

COMMUNITY HEALTH CHOICES UPDATE

What You Need to Know about the Statewide Transition Plan

Community HealthChoices (CHC) is Pennsylvania's mandatory managed care program for individuals who are dually-eligible for Medicare and Medicaid and individuals 21 years of age or older with physical disabilities.

When will Community HealthChoices be available?

CHC is being phased in gradually across Pennsylvania. CHC has already been introduced in the Southwest and Southeast regions, and will be implemented in the remainder of the state in January 2020.



Approximately 95% of CHC participants are dual eligibles - meaning they receive health care coverage from both Medicare and Medicaid. Promoting improved coordination between Medicare and Medicaid is a key goal of CHC. Better coordination between these two payers can improve participant experience and outcomes. Both Medicare and Medicaid cover physical health services such as doctors' visits, hospital stays, lab tests, and pharmaceuticals. Medicaid is the payer of last resort. Once Medicare — and any other health insurance coverage the participant has — have paid or denied the claim, Medicaid should be billed for the remainder of the claim. This does not change under CHC.

Non-Medical Transportation

All CHC participants receiving long-term services and supports (LTSS) in their homes or in nursing facilities also have access to non-medical transportation. This type of transportation can be used to access community activities, grocery shopping, religious services, and other community-based activities and must be included in the participant's person-centered service plan. The CHC managed care organizations (CHC-MCOs) will use transportation brokers to help participants, service coordinators, and nursing facilities coordinate this service.

Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

All Community HealthChoices (CHC) participants have access to emergency and non-emergency medical transportation. Emergency medical transportation is transportation provided by an ambulance for emergency medical conditions. Non-emergency medical transportation is used when traveling to and/or from a medical facility, physician's office, dentist's office, hospital, clinic, pharmacy, or medical

equipment vendor. Participants living in the community will continue to use the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) for these services. Nursing facilities will continue to be responsible for providing non-emergency transportation for their residents.

Plan Transfer Deadlines – Phase 2 (SouthEast) ONLY

CHC participants may choose to change their managed care organization (CHC-MCO) at any time. To make this change, the participant must contact the independent enrollment broker (IEB) by calling 1-844-824-3655 or go to www.enrollchc.com.

In general, if a participant makes a plan change before the second Thursday of the month, the change will take effect at the beginning of the following month. If the change is made after the second Thursday of the month, the change will go into effect at the beginning of the second month after the selection is made.

2019 CHC PLAN TRANSFER CUTOFF DATES

| MONTH | CHANGE MADE BETWEEN | EFFECTIVE |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| JANUARY | Southeast: 11/20/18 – 12/21/2018* Southwest: 11/15/18 – 12/13/2018** | 1/1/2019 |
| FEBRUARY | Southeast: 12/22/2018 – 1/10/2019 Southwest: 12/14/2018 – 1/10/2019 | 2/1/2019 |
| MARCH | 1/11/2019 – 2/14/2019 | 3/1/2019 |
| APRIL | 2/15/2019 – 3/14/2019 | 4/1/2019 |
| MAY | 3/15/2019 – 4/11/2019 | 5/1/2019 |
| JUNE | 4/12/2019 – 5/9/2019 | 6/1/2019 |
| JULY | 5/10/2019 – 6/13/2019 | 7/1/2019 |
| AUGUST | 6/14/2019 – 7/11/2019 | 8/1/2019 |
| SEPTEMBER | 7/12/2019 – 8/8/2019 | 9/1/2019 |
| OCTOBER | 8/9/2019 – 9/12/2019 | 10/1/2019 |
| NOVEMBER | 9/13/2019 – 10/10/2019 | 11/1/2019 |
| DECEMBER | 10/11/2019 – 11/14/2019 | 12/1/2019 |
| JANUARY | Southeast & Southwest: 11/15/2019 – 12/13/2019 Northeast, Northwest, & Lehigh/Capital: 11/15/2019 – 12/20/2019 | 1/1/2020 |

OBRA Waiver participants may experience changes with CHC in Phase 3

All Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) waivers/programs except the OBRA Waiver and the Act 150 Program will be included in CHC. The OBRA Waiver will remain open to continue to provide services to participants who meet the following criteria:

- Intermediate care facility for persons with other related conditions (ICF/ORC) level of care between 18 and 59 years of age.
- Nursing facility clinically eligible (NFCE) level of care *and* between 18 and 20 years of age.

While the OBRA Waiver currently has an ICF/ORC level of care eligibility requirement, part of the CHC transition plan involves an assessment of OBRA Waiver participants to ensure they are enrolled in the appropriate waiver. The Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) will complete a level of care determination (LCD) assessment to determine whether the participant qualifies for CHC.

*For more information call your Service Coordinator or visit www.dhs.pa.gov. For fast and efficient communication, please send your email to us at: ADVOCATE@udservices.org