

Update 2: Memos CV-01, CV-02, CV-03, and CV-04

Temporary Changes to Washington Apple

This update clarifies the information that you were provided in the series of memos regarding the changes for eligibility that have occurred in response to the public health emergency surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19.

As requests and approvals for additional federal/state authorities are evolving at a rapid pace, so is the correlating regulatory guidance for Medicaid eligibility. It is therefore imperative that you stay up-to-date on the most recent changes, so that we can support continuity of coverage for all our covered lives.

Update #1 – Memo CV-01: CHIP Premium Payments

All premiums for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or Washington Apple Health for Kids with Premiums starting in May and June will automatically be waived for all recipients. Individuals will be sent a bill from the Office of Financial Recovery (OFR) stating they have a \$0.00 balance for the current month. Included on their invoice will be a statement letting them know their payment was waived due to the COVID-19 response, and they should not send any payments including any automatic bank payments to OFR.

Any individuals who were expected to be closed for failure to pay their premiums for three months will not be terminated at the end of the month.

Update #2 – Memo CV-02: HWD Premium Payments

All premiums for the Apple Health for Worker’s with Disabilities (HWD) for April, May, and June will automatically be waived for all recipients. Individuals will receive an invoice stating they owe \$0.00 for the current month due to the COVID-19 response. This messaging will also include information about stopping automatic payments.

Any individuals who were expected to be closed for failure to pay their premiums will not be terminated at the end of the month.

For both CHIP and HWD premiums, ongoing months will be assessed as necessary and additional messaging to the public and stakeholders will be shared to ensure that individuals are aware they are not required to pay to their premiums

Update #3 – Memo CV-03: Continuous Enrollment

Clarification to 2.b. – Individuals will remain enrolled in the program they were eligible for as of 3/18/2020, when the emergency period began. Individuals currently enrolled in Apple Health do not need to report increases in income during the emergency period.



Update #4 – Memo CV-04: Tribal Emergency COVID-19 Payments

Any tribal needs-based payments created to help contribute to COVID-19 relief (similar to stimulus checks, Economic Recovery Payments, Recovery Rebates) are non-countable income when determining eligibility for all Apple Health programs.

If you have any questions about this additional guidance, please contact Maggie Clay at Margaret.Clay@hca.wa.gov