



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

Subject: Public Notice for Maryland Children’s Health Insurance Program Permanent Elimination of Premiums

Add’l info: The Maryland Department of Health is amending the State Plan to permanently eliminate the premium payment requirement for children enrolled in MCHP with a family income 212 to 322% of the federal poverty limit. These changes align program operations with statutory changes enacted by Maryland *House Bill 1521– Maryland Children's Health Program - Eligibility and Administration (Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2024)*.

MCHP premium plan payments were suspended during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, effective March 1, 2020. However, Maryland further extended the pause on premiums through April 30, 2024, as authorized by the State’s Medicaid Disaster SPA (MD-SPA-20-0001). The federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 requires that all states provide continuous eligibility to children enrolled in Medicaid or MCHP for 12 months, beginning January 1, 2024. Maryland implemented this requirement effective September 1, 2023. As a result, eligibility for children enrolled in the MCHP premium plan is no longer contingent on timely payment of a monthly premium and Maryland Medicaid cannot enforce collection of premium payments throughout the year.

For questions about the notice, please contact Tyler Colomb by email at tyler.colomb@maryland.gov.

Released 5.28.2024