the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) requires revalidation at least every five years. However, Wisconsin Medicaid will continue to revalidate providers every three years.

## **Provider Numbers**

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Topic #4908

### **Exemptions to Federal National Provider Identifier Provider Number Requirements**

Personal care only providers, SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers, and blood banks are exempt from federal NPI (National Provider Identifier) requirements.

Topic #536

### **Provider Numbers**

Providers exempt from federal NPI (National Provider Identifier) requirements are to indicate their provider ID for billing and rendering on all paper and electronic claims.

## Provider Rights

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Topic #208

### A Comprehensive Overview of Provider Rights

Medicaid-enrolled providers have certain rights including, but not limited to, the following:

- Limiting the number of members they serve in a nondiscriminatory way.
- Ending participation in Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Applying for a discretionary waiver or variance of certain rules identified in Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- [Collecting payment from a member under limited circumstances.](#)
- Refusing services to a member if the member refuses or fails to present a ForwardHealth identification card. However, possession of a ForwardHealth card does not guarantee enrollment (e.g., the member may not be enrolled, may be enrolled only for limited benefits, or the ForwardHealth card may be invalid). Providers may confirm the current enrollment of the member by using one of the [EVS \(Enrollment Verification System\) methods](#), including calling [Provider Services](#).

Topic #207

### Ending Participation

Providers other than home health agencies and nursing facilities may terminate participation in ForwardHealth according to [DHS 106.05](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Providers choosing to withdraw should promptly notify their members to give them ample time to find another provider.

When withdrawing, the provider is required to do the following:

- Provide a written notice of the decision at least 30 days in advance of the termination.
- Indicate the effective date of termination.

Providers will not receive reimbursement for nonemergency services provided on and after the effective date of termination. Voluntary termination notices can be sent to the following address:

ForwardHealth  
 Provider Maintenance  
 313 Blettner Blvd  
 Madison WI 53784

If the provider fails to specify an effective date in the notice of termination, ForwardHealth may terminate the provider on the date the notice is received.

Topic #209

### Hearing Requests

A provider who wishes to contest a DHS (Department of Health Services) action or inaction for which due process is required

under [s. 227](#), Wis. Stats., may request a hearing by writing to the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals).

A provider who wishes to contest the DHCAA's (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) notice of intent to recover payment (e.g., to recoup for overpayments discovered in an audit by DHCAA) is required to request a hearing on the matter within the time period specified in the notice. The request, which must be in writing, should briefly summarize the provider's basis for contesting the DHS decision to withhold payment.

Refer to [DHS 106](#), Wis. Admin. Code, for detailed instructions on how to file an appeal.

If a timely request for a hearing is not received, the DHS may recover those amounts specified in its original notice from future amounts owed to the provider.

*Note:* Providers are not entitled to administrative hearings for billing disputes.

Topic #210

## Limiting the Number of Members

If providers choose to limit the number of members they see, they cannot accept a member as a private-pay patient. Providers should instead refer the member to another ForwardHealth provider.

Persons applying for or receiving benefits are protected against discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or association with a person with a disability.

Topic #206

## Requesting Discretionary Waivers and Variances

In rare instances, a provider or member may apply for, and the DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) will consider applications for, a discretionary waiver or variance of certain rules in [DHS 102](#), [103](#), [104](#), [105](#), [107](#), and [108](#), Wis. Admin. Code. Rules that are not considered for a discretionary waiver or variance are included in [DHS 106.13](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Waivers and variances are not available to permit coverage of services that are either expressly identified as noncovered or are not expressly mentioned in DHS 107, Wis. Admin. Code.

### Requirements

A request for a waiver or variance may be made at any time; however, all applications must be made in writing to the DHCAA. All applications are required to specify the following:

- The rule from which the waiver or variance is requested.
- The time period for which the waiver or variance is requested.
- If the request is for a variance, the specific alternative action proposed by the provider.
- The reasons for the request.
- Justification that all requirements for a discretionary waiver or variance would be satisfied.

The DHCAA may also require additional information from the provider or the member prior to acting on the request.

### Application

The DHCAA may grant a discretionary waiver or variance if it finds that all of the following requirements are met:

- The waiver or variance will not adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of any member.
- Either the strict enforcement of a requirement would result in unreasonable hardship on the provider or on a member, or an alternative to a rule is in the interests of better care or management. An alternative to a rule would include a new concept, method, procedure or technique, new equipment, new personnel qualifications, or the implementation of a pilot project.
- The waiver or variance is consistent with all applicable state and federal statutes and federal regulations.
- Federal financial participation is available for all services under the waiver or variance, consistent with the Medicaid state plan, the federal CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services), and other applicable federal program requirements.
- Services relating to the waiver or variance are medically necessary.

To apply for a discretionary waiver or variance, providers are required to send their application to the following address:

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability  
Waivers and Variances  
PO Box 309  
Madison WI 53701-0309

# Revalidation

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Topic #8518

## Specialized Medical Vehicle Providers

Active revalidation for SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers is completed every year to ensure accuracy of provider data and to implement changes in Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment requirements.

As part of Medicaid SMV revalidation, all providers are required to comply with [Trans. 301](#), Wis. Admin. Code.



## Sanctions

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Topic #211

### Intermediate Sanctions

According to [DHS 106.08\(3\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, the DHS (Department of Health Services) may impose intermediate sanctions on providers who violate certain requirements. Common examples of sanctions that the DHS may apply include the following:

- Review of the provider's claims before payment.
- Referral to the appropriate peer review organization, licensing authority, or accreditation organization.
- Restricting the provider's participation in BadgerCare Plus.
- Requiring the provider to correct deficiencies identified in a DHS audit.

Prior to imposing any alternative sanction under this section, the DHS will issue a written notice to the provider in accordance with [DHS 106.12](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Any sanction imposed by the DHS may be appealed by the provider under DHS 106.12, Wis. Admin. Code. Providers may appeal a sanction by writing to the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals).

Topic #212

### Involuntary Termination

The DHS (Department of Health Services) may suspend or terminate the Medicaid enrollment of any provider according to [DHS 106.06](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

The suspension or termination may occur if both of the following apply:

- The DHS finds that any of the grounds for provider termination are applicable.
- The suspension or termination will not deny members access to services.

Reasonable notice and an opportunity for a hearing within 15 days will be given to each provider whose enrollment is terminated by the DHS. Refer to [DHS 106.07](#), Wis. Admin. Code, for detailed information regarding possible sanctions.

In cases where Medicare enrollment is required as a condition of enrollment with Wisconsin Medicaid, termination from Medicare results in automatic termination from Wisconsin Medicaid.

Topic #213

### Sanctions for Collecting Payment from Members

Under state and federal laws, if a provider inappropriately collects payment from an enrolled member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, that provider may be subject to program sanctions including termination of Medicaid enrollment. In addition, the provider may also be fined not more than \$25,000, or imprisoned not more than five years, or both, pursuant to 42 USC s. 1320a-7b(d) or [s. 49.49\(3m\)](#), Wis. Stats.

There may be narrow exceptions on when providers may [collect payment from members](#).

Topic #214

## Withholding Payments

The DHS (Department of Health Services) may withhold full or partial Medicaid provider payments without prior notification if, as the result of any review or audit, the DHS finds reliable evidence of fraud or willful misrepresentation.

"Reliable evidence" of fraud or willful misrepresentation includes, but is not limited to, the filing of criminal charges by a prosecuting attorney against the provider or one of the provider's agents or employees.

The DHS is required to send the provider a written notice within five days of taking this action. The notice will generally set forth the allegations without necessarily disclosing specific information about the investigation.

# Reimbursement

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Archive Date:12/02/2013

## Reimbursement:Collecting Payment From Members

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Topic #227

### Conditions That Must Be Met

A member may request a noncovered service, a covered service for which PA (prior authorization) was denied (or modified), or a service that is not covered under the member's limited benefit category. The charge for the service may be collected from the member if the following conditions are met *prior* to the delivery of that service:

- The member accepts responsibility for payment.
- The provider and member make payment arrangements for the service.

Providers are strongly encouraged to obtain a *written* statement in advance documenting that the member has accepted responsibility for the payment of the service.

Furthermore, the service must be separate or distinct from a related, covered service. For example, a vision provider may provide a member with eyeglasses but then, upon the member's request, provide and charge the member for anti-glare coating, which is a noncovered service. Charging the member is permissible in this situation because the anti-glare coating is a separate service and can be added to the lenses at a later time.

Topic #538

### Cost Sharing

According to federal regulations, providers cannot hold a member responsible for any commercial or Medicare cost-sharing amount such as coinsurance, copayment, or deductible. Therefore, a provider may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for copayments required by other health insurance sources. Instead, the provider should collect from the member *only* the Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus copayment amount indicated on the member's remittance information.

Topic #224

### Situations When Member Payment Is Allowed

Providers may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, *except* for the following:

- Required member [copayments](#) for certain services.
- Commercial insurance payments made to the member.
- [Spendedown](#).
- Charges for a [private room](#) in a nursing home or hospital.
- Noncovered services if certain conditions are met.
- Covered services for which PA (prior authorization) was denied (or an originally requested service for which a PA request was modified) if certain conditions are met. These services are treated as noncovered services.
- Services provided to a member in a limited benefit category when the services are not covered under the limited benefit and if certain conditions are met.

If a provider inappropriately collects payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, that provider

may be subject to program sanctions including termination of Medicaid enrollment.

# Copayment

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Topic #1786

## Amounts

SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers are required to request copayments from members for SMV services. An SMV provider is required to request a copayment of \$1.00 for each time a member is transported and a base rate is billed, unless the member is exempt from making copayments.

Topic #231

## Exemptions

### Wisconsin Medicaid Exemptions

According to [DHS 104.01\(12\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, providers are prohibited from collecting copayment from the following Wisconsin Medicaid members:

- Children in a mandatory coverage category. In Wisconsin, this includes:
  - Children in foster care, regardless of age.
  - Children in subsidized adoption, regardless of age.
  - Children in the Katie Beckett program, regardless of age.
  - Children under age one with income up to 150 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
  - Children ages 1 through 5 with income up to 185 percent of the FPL.
  - Children ages 6 through 18 years of age with incomes at or below 100 percent of the FPL.
- Children who are American Indian or Alaska Natives who are enrolled in the state's CHIP (Child Health Insurance Program).
- American Indians or Alaskan Natives, regardless of age or income level, when they receive items and services either directly from an Indian health care provider or through referral under contract health services.
- Terminally ill individuals receiving hospice care.
- Nursing home residents.

The following services do not require copayment:

- Case management services.
- Crisis intervention services.
- CSP (Community Support Program) services.
- Emergency services.
- Family planning services, including sterilizations.
- HealthCheck "Other Services"
- Home care services.
- Hospice care services.
- Immunizations.
- Independent laboratory services.
- Injections.
- PDN (private duty nursing) and PDN services for ventilator-dependent members.
- SBS (school-based services).

- Substance abuse day treatment services.
- Surgical assistance.

## BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan Exemptions

Providers are prohibited from collecting copayment from the following BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan members:

- Children in a mandatory coverage category. In Wisconsin, this includes:
  - Children in foster care, regardless of age.
  - Children in subsidized adoption, regardless of age.
  - Children in the Katie Beckett program, regardless of age.
  - Children under age one with income up to 150 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
  - Children ages 1 through 5 with income up to 185 percent of the FPL.
  - Children ages 6 through 18 years of age with incomes at or below 100 percent of the FPL.
- Children who are American Indian or Alaska Natives who are enrolled in the state's CHIP (Child Health Insurance Program).
- American Indians or Alaskan Natives, regardless of age or income level, when they receive items and services either directly from an Indian health care provider or through referral under contract health services.
- Terminally ill individuals receiving hospice care.
- Nursing home residents.

The following services do not require copayment:

- Case management services.
- Crisis intervention services.
- CSP services.
- Emergency services.
- Family planning services, including sterilizations.
- HealthCheck "Other Services."
- Home care services.
- Hospice care services.
- Immunizations.
- Independent laboratory services.
- Injections.
- PDN and PDN services for ventilator-dependent members.
- SBS.
- Substance abuse day treatment services.
- Surgical assistance.

## Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid Exemptions

Providers are prohibited from collecting copayment from members who have been enrolled into WWWMA (Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid) from the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan or the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for any Medicaid covered service.

Topic #239

## Requirements

Federal law permits states to charge members a copayment for certain covered services. Providers are required to request copayments from members. Providers may not deny services to a Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan

member who fails to make a copayment; however, providers may deny services to a BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan member, BadgerCare Plus Core Plan member, or BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan member who fails to make a copayment.

Section [49.45\(18\)](#), Wis. Stats., requires providers to make a reasonable attempt to collect copayment from the member unless the provider determines that the cost of collecting the copayment exceeds the amount to be collected.



