

CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO. 03-22, PREGNANT WOMAN COVERAGE

DATE: March 14, 2022

Manual: Family and Children's Medicaid
Change No: 03-22
To: County Directors of Social Services

I. BACKGROUND AND CONTENT OF CHANGE

Division of Health Benefits (DHB) updated [MA-3240, Pregnant Woman Coverage](#) policy to provide clarification that the 60-day postpartum will now be extended to 12-months. The postpartum period begins the day the pregnancy ends. Medicaid For Pregnant Women (MPW) will be full Medicaid coverage.

II. POLICY UPDATE

A. Section I. Introduction

1. A pregnant woman is eligible for the 12-month postpartum period if they were enrolled in any full Medicaid program that covered pregnancy services.
2. Section A. includes the following changes:

The pregnant woman should be evaluated under the following programs:

 - a. Medicaid for Pregnant Women (MPW) with services that provide full Medicaid benefits including 12-month postpartum coverage.
 - b. MAF parent/caretaker if they are categorically eligible.
MAFN will no longer be an option for pregnant women effective 4/1/2022.
 - c. In addition to the programs above, the pregnant woman should be evaluated for all full Medicaid programs including MAABD.
3. Section E includes the following changes:

If the beneficiary was enrolled in a full Medicaid program while pregnant, they are eligible for the 12-month postpartum extension regardless of any changes in circumstances or if the pregnancy ends for any reason.
4. Section F includes the following changes:

It is important that the caseworker enter the pregnancy evidence on the case the pregnant woman is receiving under such as MAF, MIC, or MAABD programs. This ensures when pregnant woman becomes ineligible in any full Medicaid program, they are transitioned to MPW through the end of the 12-month postpartum period when the caseworker accepts the decision.

B. Section II. MPW

1. Section A. includes the following changes:

A pregnant woman receiving in any other full Medicaid program that requires cooperation with child-support must cooperate with child support. Refer to [MA-3365 Child Support](#).

2. Section C. includes the following changes:

Authorize from the first day of the month in which all eligibility criteria are met through the last day of the month of the 12-month postpartum period. The beneficiary's certification period will include the pregnancy period, plus the 12-month postpartum period.

C. Section V. 12-Month Postpartum Coverage

Pregnancy coverage including the 12-month postpartum period is full Medicaid benefits. The pregnant woman is eligible through the 12-month postpartum period regardless of changes in circumstances.

1. Section A includes the following changes:

The postpartum period is a full 12-months following the termination of pregnancy for any reason. The postpartum extension period begins on the date the pregnancy ends and extends through the end of the month in which the 12-month period ends.

2. Section D includes the following changes:

Beneficiaries are eligible for the 12-month postpartum period if they were pregnant and received coverage in a Medicaid program that covered pregnancy related services in North Carolina on or after April 1, 2022.

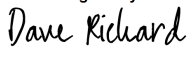
D. Section VI. Pregnancy End Date

This section has been added to policy to provide guidance for end dating pregnancy evidence based on when the pregnancy ends.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

The effective date of this policy is April 1, 2022. This policy applies to all applications, recertifications, or reported changes in circumstance taken or in process and the woman receives pregnancy related services or is in their postpartum period on or after April 1, 2022.

If you have any questions regarding information in this letter, please contact your [Medicaid Operational Support Team Representative](#).

DocuSigned by:

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Dave Richard
Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid