



ALASKA MEDICAID FACTS



Who is covered in Alaska's Medicaid Program?

ELIGIBILITY GROUPS

FFS^{2, 3, 4}

-  Children (0-18 years)
-  Current and Former Foster Care Children
-  Parents and other Caretaker Relatives
-  Pregnant Women
-  Aged, Blind, and Disabled Adults
-  Disabled Children
-  Dual Eligibles
-  Adults (19-64)
-  Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (I/DD)
-  American Indians and Alaskan Natives
-  Incarcerated Individuals*
-  Qualified Non-Citizens**
-  Undocumented Immigrants***

*Inpatient hospital services only.
 ** Subject to a 5-year waiting requirement, except for individuals with a terminal illness, cancer, diabetes, seizure disorders, mental illness, hypertension, or certain other medical conditions who can receive chronic and acute medical assistance.
 *** Emergency Medicaid services only.

Important News

2019 - Alaska has halted its plans to utilize a managed care organization arrangement for one geographic area in FY 2020.⁵

April 2019 - The House Finance Committee reduced the state Medicaid budget by \$58 million. The cuts include restrictions on physical, occupational and speech therapy.⁶

The Trump Administration urged Alaska to be first state to apply for a block grant waiver.⁷

June 2019 - Alaska contracted Public Consulting Group to evaluate if it should use a block grant for Medicaid funds, implement work requirements, and shift some enrollees to private market plans.⁸



Do Medicaid health plans provide coverage?



YES



NO

Eligibility Criteria for Specific Populations as a Percentage of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)⁹

Children: 208% Seniors & People with Disabilities: 74%
 Expansion adults: 138% Parents: 138% Pregnant women: 205%

Percentage Breakdown of Alaska's Medicaid Population¹⁰

Adults: 23% Aged: 7% Children: 57% Disabled: 13%



Medicaid Medical Directors Network

Alaska made headway in lead screenings with members of the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) program.

SECTION 1115 WAIVER¹¹

The **Alaska Behavioral Health Demonstration** was created to implement an integrated behavioral health system for Medicaid beneficiaries with severe mental illness, severe emotional disturbance and/or substance use disorders. The goal is to utilize partnerships between multiple providers to provide evidence-based, data-driven practices.

EFFECTIVE:
1/01/2019



APPROVAL:
11/21/2018

EXPIRATION:
12/31/2023



How is Alaska meeting the needs of Medicaid enrollees?

Value-Based Healthcare Initiatives

As part of comprehensive reform legislation passed in 2016, Alaska implemented a Health Home initiative, a Coordinated Care Demonstration project (ACO model), and integrated behavioral health reform.¹²

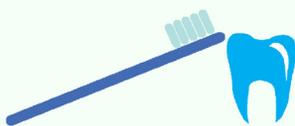
Providence Family Medicine Center was contracted to operate a Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model in the Anchorage region as a provider-based reform medical home model. The state will pay a partial capitation rate for physician-led interdisciplinary care team (IDCT) services, including primary care-based management for medical assistance services, case management, care coordination, social work, health education, and transitional and follow-up care.¹³

Alaska's Innovative Provider Payment workgroup recommended that the Department implement bundled payments, home health services, and Health Homes.¹²



Oral Health³

The Alaska Oral Health program provides service coverage for children under age 21 and emergency dental coverage for adults. Preventive dental services for adults were unfunded as of October 1, 2019. Benefits for children include exams, X-rays, scaling, polishing, sealants, fluoride varnish, relief of pain and infections, restoration of teeth and maintenance of dental health. Orthodontia services are covered for children and teens under 21.



Cost-Sharing³

The following copayments may be required:

- \$50 a day up to a maximum of \$200 per discharge for inpatient hospital services
- \$3 for each visit to a health care provider or clinic
- 5 percent of the allowed amount for outpatient hospital services (except emergency services)
- \$.50 for each new or refilled prescription that costs \$50 or less, and \$3.50 for those that cost more than \$50.

Copayments are not required for:

- Children under the age of 18
- Pregnant women
- Tribal health services provided to an individual who is American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Services provided to an individual who is eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid if Medicare is the primary payer for the service
- People in nursing homes
- Family planning services and supplies
- Emergency services
- Hospice care



Family Planning¹⁴

Women enrolled in Denali KidCare are covered for family planning supplies and services (e.g., counseling, contraceptive creams, gels, foams, birth control, and condoms, based on provider prescription) through the end of the month in which the 60th postpartum day falls.