# Resources

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Archive Date:12/02/2013

## Resources:Contact Information

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Topic #11957

### Contact Information for MTM Inc.

Name of Telephone Line	Telephone Number	Purpose of Telephone Line
Facility Line	(866) 907-1497	The number reserved exclusively for health care providers to call and make routine, standing order, or urgent reservations for a member.
Transportation Provider Help Desk	(877) 892-3997	The number that serves as a primary point of contact for transportation providers and MTM Inc. (Medical Transportation Management Inc.) for all issues, including, but not limited to, member no-shows, claims, complaints, and operational issues.
Reservation line for routine and urgent trips	(866) 907-1493	The reservation number that members and their families/care givers call to schedule rides. Routine rides can be scheduled Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and must be scheduled at least two business days in advance. Urgent rides can be scheduled 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Reservation line for deaf and hearing impaired (TTY)	(800) 855-2880	The reservation number that members, their families/care givers, and medical providers call if they are deaf or hearing impaired.
"Where's My Ride" telephone number	(866) 907-1494	The number reserved for members, family members/care givers, or providers to call regarding a transportation service issue (for example, if transportation is more than 15 minutes late dropping off or picking up a member).
"We Care" telephone number	(866) 436-0457	The number reserved for members, family members/care givers, or providers to call regarding a complaint.
Fax number for MTM Inc.	(866) 686-7618	Fax number for case managers, social workers, or health care providers to fax a routine or standing order request.
Operations Center	(866) 831-4130	The main telephone number for the operations center located in Madison, Wisconsin.
Web site	<a href="http://www.mtm-inc.net/wisconsin/">www.mtm-inc.net/wisconsin/</a>	The Web site to schedule and cancel routine and standing order rides, file complaints, and obtain forms.

## Portal

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Topic #8524

### Conducting Revalidation Via the ForwardHealth Portal

Providers can conduct [revalidation](#) online via a secure revalidation area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Topic #5087

### Electronic Communications

The secure ForwardHealth Portal contains a one-way message center where providers can receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth. All new messages display on the provider's main page within the secure Portal.

Topic #4338

### ForwardHealth Portal

Providers, members, trading partners, managed care programs, and partners have access to public *and* secure information through the ForwardHealth Portal.

The Portal has the following areas:

- Providers (public and secure).
- Trading Partners.
- Members.
- MCO (managed care organization).
- Partners.

The secure Portal allows providers to conduct business and exchange electronic transactions with ForwardHealth. The public Portal contains general information accessible to all users. Members can access general health care program information and apply for benefits [online](#).

Topic #4441

### ForwardHealth Portal Helpdesk

Providers and trading partners may call the [ForwardHealth Portal Helpdesk](#) with technical questions on Portal functions, including their Portal accounts, registrations, passwords, and submissions through the Portal.

Topic #4451

### Inquiries to ForwardHealth Via the Portal

Providers are able to contact Provider Services through the ForwardHealth Portal by clicking the [Contact](#) link and entering the relevant inquiry information, including selecting the preferred method of response (i.e., telephone call or e-mail). Provider Services will respond to the inquiry by the preferred method of response indicated within five business days.

Topic #4351

## Logging in to the Provider Area of the Portal

Once an administrative user's or other user's account is set up, he or she may log in to the Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal to conduct business. To log in, the user is required to click the "Provider" link or button, then enter his or her username and password and click "Go" in the Login to Secure Site box at the right side of the screen.

Topic #4744

## Members ForwardHealth Portal

Members can access ForwardHealth information by going to the ForwardHealth Portal. Members can search through a directory of providers by entering a ZIP code, city, or county. Members can also access all member-related ForwardHealth applications and forms. Members can use [ACCESS](#) to check availability, apply for benefits, check current benefits, and report any changes.

Topic #4344

## Obtaining a Personal Identification Number

To establish an account on the ForwardHealth Portal, providers are required to obtain a PIN (personal identification number). The PIN is a unique, nine-digit number assigned by ForwardHealth interChange for the sole purpose of allowing a provider to establish a Portal account. It is used in conjunction with the provider's login ID. Once the Portal account is established, the provider will be prompted to create a username and password for the account, which will subsequently be used to log in to the Portal.

*Note:* The PIN used to create the provider's Portal account is not the same PIN used for revalidation. Providers will receive a separate PIN for revalidation.

A provider may need to request more than one PIN if he or she is a provider for more than one program or has more than one type of provider enrollment. A separate PIN will be needed for each provider enrollment. Health care providers will need to supply their NPI (National Provider Identifier) and corresponding taxonomy code when requesting an account. Non-healthcare providers will need to supply their unique provider number.

