



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

Subject: Public Notice for Express Lane Eligibility

Add'l info: The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) is amending the State Plan to comply with SB 26—*Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children’s Health Program, and Social Services Programs – Eligibility and Enrollment and Workgroup on Low–Income Utility Assistance*—(Chapters 282 of the Acts of 2023). SB 26 requires the Maryland Department of Health Medical Assistance Program (“the Department”) to implement Express Lane Eligibility (ELE) to streamline and expedite renewal of eligible individuals in the Maryland Medicaid Assistance Program and Maryland Children’s Health Program (MCHP).

The proposed State Plan Amendment would allow the Department to renew children enrolled in MCHP or Medicaid who are receiving SNAP benefits, contingent on meeting other Medicaid eligibility criteria as defined by MDH. This applies to both the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) population and the non-MAGI population.

The proposed effective date for this amendment is July 1, 2025. Due to the maintenance of effort requirements enacted in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, this waiver will not result in additional costs. In addition, Maryland received §1902(e)(14)(A) authority to utilize SNAP eligibility during the FFCRA unwinding period; this amendment will serve to transition ELE to an authority that is not time-bound by the unwinding period.

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

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