

**STATE OF DELAWARE****DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAID & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
POLICY & PLANNING UNIT****ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE A-09-2023**

TO: DMMA and DSS Staff

DATE: May 12, 2023

PROGRAM(S): Delaware Healthy Children Program (DHCP)

SUBJECT: 12 Month Continuous Eligibility for Children

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this notice is to provide guidance on information that was released by The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding the 12-month continuous eligibility for children under the Delaware Healthy Children Program (DHCP). CMS removed state-specific exceptions to continuous eligibility for children consistent with the Federal Regulations of November 30, 2016.

DISCUSSION

Delaware Medicaid has elected a 12-month continuous enrollment period for children under the Delaware Healthy Children Program (DHCP). A continuous eligibility period begins on the effective date of individual's eligibility, or the most recent redetermination or renewal, and ends after the 12-month period.

The state-specific continuous eligibility exceptions that are being removed are:

- Acquisition of comprehensive health insurance and Medicare
- Acquires access to public employee coverage based on a family member's employment.

Effective 7/1/2022, the only allowable exceptions to the 12 months of continuous eligibility period are the following:

- The child turns 19 years of age, unless the child is within 12-month post-partum period;
- The child or child's representative requests voluntary disenrollment;
- The child is no longer a resident of the State;

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- The agency determines that eligibility was erroneously granted at the most recent determination or renewal of eligibility because of agency error or fraud, abuse, or perjury attributed to child or child's representative;
- The child dies;
- The child becomes eligible for Medicaid;
- There is a failure to pay required premiums or enrollment fees on behalf of a child, as provided for in the state plan.

ACTION REQUIRED

Staff should follow policy in the DSSM under the following sections:

18200 Delaware Healthy Children Program General Eligibility Requirements

18300 Technical Eligibility

18400 Financial Eligibility

18700 Premium Requirements

18800 Continuous Eligibility

18800.1 Continuous Eligibility for Target Low-Income Children

18800.2 12-month Postpartum Continuous Eligibility

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO

DHSS_DMMA_PPU@delaware.gov

5/12/2023 | 3:18 PM EDT

Date

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