Providers may request a PIN by following these steps:

1. Go to the [Portal](#).
2. Click on the "Providers" link or button.
3. Click the "Request Portal Access" link from the Quick Links box on the right side of the screen.
4. At the Request Portal Access screen, enter the following information:
  - a. Health care providers are required to enter their NPI and click "Search" to display a listing of ForwardHealth enrollments. Select the correct enrollment for the account. The taxonomy code, ZIP+4 code, and financial payer for that enrollment will be automatically populated. Enter the SSN (Social Security number) or TIN (Tax Identification Number).
  - b. Non-healthcare providers are required to enter their provider number, financial payer, and SSN or TIN. (This option should only be used by non-healthcare providers who are exempt from NPI requirements).

The financial payer is one of the following:

- Medicaid (Medicaid is the financial payer for Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and Senior Care).
- SSI (Supplemental Security Income).
- WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
- The WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

c. Click **Submit**.

d. Once the Portal Access Request is successfully completed, ForwardHealth will send a letter with the provider's PIN to the address on file.

Topic #4459

## Online Handbook

The Online Handbook allows providers access to all policy and billing information for Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program), and WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) in one centralized place. A secure ForwardHealth Portal account is not required to use the Online Handbook as it is available to all Portal visitors.

Revisions to policy information are incorporated immediately after policy changes have been issued in *ForwardHealth Updates*. The Online Handbook also links to the [ForwardHealth Publications page](#), an archive section that providers can use to research past policy and procedure information.

The Online Handbook, which is available through the public area of the Portal, is designed to sort information based on user-entered criteria, such as program and provider type. It is organized into sections and chapters. Sections within each handbook may include the following:

- Claims.
- Coordination of Benefits.
- Managed Care.
- Member Information.
- Prior Authorization.
- Provider Enrollment and Ongoing Responsibilities.
- Reimbursement.
- Resources.

Each section consists of separate chapters (e.g., claims submission, procedure codes), which contain further detailed information.

## Advanced Search Function

The Online Handbook has an advanced search function, which allows providers to search for a specific word or phrase within a user type, program, service area, or throughout the entire Online Handbook.

Providers can access the advanced search function by following these steps:

1. Go to the Portal.
2. Click the "Online Handbooks" link in the upper left "Providers" box.
3. Complete the two drop-down selections at the right to narrow the search by program and service area, if applicable. This is not needed if providers wish to search the entire Online Handbook.
4. Click "Advanced Search" to open the advanced search options.
5. Enter the word or phrase you would like to search.
6. Select "Search within the options selected above" or "Search all handbooks, programs and service areas."

7. Click the "Search" button.

## ForwardHealth Publications Archive Area

The ForwardHealth Publications page of the Online Handbook allows providers to view old *Updates* and previous versions of the Online Handbook.

Providers can access the archive information area by following these steps:

1. Go to the Portal.
2. Click the "Online Handbooks" link in the upper left "Providers" box.
3. Click on the "Updates and Handbooks" link. (This link is below the three drop-down menus.)

Topic #5089

## Other Business Enhancements Available on the Portal

The secure Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal enables providers to do the following:

- Verify member enrollment.
- View RAs (Remittance Advice).
- Designate which trading partner is eligible to receive the provider's 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice).
- Update and maintain provider file information. Providers have the choice to indicate separate addresses for different business functions.
- Receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth.
- Enroll in EFT (electronic funds transfer).
- Track provider-submitted PA (prior authorization) requests.

Topic #4911

## Portal Account Administrators

Portal administrators are responsible for requesting, creating, and managing accounts to access these features for their organization.

There must be one administrator assigned for each Portal account and all users established for that account. The responsibilities of the Portal administrator include:

- Ensuring the security and integrity of all user accounts (clerk administrators and clerks) created and associated with their Portal account.
- Ensuring clerks or clerk administrators are given the appropriate authorizations they need to perform their functions for the provider, trading partner, or MCO (managed care organization).
- Ensuring that clerks or clerk administrator accounts are removed/deleted promptly when the user leaves the organization.
- Ensuring that the transactions submitted are valid and recognized by ForwardHealth.
- Ensuring that all users they establish know and follow security and guidelines as required by HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996). As Portal administrators establish their Portal account and create accounts for others to access private information, administrators are reminded that all users must comply with HIPAA. The HIPAA privacy and security rules require that the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of PHI (protected health information) are maintained at all times. The HIPAA Privacy Rule provides guidelines governing the disclosure of PHI. The HIPAA Security Rule delineates the security measures to be implemented for the protection of electronic PHI. If Portal administrators have any questions concerning the protection of PHI, visit the Portal for additional information.

Portal administrators have access to all secure functions for their Portal account.

## Establish an Administrator Account

All Portal accounts require an administrator account. The administrator is a selected individual who has overall responsibility for management of the account. Therefore, he or she has complete access to all functions within the specific secure area of his or her Portal and are permitted to add, remove, and manage other individual roles.

