



Department of Human Services
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

FIA INFORMATION MEMO

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**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
 DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT,
 FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

FROM: AUGUSTIN NTABAGANYIMANA, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR *Augustine*
DEBBIE RUPPERT, MDH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR *Debbie Ruppert*

RE: E&E EXTENSION OF MEDICAL REDETERMINATIONS

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: LONG-TERM CARE MEDICAID (LTC)
 WAIVER PROGRAMS (WV)
 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)**

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

SUMMARY

The continuous Medical Assistance (MA) coverage requirement related to the Public Health Emergency (PHE) ended on April 30, 2023. As a result, the first set of Medicaid case closures for failure to complete the redetermination process took place on May 31, 2023. At the request of the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), the Family Investment Administration (FIA), in partnership with MDTHINK extended the July 2023, August 2023, September 2023, and October 2023, MA redeterminations until November 30, 2023, to avoid incorrect MA case closures.

The decision to extend the MA redeterminations in the Eligibility and Enrollment (E&E) system was made to mitigate a compliance issue that was recently brought to the attention of states by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The issue resulted from many states, including Maryland, conducting ex parte MA redeterminations at the household level. Ex parte MA redeterminations at the household level sends the entire household to manual redetermination if any household member would not be eligible, rather than permitting eligible individuals to renew on an ex parte basis and sending only the potentially ineligible individuals

on to manual redetermination. As a result of the generally higher income standards applicable to children’s Medicaid coverage groups, the concern is that sending children unnecessarily through manual redetermination with older household members leads to unnecessary procedural terminations.

To mitigate the issue, MDH and FIA are conducting system fixes to the ex parte MA redetermination process. Additional guidance will be forthcoming regarding system fixes.

The following auto narration was added to the extended cases in E&E *“Procedural termination pause per request from the Maryland Department of Health. The case is set to close at the end of December unless the customer takes the required action.”*

For the remainder of 2023, all Medical Assistance (MA) cases will receive a one-month grace period after their redetermination due date. This means that all July 2023, August 2023, September 2023, and October 2023 cases are extended until November 2023 and may close on December 31, 2023, if the MA redetermination is not completed.

The E&E system will generate new redetermination packets for the November 30, 2023, due date. Clients and community-based organizations (i.e., nursing homes, advocates, and other outreach entities) that support individuals in need will be able to resubmit redeterminations in E&E at least sixty (60) days before the November 30 due date. Case Managers can enter and initiate any manual redeterminations received at any time.

Because a significant portion of the MA redeterminations are completed through the ex parte process, sending out a new cycle of redetermination packets should have a minimal impact on local operations. Case managers should continue to update and complete July 2023 and August 2023 MA redeterminations that were in a pending status at the end of August 2023. E&E will reset the redetermination date based on when the case manager initiates the MA redetermination through the manual process. The September and October redetermination packets were mailed to households before the decision to extend them was made. For this reason, it is anticipated that case managers will be receiving applications from households that were due to renew their benefits during those months. Case managers will have to manually initiate the September and October redeterminations.

Original Redetermination Date	Extended Redetermination Date	One-Month Grace Period End Date
July 2023	November 30, 2023	December 31, 2023
August 2023		
September 2023		

October 2023		
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The case manager must take the appropriate action for cases that are initiated during the September to November extension. The actions may include closing cases for individuals that are determined to be income overscale, deceased, or the customer moved out of Maryland. Case managers have until December 31, 2023 (*i.e.*, the new November 30, 2023, due date plus a one-month grace period) to complete the extended redetermination.

NOTE:

There will be ***no*** action required of the case manager for cases that will be rerun through the Ex parte MA redetermination process.

INQUIRIES:

Please direct policy questions to FIA Policy by completing the [FIA Policy Information Request Form](#) found on Knowledge Base or via email at fia.policy@maryland.gov for Montgomery County only. For systems questions, please email fia.bsdm@maryland.gov.

For MHC systems questions and issues, contact the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange's Office of Consumer Assistance, Eligibility Policy & Business Integration at 410-547-6327.

For MA policy questions: Direct Non-MAGI and MAGI policy questions to the Maryland Department of Health, Office of Eligibility Services at mdh.oesinquiries@maryland.gov.

cc: DHS Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
MDH Executive Staff
DHS Help Desk
Constituent Services
Office of Administrative Hearings