Women's Health³

Alaska Medicaid covers regular prenatal checkups and services provided by physicians, advanced practice nurse practitioners or direct entry midwives. Postpartum services are covered until 60 days after the end of pregnancy.

Nutrition services are covered for pregnant members who are over 21.

The Ladies First program (or the Breast and Cervical Health Check Program (BCHC)) provides free mammograms and pap tests to eligible Alaskans ages 21-64. Individuals are eligible if they meet the income guidelines, cannot meet their insurance deductible or do not have insurance, or have insurance that does not pay for breast and cervical health screenings. The Ladies First program also pays for diagnostic tests when needed, and helps women get referred for financial support if they need treatment.



Child and Adolescent Health³

Nutrition services are covered for children under 21 who are at high-risk nutritionally.

Children with Special Health Care Needs

Medicaid covers 48% of children with special health care needs in Alaska.⁹

Medicaid will cover hearing and speech-language therapy, physical and occupational therapy, and behavioral health therapy for children with disabilities.³

Children with complex medical conditions are eligible for home and community-based services (HCBS).³

How is Alaska meeting the needs of Medicaid enrollees?

Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS)³

Alaska has five home and community-based services (HCBS) waivers that allow provision of long-term services in home and community settings to enrollees with physical and developmental disabilities. HCBS services include:

- Care coordination
- Supported in-home living
- Day habilitation
- Adult day services
- Respite for unpaid caregivers.
- Supported employment
- Transportation
- Health and safety-related home modifications such as:
 - Wheelchair ramps
 - Stair lifts
 - Widening of doors and hallways
 - Bathroom modifications
 - Grab bars
- Chore Services
- Meal deliveries
- Specialized medical equipment and supplies (SME) including:
 - Reacher
 - Shoe/sock donner
 - Hand held shower
 - Adaptive eating devices
 - Wheelchair lift installation for van
 - Portable ramps
 - Humidifier
- Nursing oversight
- Intensive active treatment (IAT): Professional treatment/therapy to prevent behavior regression or to address a family, personal, social, mental, behavior or substance abuse problem
- Specialized private duty nursing services
- Residential supported living and group home and family habilitation: Help with activities of daily living

The Alaska Medicaid program covers long-term care facilities, home health services, and personal care assistant services for enrollees.

Long-term care facilities including certified and licensed skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), intermediate care facilities (ICF), or intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) are covered for enrollees. For individuals living in facilities such as nursing homes, the Community First Choice Program (CFC) provides coverage for personal care services including:

- Help with activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs)
- Supervision and reminders
- Skills training
- Worker supervision
- Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)

Covered home health services include:

- Intermittent or part-time skilled nursing services from a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse
- Home health aide services provided under the supervision of a registered nurse
- Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, and audiology services
- Medical supplies, equipment, and appliances for use in enrollee's residence
- Home infusion therapy

Personal care assistant (PCA) services include:

- Assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs) such as:
 - Bathing
 - Dressing
 - Grooming
 - Toileting
- Assistance with instrumental activities of daily living for recipients over 18 such as:
 - Meal preparation
 - Grocery shopping
 - Personal laundry
 - Light housekeeping



Behavioral Health

Medicaid enrollees are provided coverage for mental health and substance use disorder benefits through Community Behavioral Health Services (CBHCs). Through CBHCs, enrollees have access to screenings, clinics, and rehabilitation services for adults and children.¹⁴

The behavioral health 1115 waiver created an integrated health system for enrollees with serious mental illness (SMI), severe emotional disturbance, substance use disorder, co-occurring substance use and mental illness, and at-risk families and children.¹⁵

The integrated health system, in addition to all other behavioral health services, will be managed by a contracted Administrative Service Organization (ASO).¹⁶



Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)¹⁷

The Alaska Medicaid Coordinated Care Initiative (AMCCI) provides case management services including care coordination, scheduling appointments, addressing barriers, and referrals to specialists and social service supports. The program aims to work with the social service community to support members with complex medical and social needs.





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Timeline