Topic #4912

## Portal Clerk Administrators

A Portal administrator may choose to delegate some of the authority and responsibility for setting up and managing the users within their ForwardHealth Portal account. If so, the Portal administrator may establish a clerk administrator. An administrator or clerk administrator can create, modify, manage or remove clerks for a Portal account. When a clerk is created, the administrator or clerk administrator must grant permissions to the clerks to ensure they have the appropriate access to the functions they will perform. A clerk administrator can only grant permissions that they themselves have. For example, if an administrator gives a clerk administrator permission only for enrollment verification, then the clerk administrator can only establish clerks with enrollment verification permissions.

Even if a Portal administrator chooses to create a clerk administrator and delegate the ability to add, modify, and remove users from the same account, the Portal administrator is still responsible for ensuring the integrity and security of the Portal account.

Topic #4913

## Portal Clerks

The administrator (or the clerk administrator if the administrator has granted them authorization) may set up clerks within their ForwardHealth Portal account. Clerks may be assigned one or many roles (i.e., claims, PA (prior authorization), member enrollment verification). Clerks do not have the ability to establish, modify, or remove other accounts.

Once a clerk account is set up, the clerk account does not have to be established again for a separate Portal account. Clerks can easily be assigned a role for different Portal accounts (i.e., different ForwardHealth enrollments). To perform work under a different Portal account for which they have been granted authorization, a clerk can use the "switch org" function and toggle between the Portal accounts to which they have access. Clerks may be granted different authorization in each Portal account (i.e., they may do member enrollment verification for one Portal account, and HealthCheck inquires for another).

Topic #4740

## Public Area of the Provider Portal

The public Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal offers a variety of important business features and functions that will greatly assist in daily business activities with ForwardHealth programs.

## Maximum Allowable Fee Schedules

Within the Portal, all [maximum allowable fee schedules](#) for Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) are interactive and searchable. Providers can enter the DOS (date of service), along with other information such as

procedure code, category of supplies, or provider type, to find the maximum allowable fee. Providers can also download all fee schedules.

## Online Handbook

The Online Handbook is the single source for all current policy and billing information for ForwardHealth. The Online Handbook is designed to sort information based on user-entered criteria, such as program and provider type.

Revisions to policy information are incorporated into the Online Handbook in conjunction with published *Updates*. The Online Handbook also links to the [ForwardHealth Publications page](#), an archive section where providers can research previously published *Updates*.

## ForwardHealth Publications Archive Section

The [ForwardHealth Publications page](#), available via the Quick Links box, lists *Updates*, *Update Summaries*, archives of provider Handbooks and provider guides, and monthly archives of the Online Handbook. The ForwardHealth Publications page contains both current and obsolete information for research purposes only. Providers should use the Online Handbook for current policy and procedure questions. The *Updates* are searchable by provider type or program (e.g., physician or HealthCheck "Other Services") and by year of publication.

## Training

Providers can register for all scheduled trainings and view online trainings via the [Portal Training page](#), which contains an up-to-date calendar of all available training. Additionally, providers can view [Webcasts](#) of select trainings.

## Contacting Provider Services

Providers and other Portal users will have an additional option for contacting Provider Services through the Contact link on the Portal. Providers can enter the relevant inquiry information, including selecting the preferred method of response (i.e., telephone call or e-mail) the provider wishes to receive back from Provider Services. Provider Services will respond to the inquiry within five business days. Information will be submitted via a secure connection.

## Online Enrollment

Providers can speed up the enrollment process for Medicaid by completing a [provider enrollment application](#) via the Portal. Providers can then track their application by entering their ATN (application tracking number) given to them on completion of the application.

## Other Business Enhancements Available on the Portal

The public Provider area of the Portal also includes the following features:

- A ["What's New?"](#) section for providers that links to the latest provider publication summaries and other new information posted to the Provider area of the Portal.
- Home page for the provider. Providers have administrative control over their Portal homepage and can grant other employees access to specified areas of the Portal, such as claims and PA (prior authorization).
- [E-mail subscription](#) service for *Updates*. Providers can register for e-mail subscription to receive notifications of new provider publications via e-mail. Users are able to select, by program and service area, which publication notifications they would like to receive.
- A [forms library](#).



Topic #4741

## Secure Area of the Provider Portal

Providers can accomplish many processes via the ForwardHealth Portal, including submitting, adjusting, and correcting claims, submitting and amending PA (prior authorization) requests, and verifying enrollment.

### Claims and Adjustments Using the Portal

Providers can track the status of their submitted claims, submit individual claims, correct errors on claims, and determine what claims are in "pay" status on the Portal. Providers have the ability to search for and view the status of all of their finalized claims, regardless of how they were submitted (i.e., paper, electronic, clearinghouse). If a claim contains an error, providers can correct it on the Portal and resubmit it to ForwardHealth.

Providers can submit an individual claim or adjust a claim via DDE (Direct Data Entry) through the secure Portal.

### Submitting Prior Authorization and Amendment Requests Via the Portal

Nearly all service areas can submit PA requests via the Portal. Providers can do the following:

- Correct errors on PA or amendment requests via the Portal, regardless of how the PA request was originally submitted.
- View all recently submitted and finalized PA and amendment requests.
- Save a partially completed PA request and finish completing it at a later time. (*Note:* Providers are required to submit or re-save a PA request within 30 calendar days of the date the PA request was last saved.)
- View all saved PA requests and select any to continue completing or delete.
- View the latest provider review and decision letters.
- Receive messages about PA and amendment requests that have been adjudicated or returned for provider review.

### Electronic Communications

The secure Portal contains a one-way message center where providers can receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth. All new messages display on the provider's main page within the secure Portal.

### Enrollment Verification

The secure Portal offers real-time member [enrollment verification](#) for all ForwardHealth programs. Providers are able to use this tool to determine:

- The health care program(s) in which the member is enrolled.
- Whether or not the member is enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization).
- Whether or not the member has any third-party liability, such as Medicare or commercial health insurance.

Using the Portal to check enrollment may be more efficient than calling the AVR (Automated Voice Response) system or the EVS (Enrollment Verification System) (although both are available).

Providers will be assigned a unique enrollment verification number for each inquiry. Providers can also use the "print screen" function to print a paper copy of enrollment verification inquiries for their records.

### Other Business Enhancements Available on the Portal

The secure Provider area of the Portal enables providers to do the following:

- Verify member enrollment.
- View RAs (Remittance Advices).
- Designate which trading partner is eligible to receive the provider's 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transaction.
- Update and maintain provider file information. Providers will have the choice to indicate separate addresses for different business functions.
- Receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth.
- Enroll in EFT (electronic funds transfer).
- Track provider-submitted PA requests.

Topic #4401

## System and Browser Requirements

The following table lists the recommended system and browser requirements for using the ForwardHealth Portal. PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) users should note that the Windows-based requirements noted in the table apply; PES cannot be run on Apple-based systems.

Recommended System Requirements	Recommended Browser Requirements
<b>Windows-Based Systems</b>	
Computer with at least a 500Mhz processor, 256 MB of RAM, and 100MB of free disk space	Microsoft Internet Explorer v. 6.0 or higher, or
Windows XP or higher operating system	Firefox v. 1.5 or higher
<b>Apple-Based Systems</b>	
Computer running a PowerPC G4 or Intel processor, 512 MB of RAM, and 150MB of free disk space	Safari, or
Mac OS X 10.2.x or higher operating system	Firefox v. 1.5 or higher

Topic #4742

## Trading Partner Portal

The following information is available on the public [Trading Partner](#) area of the ForwardHealth Portal:

- Trading partner [testing packets](#).
- [Trading Partner Profile](#) submission.
- [PES \(Provider Electronic Solutions\)](#) software and upgrade information.
- EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) [companion guides](#).

In the secure Trading Partner area of the Portal, trading partners can exchange electronic transactions with ForwardHealth.

Trading partners using PES should be sure to enter the Web logon and Web password associated with the ForwardHealth trading partner ID that will be used on PES transactions. Prior to submitting transactions through PES, trading partners must also make sure their trading partner account is entered as the "Default Provider ID" on the Switch Organization page of the secure Trading Partner account on the Portal.

# Training Opportunities

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Topic #12757

## Training Opportunities

The [Provider Relations representatives](#) conduct training sessions in a variety of formats on both program-specific and topic-specific subjects. There is no fee for attending/accessing these training sessions.

### On-Site Sessions

On-site training sessions are offered at various locations (e.g., hotel conference rooms, provider facilities) throughout the state. These training sessions include general all-provider sessions, service-specific and/or topic-specific sessions, and program-specific (such as WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) or the WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program)) sessions.

Registration is required to attend on-site sessions. Online registration is available on the [Trainings](#) page of the Providers area of the Portal.

### Online (Real-Time, Web-Based) Sessions

Online (real-time, Web-based) training sessions are available and are facilitated through [HP® Virtual Room](#). Virtual Room sessions are offered on many of the same topics as on-site sessions, but online sessions offer the following advantages:

- Participants can attend training at their own computers without leaving the office.
- Sessions are interactive as participants can ask questions during the session.
- If requested or needed, a session can be quickly organized to cover a specific topic for a small group or office.

For some larger training topics (such as ForwardHealth Portal Fundamentals), the training may be divided into individual modules, with each module focused on a particular subject. This allows participants to customize their training experience.

Registration, including an e-mail address, is required to attend Virtual Room sessions, so important session information can be sent to participants prior to the start of the session. Online registration is available on the [Trainings](#) page of the Portal.

### Recorded Webcasts

Recorded Webcasts are available on a variety of topics, including some of the same topics as on-site and online sessions. Like Virtual Room sessions, some recorded Webcasts on larger training topics may be divided into individual Webcast modules, allowing participants to customize their training experience. Recorded Webcasts allow providers to view the training at their convenience on their own computers.

Registration is not required to view a recorded Webcast. Related training materials are available to download and print from the specific [Webcast training session page](#) on the Portal.

### Notification of Training Opportunities

In addition to information on the Trainings page of the Portal, upcoming training session information is distributed directly through messages to providers who have secure Portal accounts and to providers who have registered for the ForwardHealth e-mail subscription service.

To sign up for a secure Portal account, click the "Request Portal Access" link in the Quick Links box on the [Provider](#) page of the Portal. To sign up for e-mail subscription, click "Register for E-mail Subscription" in the Quick Links box on the Provider page of the Portal.

## Updates

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Topic #4460

### Full Text Publications Available

Providers may request full-text versions of *ForwardHealth Updates* to be mailed to them by calling [Provider Services](#).

Topic #478

### General Information

*ForwardHealth Updates* are the first source of provider information. *Updates* announce the latest information on policy and coverage changes, PA (prior authorization) submission requirements, claims submission requirements, and training announcements.

The *ForwardHealth Update Summary* is posted to the ForwardHealth Portal on a monthly basis and contains an overview of *Updates* published that month. Providers with a ForwardHealth Portal account are notified through their Portal message box when the *Update Summary* is available on the Portal.

*Updates* included in the *Update Summary* are posted in their entirety on the Provider area of the Portal. Providers may access *Updates* from direct links in the electronic *Update Summary* as well as navigate to other Medicaid information available on the Portal.

Providers without Internet access may call [Provider Services](#) to request a paper copy of an *Update*. To expedite the call, correspondents will ask providers for the *Update* number. Providers should allow seven to 10 business days for delivery.

Revisions to policy information are incorporated into the Online Handbook in conjunction with published *Updates*. The Online Handbook also includes a link to the [ForwardHealth Publications page](#), an archive section where providers can research previously published *Updates*.

Topic #4458

### Multiple Ways to Access ForwardHealth Publications

Users may register for e-mail subscription service. Providers who have established a ForwardHealth Portal account will automatically receive notification of *ForwardHealth Updates* and the monthly *ForwardHealth Update Summary* in their Portal message box. Providers will receive notification via their Portal accounts or e-mail subscription.

#### E-mail Subscription Service

Providers and other interested parties may register for e-mail subscription on the Portal to receive e-mail notifications of new provider publications. Users are able to select, by program (Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program), or WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program)) and provider type (e.g., physician, hospital, DME (durable medical equipment) vendor), and which publication notifications they would like to receive. Any number of staff or other interested parties from an organization may sign up for an e-mail subscription.

Users may sign up for an e-mail subscription by following these steps:

1. Click the Providers link on the [ForwardHealth Portal](#).
2. In the Quick Links section on the right side of the screen, click Register for E-mail Subscription.
3. The Subscriptions page will be displayed. In the E-Mail field in the New Subscriber section, enter the e-mail address to which messages should be sent.
4. Enter the e-mail address again in the Confirm E-Mail field.
5. Click Register. A message will be displayed at the top of the Subscriptions page indicating the registration was successful. If there are any problems with the registration, an error message will be displayed instead.
6. Once registration is complete, click the program for which you want to receive messages in the Available Subscriptions section of the Subscriptions page. The selected program will expand and a list of service areas will be displayed.
7. Select the service area(s) for which you want to receive messages. Click Select All if you want to receive messages for all service areas.
8. When service area selection is complete, click Save at the bottom of the page.
9. The selected subscriptions will load and a confirmation message will appear at the top of the page.